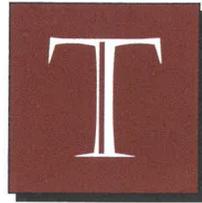


he Holy Spirit and the fountain of life

Jesus is the source of the “living water” of God’s grace. Those who believe in Him will receive the

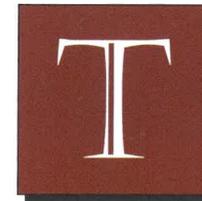
Holy Spirit when they receive God’s grace. In the illustration, the fountain of living water has the Holy Spirit above it. The fountain also reminds us of the baptismal font where we are born again of water and the Holy Spirit, and where we receive the power to love God. This is the state of grace. The two crosses represent the godparents or sponsors who are baptized Catholics. The witnesses present the candidate for baptism and accept responsibility for ensuring the candidate attains a worthy Christian life.



he Church represented as a ship

The main sail is inscribed with the Greek short form for Christ, a symbol known as the “Chi-Rho”, a Christian monogram formed from the first two letters X and P of the word for Christ - also called a Christogram.

The church, represented as the Barque of Peter, is kept afloat amid tempest by breath of the Holy Spirit and the direction of Christ.



he Pious Pelican

In the middle ages, people accepted many legends about nature and religion that had nothing to do with the facts. The story that the mother pelican fed its young with its blood was one such legend, and people connected it with our Lord giving us his blood to drink in the Eucharist. Even St. Thomas Aquinas addressed Jesus as “pious pelican.”