

The Badge Explained

Colours

The main colours of blue and gold are borrowed from the coat of arms of the Diocese, which was granted in 1960, based on a design of 1879. The blue represents the heavens, the rivers and the sea. The gold refers to the cross and Christ as the Light of the World.

Symbols

The Patonce cross, found in the Diocesan arms, is a reference to the post Reformation coat of arms of Westminster Abbey. These arms, in turn, were based on the medieval arms of the cross and five martlets, or birds without legs, attributed to the Abbey's founder, King Edward the Confessor. Here, the cross forms a link with the main official symbol of the Diocese but most importantly dramatizes the reality that this is the badge of a Christian community.



Diocese of New Westminster
ANGELICAN CHURCH OF CANADA

The birds or martlets are also borrowed from the diocesan arms. Here they are shown in a Canadian style, as developed by the Canadian Heraldic Authority, to emphasize that this is a badge of a Canadian institution, which is serving people in one part of the country. Another possibility is that the birds refer to the power of the Holy Spirit. Customary iconography for the Holy Spirit is the dove, but it may be fair to see the martlets as messengers from heaven.

The wavy white line symbolizes water, the water of Baptism, and also that the Diocese of New Westminster is on a coast of Canada.

The Shape

The circle shape is symbolic of the circle of life, which is also a reference to First Nations spirituality.

Use as a Logo or Word Mark

The badge is usually to be used with the words:

**Diocese of New Westminster
Anglican Church of Canada**

The badge in no way should be seen as replacing the Coat of Arms. Parishes can incorporate it in their own marks, or continue to use the Diocesan crest.

