

## **St John sub Castro Education Resources**



Discovery Box 3 Written Symbols

Symbol	Meaning	Biblical reference
	IHS is the first three letters of the Greek name for Jesus: <b>IHΣΟΥΣ.</b> Many of the books of the New Testament were written in Greek.  The Greek letters <b>IHΣ</b> are pronounced as ee-ay-ss. There were no j sounds in ancient Greek, Aramaic or Latin so Jesus' name would have been pronounced as Ee-ay-sus.	No biblical references
R	The Chi Rho is one of the earliest symbols for Jesus Christ. The Chi is represented by the X and the Rho is represented by the P.  Chi and Rho are the first two sounds in the Greek word XPIΣΤΟΣ, pronounced Christos, meaning Christ.	No biblical references
	Alpha (A) and omega ( $\Omega$ ) are the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet. When used together they signify that God is the beginning and the end, meaning that God is eternal or has existed and will exist forever.	Isaiah 44:6 Revelations 22:13
	The Trinity symbol represents the Trinity, which is the three parts of God: God the Father, Jesus his son and the Holy Spirit.  It is also called the Triquertra, which means 'three cornered' in Latin.  The Trinity Knot, as this is also known, was originally a Pagan Celtic image. Early	1 Corinthians 13:14
	Christians began using it to represent the Trinity	