

THE CROWN represents the Kingship of Christ and goes on the top of the tree.





"Mommy, my Sunday School teacher said that the Christmas Tree at church has this funny sounding word decorations on it. They're not like what we put on our tree." George asked his mom.

"Do you remember anything else she said about them?"



The CROSS OVER THE WORLD represents
Jesus saying, "go ye into all the world and proclaim the Word of God.



This one is the ANGEL GABRIEL from Luke Chapter 1, beginning at verse 26.



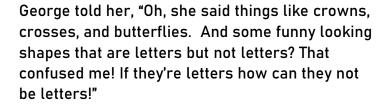
"Well she said they sym-, symb-, they sym-something."

"Symbolize." Mom guessed.

"Yeah, that's it! They tell us something about Jesus or something like that." George told her.

"So, they tell us something about Jesus. What do you think they tell us?" asked Mom.





"I'm going to guess she meant they were letters in a different language's alphabet." Mom explained.

"Maybe! Mom do you know anything about the funny tree at church? I think it's important but I don't really know why." George asked.



The TRIQUETRA represents the Trinity.



The BUTTERFLY represents birth and re-birth and this one contains the alpha and omega.



Mom answered, "I'm glad you asked, sweetie! It is an important tree because just like you said it tells about Jesus! Who is Jesus?"

"That's an easy question! He's God's one and only Son!" George said with excitement.

"Do you remember who He came to save?" Mom asked.



"Me!" George exclaimed!

Mom said, "Right and He also came to save the whole world."



The ROSE OF SHARON represents the nativity of our Lord and the hope of the Messiah.



The GREEK CROSS
has all arms of equal
length, a form used
in centuries of
Christian art.



"But He didn't save us like a knight in shining armor or a superhero. What did He save us from?" Mom asked.

George answered with his hand in the air, "Oo, Oo, I know! Our sins. My teacher said that they are the things we do that disobey God."





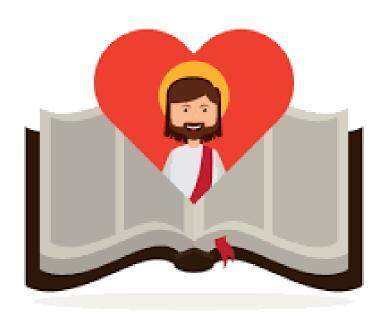
Mom explained, "That's right! Jesus saved us from our sins! We can't save ourselves so we need a Savior to forgive us. And the only person who can be that Savior is Jesus! John 3:16 says, 'For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son that whosoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life."



The LATIN CROSS with the monogram represents "the Holy name of Jesus."



The LATIN CROSS is the most familiar cross and represents the cross on which Jesus was crucified.



"Mom I already know that one! It's hidden in my heart!" George told his mom.



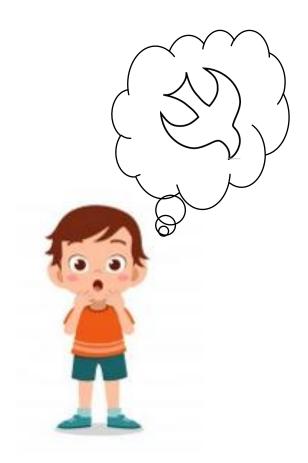
"That's wonderful! So, since Jesus is for whosoever, we have a job to tell others about Him so that they can believe too. The funny sounding tree at church, the Chrismon Tree, does just that. We hang symbols about our faith on the tree to remind us to tell others of who God is and what He has done so whosoever will believe in Jesus!"



The LILY, known as the FLEUR DE LIS, is found throughout history but it's the Christian symbol for the Trinity and the purity of Mary. On compasses, it points north to protect early sailors.



The DOVE and FIRE both represent the Holy Spirit.



"So, the Chris- Chris-Chrismon Tree tells us about Jesus. If I show the symbols to my friend, will that help me to tell him about Jesus?" George asked.



Mom answered, "Yes Dear, they will definitely help you to tell your friend about Jesus, but first you need to know what they mean. Let's start with a few and throughout this Christmas we can learn about more."

"Thank you, Mom!" George said as he gave his mom a big hug.

Chrismon is a combination of two words:
Christ and monogram together. They are the symbols of Christ and Christmas. Chrismons are traditionally colored white and gold.
White is the church color for Christmas and symbolizes that Jesus was pure and perfect.
Gold symbolizes His Majesty and Glory.
Chrismons can be made from nearly anything, but paper and embroidered ones are the most widely used. The earliest symbols are in Greek letters because much of the New Testament was written in Greek the language used by many of the first churches.



CHI and RO the first two letters in the name Christ.