

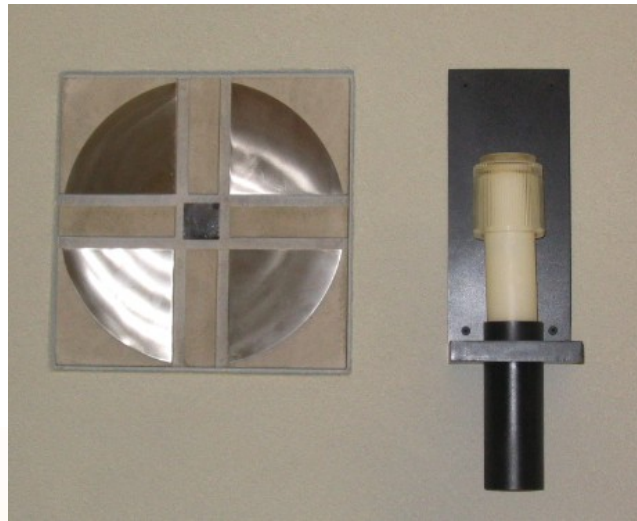


Holy Spirit  
Catholic Community



## The Ancient Cross

Signs are everywhere; in our houses, on our roads, in our offices, and in our churches. Do you ever stop to think about what a specific sign means? For example, sometimes when we see a stop sign, we break and slow down but continue to roll along because we don't have the time to actually stop and consider why the sign is there. Maybe it's a dangerous intersection. Maybe there is not a clear path of vision on the road, but regardless of what the sign actually means, we tend to want to avoid doing what it says.



It is the same with another sign that we see all the time in the church; the Cross. The cross is a basic symbol of Christianity. We find crosses in many places of our church. On the top of our altar is incised an ancient cross that was used in Jerusalem. It is a simple narrow cross. You will find this cross design repeated many times in our building. It is on our Dedication Stone by the front doors of our building as well as on the stone of the Paschal Candle base located next to the Baptismal Font. How many crosses do you notice when you are in the Worship Space? Walking through the church one day at least 25 crosses were found.

So why is this symbol so important? Why should we stop and notice the cross? It is through the cross that we come to Resurrection. It is by taking up the cross and following Jesus that we gain eternal life and yet, so often, we try to go around the cross. Our challenge as we journey through Lent is to stop and look at the cross, pick it up and follow Jesus down the road to eternal life.