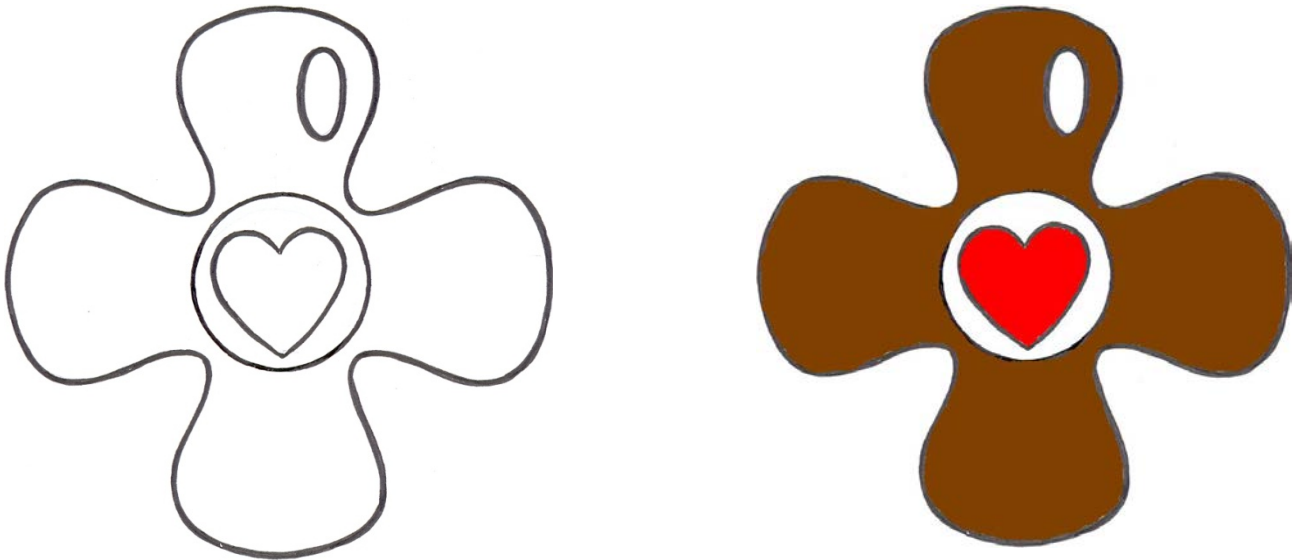


International EYM Cross

Dear friends

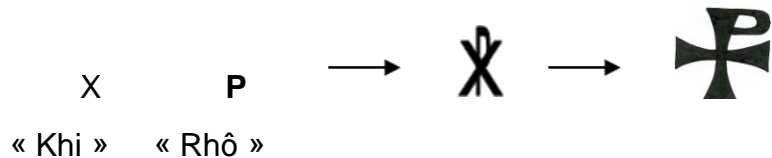
Here is the model for the new official cross of the international Eucharistic Youth Movement.



A worldwide participative process finally brought us to this model of a cross that will distinguish the international EYM. I send you two versions drawn by the international EYM artist Mico, from the Chilean EYM team. One blank model, which is really the official cross. The other, with the colors, is only to give you an idea of how you can present it and invite you to be creative – the colors are not official. You can choose other colors or just leave it without colors.

Meaning

Jesus Christ, crucified, dead and risen for us and for all his people. We call our symbol the *monogram cross*, because its form reminds us at the same time of the cross and of the name of Christ, or *monogram*, starting by the union of the first two letters of his name in Greek: XP.



This *monogram*, sometimes called *Chrism*, because it contains the word *Christ*, was at a certain time the secret password of the Witnesses of the Lord.

At the center of our cross we have two more symbols: the Host, reminding us Christ's love that comes to us and gives himself out to us in the Eucharist, and the heart, symbol of his love and friendship that we find in the EYM.

When the young person has on his body this Chrism of the Lord, he will remember that he wears the symbol of the Risen Lord that cares for him with immense love, that gives out his life for him and that will take him one day to be forever with Him.

Interesting

Some centuries before Christ, the Egyptians used a sacred hieroglyph they called *Ankh* to designate the immortality of the soul. We can find this symbol, very similar to our cross, on the tombs of Egyptian Christians. In this way, they seemed to say: "The Life we hope for is the Risen Christ!"



Ankh

Claudio Barriga, sj / Lourdes Varguez, rjm

Roma, October 30, 2013