

Romero Cross Notes

<p>Slide 1</p>		<p>SCIAF, the Scottish Catholic International Aid Fund, is the official aid agency for the Catholic Church in Scotland. SCIAF helps families in poor countries to grow enough food to eat, to get an education and to recover when disaster strikes.</p>
<p>Slide 2</p>	<p>Romero Cross</p> 	<p>The 'Romero Cross' is a visible reminder of Romero's life and death. The artist Fernando Llorca created the cross seen here at St George's Cathedral, Southwark, which houses some of St Óscar Romero's relics.</p> <p>Llorca's design reflects a traditional style of Salvadoran artwork which features vibrant colours and images of the life of Jesus, the Trinity and the people of El Salvador. Variations of this design are now widely used to create 'Romero Crosses' for Catholics around the world.</p> <p>Source: Romero Trust</p>
<p>Slide 3</p>		<p>This side is the Cross of Ministry. What images from Jesus' ministry can you see?</p> <p><i>(click 2)</i> At the top of the cross is the Tree of Life and the Dove of Peace symbolising the Holy Spirit.</p> <p><i>(click 3)</i> Next we find the bread and cup of communion.</p> <p><i>(click 4)</i> Moving on we see mountains in the background of the Last Supper.</p> <p><i>(click 5)</i> Below we find Jesus with raised arms greeting the crowd of 5,000. Above are the loaves and fishes.</p> <p><i>(click 6)</i> At the base of the cross is a Bishop with his people representing Jesus' continuing ministry.</p>

<p>Slide 4</p>		<p>The other side is the Cross of Resurrection. What images can you see?</p> <p><i>(click 1)</i> Again, the bird at the top of the cross symbolises the Holy Spirit.</p> <p><i>(click 2)</i> Next we find tools and the gathered harvest, representing the dignity of work and the fruits of labour.</p> <p><i>(click 3)</i> With arms outstretched, Jesus greets the world. The eye on his breast is that of God the Father.</p> <p><i>(click 4)</i> Below are a stalk of maize and a cup of 'chicha', a harvest drink. These symbolise the Eucharist. In Central and South America, chicha is a fermented or non-fermented beverage usually derived from maize. Chicha includes corn beer known as chicha de jora and non-alcoholic beverages such as chicha morada.</p> <p><i>(click 5)</i> Finally at the base of the cross, Archbishop Romero stands above a village, symbolising his pastoral concern.</p>
<p>Slide 5</p>		<p>Using the colouring sheet provided, design your own Romero Cross. Draw symbols of your community and decorate it with vibrant colours. Consider how the images that you add to the cross represent different prayers that you lift up to God.</p> <p>For example, you may offer up: prayers of thanksgiving for the beautiful and diverse communities we live in prayers for guidance that our communities continue to grow in peace and harmony through the Lord prayers for healing and reconciliation where our communities are fractured</p> <p>Cut out the cross and write some of your prayers on the back. Keep the cross as a reminder of how God calls us all to stand with all members of our communities, especially those who are pushed to the margins.</p>