

Emblems of the Order

I have been asked many times by brother Knights what the symbols of the emblems mean. Since this is my final newsletter as your State Advocate, what better way than to assist my brother knights once again in answering this call.

Degree Emblem



The emblem of the Order dates from the 2nd Supreme Council Meeting held 12 May 1883 when it was designed by Supreme Knight James T. Mullen.

A shield mounted upon the Formèe Cross; is the presentation of a traditional design of the Cross of Christ through which all graces of redemption were procured for mankind. This then represents the Catholic spirit of the Order.

Mounted on the shield are three objects: the fasces standing vertically & crossed behind it, an anchor and dagger (or short sword). The Roman fasces are symbolic of authority that which must exist in any tightly-bonded and efficiently operating organization. The mariner's anchor; symbol for Columbus, as patron of the Order. The dagger is a weapon of the Knight, when engaged upon an errand of mercy. Thus, the shield expresses Catholic Knighthood in organized merciful action & with the letters K. of C., it proclaims the specific activity.

The red, white and blue in the background of the shield and the foreground of the Cross of Malta are the colors of our country. As such, red symbolizes stout-hearted courage, of pulsing activity and a full measure of devotion. Blue symbolizes hope, of calm tranquility under God and of confidence in the protection of our country. White symbolizes nobility of purpose, of purity of aim and of crucible – tried ideals to be carried out.

But there is another symbolism of color in red, white and blue. This is the ecclesiastical symbolism in which red becomes the reflection of the drips of Christ's redemptive blood shed upon Calvary, and the martyr's bloodshed in defense of the faith. Red is the symbol of Faith, of belief in Christ, in the Redemption and in the knowledge and love of Jesus Christ. White is the color of the Eucharistic Host, pledge of God's Eucharistic presence among men, of infinite love God has for man and overwhelming affection which the God-man has for each person. White is the symbol of Christ-like Charity. Blue is the color of Our Lady's mantle, in which she wrapped her beloved Son, through which came salvation to a sinful world. Blue is the symbol of Hope.

Council Officer Jewels



Grand Knight: The Anchor, indicative of Columbus; also a variant form of the Cross for centuries.



Chaplain: Isabella Cross; silver & blue.



Deputy Grand Knight: The Compass, also used by Columbus; with its 32 flame-like rays representing the 32 virtues that may be possessed by man.



We hope this newsletter will provide answers to questions that you may have in your Council in regards to the Constitution and By-Laws.

Written by State Advocate Mark Bourgoïn and approved by State Deputy Philip Lizotte.

If you have any questions whatsoever regarding information printed in this newsletter, please do not hesitate to contact the State Advocate or the State Deputy.

Feel free to e-mail the State Advocate at mbourgoïn@tamc.org if you wish to see a specific issue addressed in this newsletter.

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Chancellor: The Isabella Cross, with Skull and Crossbones; symbolic of man's mortality.



Recorder: Crossed Quills, symbolic for letter and document (records) writing and preservation.



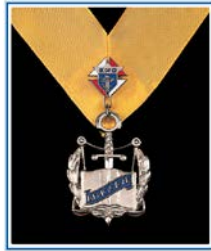
Financial Secretary: Crossed Key and Quill. The key is for the officer concerned with money, safe-keeping and secrecy. The quill is the symbol of a "scribe" – a record keeper – one who writes letters and documents.



Treasurer: Crossed Keys, symbolic of his complete authority over funds (money), particularly responsible for safekeeping.



Lecturer: Lyre and Scroll, traditionally symbolic of music, literature and the arts. Hence, the Lecturer is in charge of entertainment.



Advocate: The Scroll (legal literature and law) with sword (the power to defend and enforce the law).



Warden: An axe bound with the fasces, as a symbol of authority. The Warden, ideally, has and exercises that authority.



Inside & Outside Guard: Crossed Axes and Key, symbolic of a guardsman, secrecy, responsibility for safekeeping and admission. Also indicates authority even to the point of punishment to maintain it. Originally, symbolic of power over life & death.



Trustee: An anchor mounted on an axe bound with fasces over crossed swords. Symbolizes Columbus, authority, and power to defend and enforce the law.

Patriotic Emblem



Featuring the dove, cross and globe; the dove, classic symbol of the Holy Spirit and peace, is shown hovering over the Earth. Both are mounted on a variation of the Crusader's cross, which was found on tunics and capes of Crusading Knights who battled to regain the Holy Land from the pagans.

Our Honored Order cherishes as its patron Christopher Columbus.

- Christopher – the Christ bearer.
- Columbus – the Dove of Peace, symbolizing the Paraclete.

Spiritually, the sacred symbols typify the union of the Three Divine Persons in the one Godhead, the most Blessed Trinity.

- Globe: God the Father, Creator of the Universe;
- Cross: God the Son, Redeemer of Mankind;
- Dove: God the Holy Spirit, Sanctifier of Humanity.

The colors:

- Blue globe with the land of the Western Hemisphere in white;
- Red cross with gold borders and gold knobs at the end of the points forming the ends of the arms of the cross, also known as the Isabella cross;
- White dove.

Red, white and blue are the colors of the flag of the country in which the Knights originated. They are used to stress patriotism, the basic principle of the Fourth Degree.