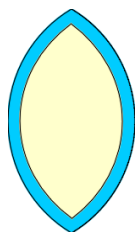




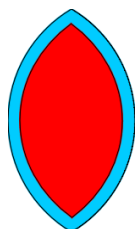
Symbols of our faith

The title of this section is taken after Helen Stuart Griffith, *The Sign Language of Our Faith*, Morehouse-Gorham Co, New York, 1952 on which this relies.

Below is an explanation of the symbols in the seals of The Continuing Episcopal Church.



The border of the seal is a vesica (bladder) or vesica piscis (fish bladder), the form of a fish body without fins. In Greek the letters for fish, pronounced ichthus, are initials for "Jesus Christ, Son of God Saviour". The correct color of the border is blue. By convention, Church seals and emblems are enclosed in a vesica.



The field within the vesica is red after the background of the shields of Saint Peter and Saint James the Greater, "Precious shall their blood be in his sight" (Ps. 72.14).



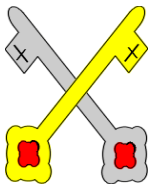
The blue cross saltire is the badge of the Order of Saint Andrew of Russia. Usually the cross is red, but here it is blue out of respect to the Holy Orders of The Continuing Episcopal Church proceeding from the Russian Orthodox Church before 1917.



The budded cross symbolizes the Eastern Orthodox Church of which the Russian Orthodox Church before 1917 was part and out of which The Holy Eastern Orthodox Catholic and Apostolic Church in North American, Inc.® came in 1928, with whom The Continuing Episcopal Church is also in communion by necessity. The trefoil ends of the arms suggest the Holy Trinity, and the correct color is orange.



The Celtic or Ionic cross symbolizes the early Churchmen of Scotland, and later of Northern Ireland, from whence the incorporating members of The Continuing Episcopal Church trace their genealogies. The cross contains a circle, the "emblem of eternity [which] suggests the eternal quality of the Redemption", as a structural brace to support the arms when the cross is carved in stone. The correct color is green.



The keys saltire refer to Mat 16.19 and John 20.20-23 when Jesus breathes on the Apostles for them to receive the Holy Ghost and to bind and loose sins. The silver key symbolizes the binding of sin (excommunication) and the gold key the loosing of sin (absolution). The gold key is overlaid on the silver key to show precedence of loosing sin as preferable to binding it. The correct color of the quatrefoils is red. The keys appear in the shield of Saint Peter. Here the keys also symbolize respect for The Church of the East which was originally founded by Saint Peter in Antioch (where Christians were first called Christians) and with whom The Continuing Episcopal Church is also in communion by necessity.



The emblem of The Anglican Institute of Theology contains a lemon yellow field after the shield of Saint James the Less who was probably the first Bishop of Jerusalem (Acts 12.17). The correct colors of the Latin cross are green and red. The cross here is red to match, with the yellow background, the emblem of our Lord and the shield of faith.