



St. Peter "The Rock"

And so I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church,
and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it.

I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven.

Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven;
and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."

Matthew 16:18-19

The crossed keys, a reference to Christ's promise to Peter, are also the traditional symbol of the Pope because they are the successors of Peter. Because he felt unworthy to die as Christ had, St. Peter asked that his cross be inverted so that he might look Heavenward as he was crucified.

A gold cross, silver keys, on a red field.