

- Fish or Ichthys, was an important symbol to the early Christians. In Greek, the phrase, "Jesus Christ, Son of God Saviour," is "Iesous Christos Theou Yios Soter." The first letters of each of these Greek words, spell "ichthys,"

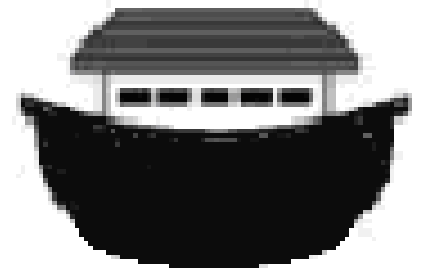
- Lamb a symbol of Christ as the Paschal Lamb and also a symbol for Christians as Christ is our Shepherd and Peter was told to feed His sheep).



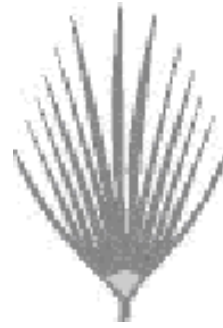


- Dove a symbol of the Holy Spirit. It also symbolizes the release of the soul in death.

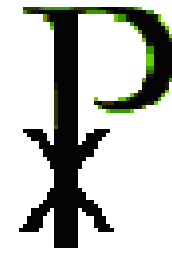
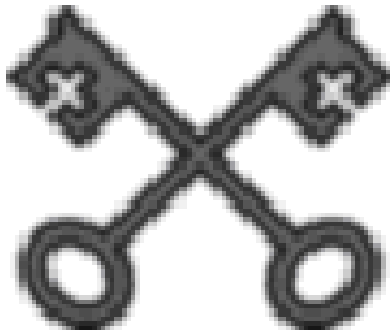
- Those outside of Noah's Ark were destroyed, so the ship became a perfect early symbol of the Church. The main part of a church's interior is called a "nave," from the Latin "navis" -- ship.



- Some of the earliest depictions of Christ show Christ as the Good Shepherd. This type of representation is found in the Catacombs.



- Palm mean victory. Palms are especially made use of on Palm Sunday. The Palms are later burned and used on the next year's Ash Wednesday to symbolize mortality and penance.



- The Keys are the symbol of the authority of the papacy and the Church's power to "bind and loose" (Matthew 16:19 and Isaiah 22).

- "Chi-Rho" or "sigla". The letters "X" and "P," representing the first letters of the title "Christos," were eventually put together to form this symbol for Christ ("Chi" is pronounced "Kie").