



St. Peter the Apostle Catholic School

Crest Symbolism

Our school crest is filled with symbols that depict the life of St. Peter and reflect our universal call to holiness. Learn about each symbol's significance in the life of St. Peter and significance in the universal call to holiness for all people, and how your crest would reflect your personal journey with Christ!



THE BOAT

Peter was a fisherman when Jesus encountered him in his daily work. Jesus then promised to make him a “fisher of men,” illustrating how God takes our ordinary vocations and transforms them, enabling us to participate in the greater work of building His Kingdom.

God grants each of us a unique set of gifts and talents, intended for the service of others. Jesus meets us in the midst of our work and invites us to elevate it, so that it may glorify Him and contribute to the building of His Kingdom.

What unique gifts and talents has God given you? How is He calling you to give them back to Him?



THE WATER

The water symbolizes the turbulent seas Peter navigated during his time with Jesus—both literally on the Sea of Galilee, where Jesus calmed the storm, and symbolically. In the midst of the storm of Christ's passion, Peter denied Him.

Every saint undergoes the challenges of rough waters in the spiritual life and “sinks” when he takes his eyes off of the Lord.

What challenges have you faced in your life with God?



THE CROZIER

Despite the rough seas Peter faced, Jesus' call never wavered. In John 21, Jesus asks Peter three times, "Do you love me?" Each time Peter responds, "Yes, Lord," Jesus replies, "Feed my sheep." Peter was given the unique task of serving the early church as the first pope. The papal crozier, resembling a shepherd's staff, symbolizes this distinctive way Peter was called to lead and spread the gospel.

The Lord calls each of us to serve others and preach the gospel to the world in a unique way. For Peter, it was as pope, as shepherd of the flock. Others are called to spread the gospel through their call to be an athlete, scholar, father, mother, priest, teacher, doctor, police officer, etc.

How is God asking you to serve and preach the Good News now? How do you think He might ask you to proclaim His message in the future?



THE CROSS / NAILS

Peter's witness to Christ ultimately led to death by crucifixion, which is symbolized by the nails in the shape of a cross.

Preaching the gospel ultimately requires sacrificial love and suffering in both the little moments throughout our lives and in the final moments of our lives when we are called to truly pick up our cross and follow the Lord.



THE CROSSED KEYS

Jesus gave Peter the "keys to the kingdom," the ability to open heaven's gates for people to enter into eternal life with God. The keys cross through the entire crest, representing that heaven, eternal life with God himself, is our goal and deepest hope.

Each of us was created to live forever with God. Our initial call, challenges, service, and eventual suffering are all directed toward the goal of eternal life with Him. The keys remind us of St. Peter's role but, more importantly, the heavenly destination for which we are striving.



TRUTH • FAITH • CHARITY