

# Chrismon Devotion

**The Chi Rho (XP)** The XP Chrismon is called the Chi Rho for it is the first two letters of the word Jesus in Greek.

"The angel said to (Mary), 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David'" (Luke 1:30-32).

Then in Luke 2:21, we hear Jesus named, "When the eighth day came, it was time to circumcise the child, and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb."

Jesus means "Yahweh will save" or "God saves"

The Chi Rho is the most widely known Chrismon. It is a combination of the first two letters of the Greek word for Christ, Christos (XPISTOS). The Chi Rho (XP) was widely used by the early church. In that day, the shame and pain of the cross was too immediate for most people to use the sign of the cross openly.

You may recognize this symbol because it is on one of our banners on the altar.



## What is a Chrismon?

A Chrismon is a monogram, sign, or symbol referring to or pointing to Christ.