SYMBOLS OF THE 12 APOSTLES



ST. PETER

The keys refer to the keys of Heaven, and the inverted cross refers to Peter's crucifixion.



ST. JOHN "THE BELOVED"

This symbol refers to the legend of a poisoned chalice offered to St. John in an attempt to end his life.



ST. JAMES THE GREATER

St. James was the first to go on a missionary journey. The scallop shells represent pilgrimage.



ST. ANDREW

According to tradition, St. Andrew was crucified on an X-shaped cross.



ST. JAMES THE LESSER

According to tradition, St. James was stoned and sawn by his attackers.



ST. MATTHEW

The moneybags refer to the occupation of St. Matthew before he was called by Christ.



ST. THOMAS

The ruler refers to the tradition that St. Thomas built a church by hand. The spear refers to his martyrdom.



ST. JUDE

St. Jude (also known as Thaddeus) sailed to many ports as he journeyed as a missionary.



ST. BARTHOLOMEW

It is said that St. Bartholomew was flayed and crucified.



ST. SIMON

St. Simon, companions with St. Jude, was a fisherman by trade, but also known as a great fisher of men.



ST. PHILIP

Jesus directed St. Philip to feed His people, represented here by two circles of bread.



ST. MATTHIAS

St. Matthias was chosen to replace Judas Iscariot. The axe refers to his martyrdom.