

Heraldry and Shields



Family Activities

- Design your own coat of arms
- Heraldic icons
- Make your own shield
- Guide to heraldry
- Heraldic Animals Colouring Page

Gizmo the
Gargoyle



DISCOVER

with Gizmo the Gargoyle

**Learning at the
Churches
Conservation
Trust**

Heraldry and Shields

Family Activities

Overview:

Visitors of all ages love making shields and designing their own Coat of Arms. Encourage them to think about what is important to them and consult the guide to create a Coat of Arms and motto that truly represents their values.

Activity 1: Design your own coat of arms (Low Cost/ Low Effort)

Overview: Visitors discover the symbolism behind heraldry and use the guide and template to design their own Coats of Arms. They can draw their own symbols or cut and stick the heraldic icons.

Age range: 4+ (Be aware that young children can choke on small objects and so should be closely supervised).

Materials:

- Heraldic Icons document- these are stock images found on Word, and you can print out more of your own! Click on 'Insert' and then 'Icons'.
- Scissors
- Glue sticks
- Coat of Arms Template
- Pencils
- Colouring pens/pencils

Activity 2: Make your own shield (Low Cost/ Medium Effort)

Overview: Use coloured paper, cardboard and tape to make your very own shield.

Age range: 4+ (Be aware that young children can choke on small objects and so should be closely supervised).

Materials:

- Coloured paper
- Cardboard
- Marker pen
- Scissors
- Masking tape
- Ruler

THIS DOCUMENT SHOULD BE USED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE FAMILY ACTIVITY ORGANISER'S MANUAL.

Step 1: Draw the outline of a shield in marker pen on a thick piece of cardboard and a piece of coloured paper and cut them out. Stick the coloured paper to the cardboard.

Step 2: If you wish, you can use masking tape to mark out shapes on the shield. Check out the 'Churches Conservation Trust Guide to Heraldry' for examples of Heraldic Ordinaries.

Step 3: Create a design on the shield. You can cut and stick icons from the Heraldic Icons or draw your own. If you have other arts and crafts materials (stickers, glitter etc) you can leave these out for visitors to add.

Step 4: Make arm straps by cutting out two strips of cardboard about 22cm x 9cm. Tape one end of one strip to the back of the shield and bend it so it makes a loop which you can put your arm through, then tape the other end down. Do the same with the other strip to make two arm straps.

Activity 3: Heraldic Creatures Colouring Page (Low Cost/ Low Effort)

Overview: Visitors learn the meaning of common Heraldic creatures and colour them in.

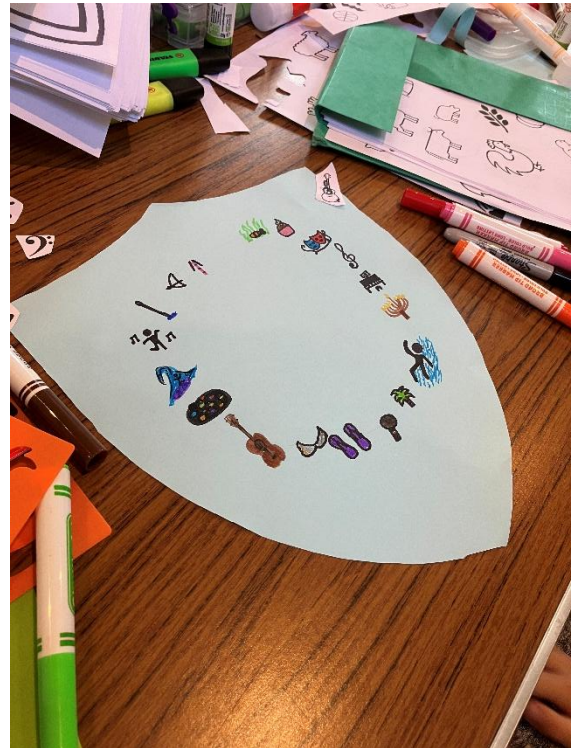
Age range: 3+

Hazards to add to your risk assessment: PLEASE CONSULT THE LEARNING EVENT ORGANISER'S MANUAL FOR FULL LIST OF POSSIBLE HAZARDS.

Hazards Identified	Risk (How people may be harmed)	Precautions / Control measures	Residual Risk	Further precautions necessary
Pens/ Pencils/ Colouring Pens and Pencils	Poking to eyes, ears, nose, mouth etc.	Children not to be left unattended and asked to be respectful and sensible with the resources. Broken pencils replaced immediately.	L	Do not leave children unattended signage.
Small Objects	Choking hazard.	Children not to be left unattended and asked to be respectful and sensible with the resources.	M	Do not leave children unattended signage.
Glue	Children try to eat glue.	Children not to be left unattended and asked to be respectful and sensible with the resources.	L	Do not leave children unattended signage.

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Scissors	Cuts from scissors	All scissors should be child safety scissors. Young children should be accompanied whilst using scissors.	L	Do not leave children unattended signage.
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Mascots:

The Churches Conservation Trust has six learning mascots each with their own colour and area of interest! These activities include 'Discover with Gizmo the Gargoyle'

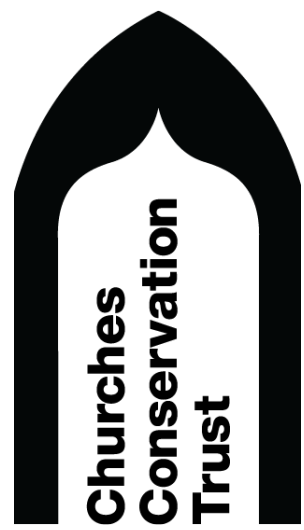


Gizmo the Gargoyle is head of the pack! He loves history and, being made of stone, he is old enough to have experienced much of it. Gizmo uses his binoculars and magnifying glass to see the features of the church up close.

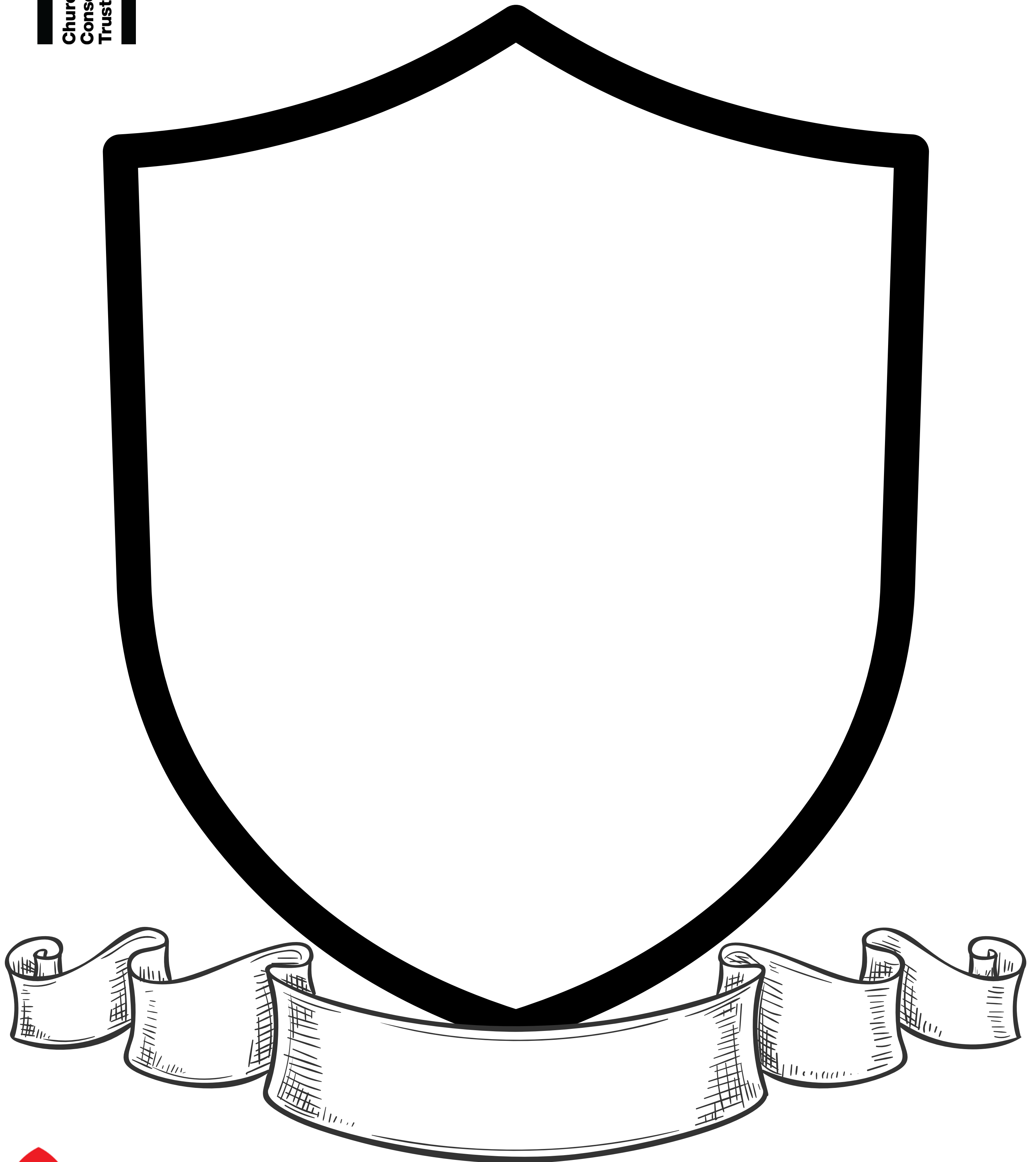
DISCOVER
with Gizmo the Gargoyle

CHURCHES CONSERVATION TRUST

Coat of Arms Template



Use the 'Guide to Heraldry' to create your own Coat of Arms. Think about what is important to you and pick the images and motto that best represent you.



Find out more about the Churches Conservation Trust: visitchurches.org.uk

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Coats of Arms' Creatures

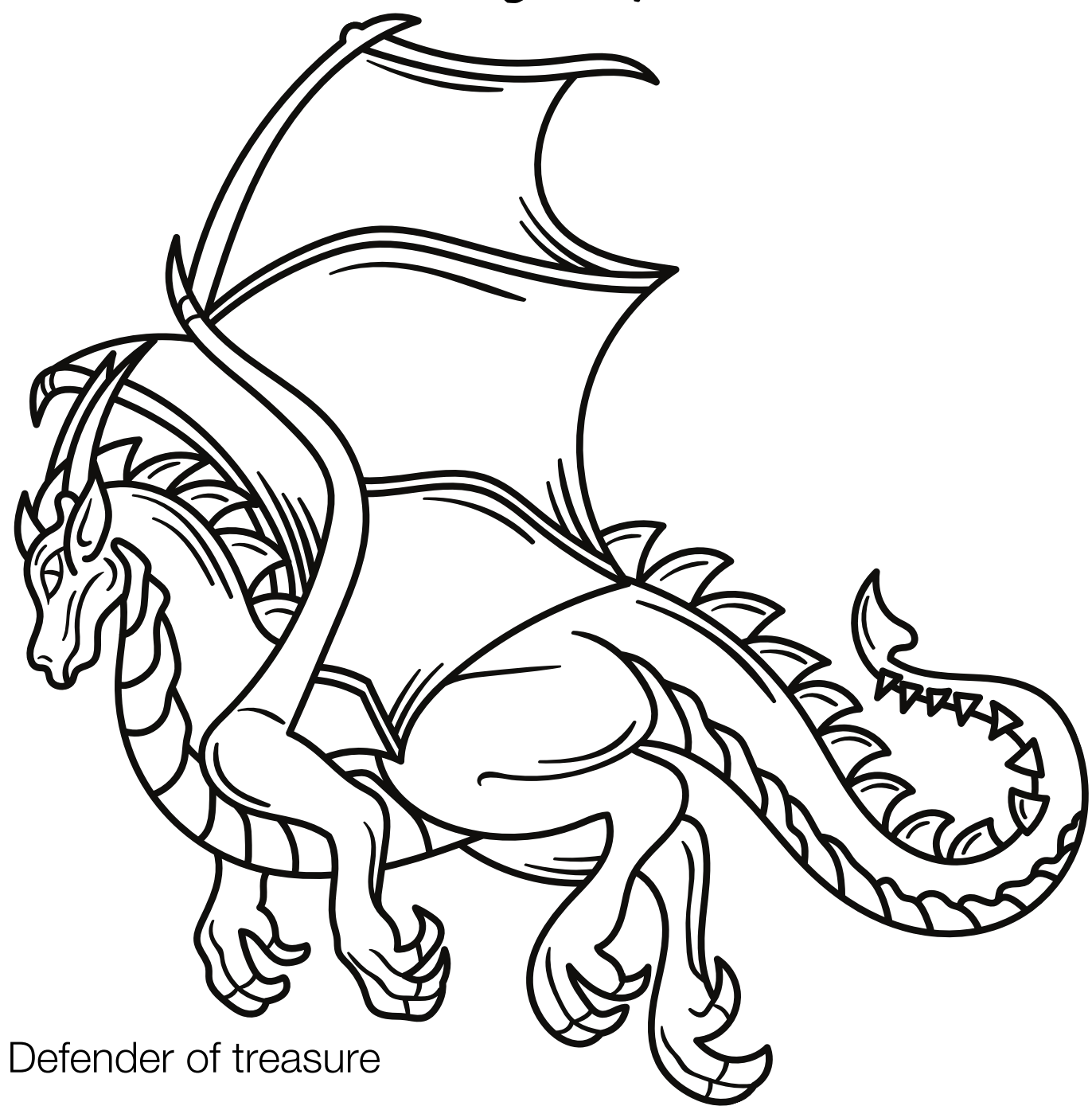
Did you know that the creatures found on shields have special meanings?

Coats of arms or Heraldry is the name for the colourful decorations and symbols families use to represent themselves. During battle or jousting tournaments, knights wore helmets that covered their faces. The coats of arms on their shields and armour showed people who they fought for.

Can you colour in the creatures and learn what they represent?



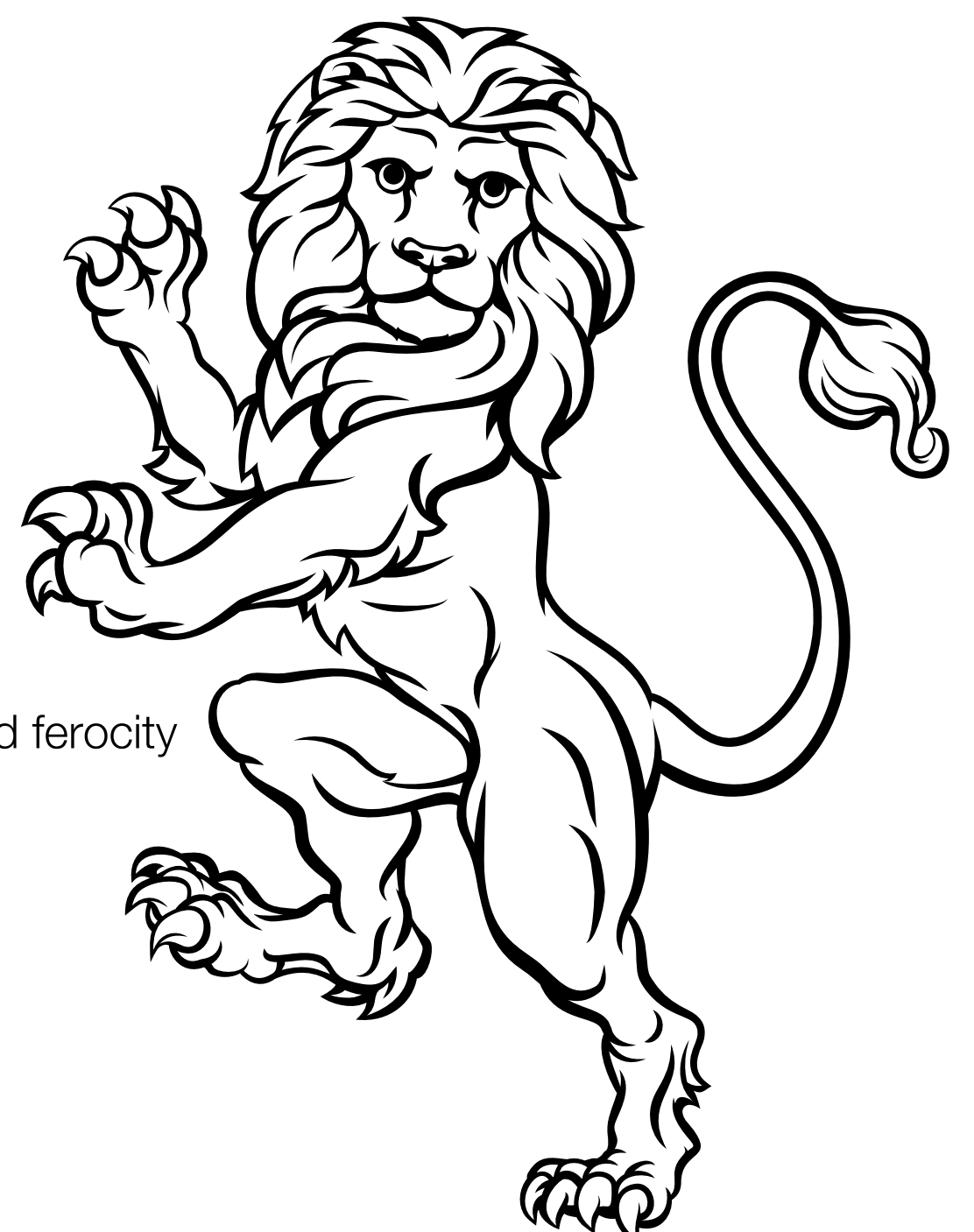
Griffin: Valour and Courage



Dragon: Defender of treasure



Unicorn: Virtue and strength



Lion: Bravery and ferocity

Find out more about
the Churches
Conservation Trust: visitchurches.org.uk

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experience on
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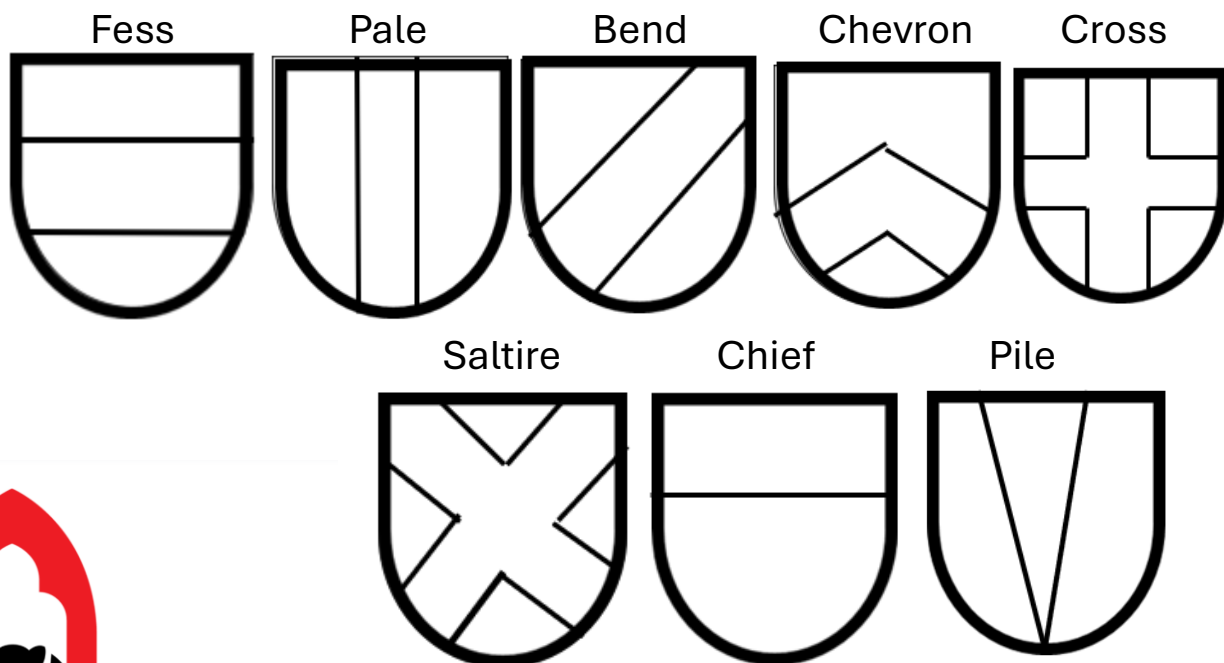
Churches Conservation Trust

Guide to Heraldry

We've put together this guide to help you explore the Heraldry found in our buildings and design your own! Coats of Arms are a way of representing a family's values through colours, symbols and images. However, the same symbol may have different meanings on different coats of arms. For example, the Lion signifies strength and bravery as well as England.

Colour	Heraldic Name	Meaning
Gold/ Yellow	Or	Generosity and elevation of mind
Silver/ White	Argent	Peace and Sincerity
Red	Gules	Warrior and military strength
Blue	Azure	Truth, loyalty and faith
Green	Vert	Hope and joy
Black	Sable	Consistency or grief
Purple	Purpure	Royalty and justice
Orange	Tawny	Ambition

Heraldic Ordinaries are the basic shapes found on many Coats of Arms:



Components of a Coat of Arms:

Helm: Different helmets to show the family's importance. Gold and silver are for noblemen.

Crest: On top of the helm, either a cap or crown.

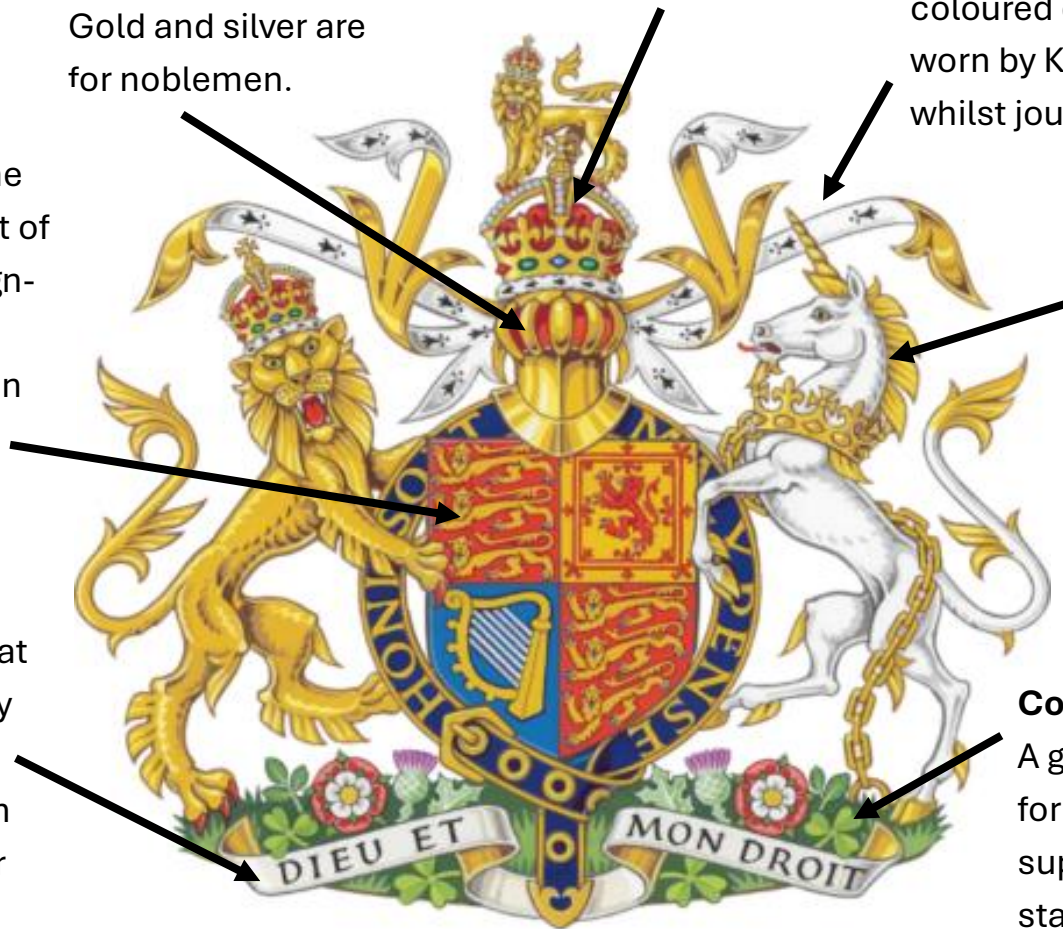
Mantling: Two-coloured drapery worn by Knights whilst jousting.

Coat of Arms: The main part of the design used by knights on their shields.

Supporters: Animals who hold up the shield, can be the same or different.

Motto: A saying that the family live by. Usually in French or Latin.

Compartment: A grassy mound for the supporters to stand on.



This is the **British Royal Arms**. In the four sections of the shield are the Royal emblems of England (three lions), Scotland (single lion) and Ireland (harp). The special position of Wales as a Principality meant that it was not included in the Royal Arms. Instead, the Prince of Wales has a separate coat of arms which includes the arms of Wales at its centre.

On each side, the two supporters holding the coat of arms represent England (the lion) and Scotland (the unicorn). The plants of the United Kingdom are also often included under the



shield. If you look carefully, you should be able to spot the English rose, Scottish thistle, Welsh leek and Irish shamrock.

There are two mottos on the royal coat of arms. The one surrounding the shield in the middle is written in Latin and means ‘Evil to him who evil thinks’. It represents the Order of the Garter, an ancient order of knights who are chosen by the reigning monarch. The second motto is written in French at the bottom of the coat of arms, it means ‘God and my right’. This is the motto of the monarch and is a reference to the idea that kings and queens have a divine (God given) right to rule.

Examples of symbols on heraldry and their meanings:

Acorn: Ancient history and strength.

Anchor: Hope, faith in God.

Angel: Dignity, glory, and honour; bearer of joyful news.

Ant: Great labour, wisdom.

Antlers: Strength and fortitude.

Apple: Felicity and peace.

Arrow: Readiness (for battle)

Bat: Awareness of the powers of darkness and chaos.

Bay Leaves: Poet or victory.

Bear: Strength, cunning, ferocity.

Beaver: Industry and perseverance.

Bee: Efficiency and diligence.

Bells: Power to disperse evil.

Berries: Freedom and peace.

Boar: Bravery; fights to the death.

Book: learning and knowledge.



Castle (Tower, Chateau): Safety; the home.

Cat: Liberty, vigilance and courage.

Centaur: Eminence in the field of battle.

Cherub: Innocence, bearer of joyful news.

Chess rook: Strategic thinking.

Clock Tower: Integrity.

Clouds: Mystery.

Crab: Strength and power.

Crow: Strategist in battle; watchful for friends.

Crown/coronet: Royal or authority.

Dagger: Justice and/or military honour.

Deer: One who will not fight unless provoked; peace and harmony.

Dog: Courage, vigilance, and loyalty.

Dolphin: Swiftness, diligence, salvation, charity, and love.

Dove: Love and peace; the Holy Spirit;

Dragon: Valiant defender of treasure; valour and protection.

Drum: Ready for war.

Duck: Person of many resources.

Eagle: Person of noble nature, strength, bravery, and alertness; leadership; or one who is high-spirited, ingenious, quick-witted, and judicious.

Elephant: Great strength, wit, longevity, happiness, royalty, good luck, and ambition.

Estoile (star with six/eight wavy points): Celestial goodness; noble person.

Farm Tools: Labouring in the earth

Falcon (Hawk): One who does not rest until objective is achieved.

Feathers: (usually ostrich feathers) Sign of obedience to nobility.



Fish: A true, generous mind.

Flames: Zealousness; passion.

Fleur-de-lis: Purity; light; floral badge of France;

Flowers: Hope and joy.

Fountain: Represents water, the source of life, a spring.

Fox: One who will use all their wisdom and wit in their defence.

Fruit: Luck and peace.

Globe: Worldliness; world travel.

Goat: One who wins through politics rather than war.

Griffin: (Head, wings, and talons of an eagle with the body of a lion): Valour and death-defying bravery; vigilance; courage.

Hand: Pledge of faith and justice. Two hands conjoined represent union and alliance.

Hands holding heart: Kindness; compassion.

Hare: One who enjoys a peaceable life.

Heart (Flaming): Intense, burning affection.

Heart (Human): Charity and sincerity.

Horse: Readiness for king and country.

Horseshoe: Good luck and safety from evil spirits.

Hydra (dragon with seven heads): Conquest of a very powerful enemy.

Jaguar: Power, ferocity, and valour; the power to face one's fears.

Keys: Guardianship.

Lantern: One who is watchful

Lamb: Gentleness and patience under suffering.

Letters (ABC...): May represent great battles or tournaments beginning with that letter.

Lightning Bolt: Swiftmess and power; spiritual enlightenment.



Lily of the Valley: Purity, happiness, luck, and humility.

Lion: Dauntless courage; integrity; Bravery, strength, ferocity.

Mermaid: Eloquence.

Moon: Serene power

Musical Pipes: Festivity and rejoicing.

Oak Tree, Leaves, Bush: Great age and strength.

Olive Branch or Leaves: Peace.

Otter: One who lives life to the fullest.

Owl: One who is vigilant and has wit and wisdom.

Parchment/Scroll/Diploma: Academic or scholarly achievement.

Peacock: Beauty and knowledge; resurrection and immortality.

Pegasus: Poetic genius and inspiration.

Pen: Art of writing and power of education.

Rainbow: Good times after bad.

Ram: Authority.

Ring: Loyalty; commitment. Bra

Scales: Justice.

Sea horse: Power of the water.

Sea lion/Seal: Courage at sea.

Snake/Lizard/Adder: Wisdom.

Snail: Deliberation and perseverance.

Sphinx: Omniscience and secrecy.

Spider: Wisdom, labour, and prudence.

Squirrel: Lover of the woods.

Star (estoile): Celestial goodness; leadership; service; noble person.

Stool/ Chair: Hospitality.

Stone: Vigilance.



Sun: Glory and splendour; fountain of life; intelligence, innovation, creativity, and enlightenment.

Swallow: One who is prompt and ready; also bringer of good news.

Swan: Poetic harmony and learning, or love and compassion.

Sword: Justice and/or military honour.

Tiger: Fierceness and valour; dangerous if provoked

Tree: Life and the connection of the earth with heaven.

Tree Trunk/Stump/Branch: New life sprouting from the old.

Tressure: Preservation or protection. (Prominent in the arms of Scotland.)

Trident: Maritime dominion.

Trumpet: Ready for war.

Unicorn: Extreme courage; virtue and strength; also Scotland.

Vine: Strong and lasting friendship.

Walnut leaves: Hope and joy.

Wheel: Fortune; cycle of life.

Wings: Swiftmess and protection.

Wolf: Reward from perseverance in long sieges and/or hard industry.

Wyvern/wivern (Dragon with only two legs and armed tail): Valour and protection.

Yew: Death and eternal life in heaven.



Examples of heraldic mottos (in French and Latin):

A coeur valliant, rien impossible – To a valiant heart, nothing is impossible

Absque labore nihil – Nothing without labour

Ad finem fidelis – Faithful to the end

Amicis semper fidelis – Always faithful to my friends

Amo probos – Love proved

Amo, ut invenio – I love as I find

Amor et honor – Love and honour

Aquila non captat muscas – The eagle does not catch flies

Ardenter amo – I love fervently

Ardua petit ardea – The heron seeks high places

Arte et marte – By skill and valour

Arte non vi – By skill not force

Asgre lan diogel et phercen – A good conscience is the best shield

Audaces fortuna juvat – Fortune favours the bold

Carpe diem – Seize the present

Celer et audax – Swift and bold

Constans et fidelis – Steady and faithful

Cor et manus – Heart and hand

Cor immobile – A steadfast heart

Corage sans peur – Courage without fear

Crescit sub pondere virtus – Virtue thrives beneath oppression



Dant vires gloriam – Strength gives glory

Dat gloria vires – A good name gives strength

Del fuego lo avolo – I escaped from the fire

D¹leas go deo – Faithful forever

Diligentia fortior – Stronger by diligence

Disce pati – Learn to endure

Dulce periculum – Danger is sweet

Dulcius ex asperis – Sweeter after difficulties

Dum spiro spero – While I breath I hope

En la rose je fleurie – I flourish in the rose

En suivant la verite – By following the truth

Endure fort – Suffer bravely

Ero quod spero – I will again hope

Ex merito – With merit

Exaltabit honore – It will exalt with honour

Facta non verba – Deeds not words

Fidens et constans – Stand firm on trust

Fides et Justitia – Faith and Justice

Fides non timet – Faith fears not

Fidus et audax – Faithful and bold

Flead agus fýilte – Celebrate and welcome

Floreat majestas – Let majesty flourish

Floreat qui laborat – He prospers who labours



Fortes fortuna juvat – Fortune favours the bold

Forti et fideli nihil difficile – To the brave and faithful man nothing is difficult

Fortis atque fidelis – Brave and faithful

Fortis est veritas – Strong is the truth

Fortis et constans – Bold and constant

Fortis et egregius – Brave and distinguished

Fortis et fidelis – Brave and faithful

Fortis et hospitalis – Brave and hospitable

Fortis et velox – Strong and swift

Fortis in arduis – Brave in difficulties

Fortiter et fideliter – Boldly and faithfully

Fortiter et honeste – Boldly and honestly

Fortiter et suaviter – Firmly and mildly

Fortitudine et labore – By fortitude and labour

Fortitudine et prudentia – With fortitude and prudence

Fortuna audaces juvat – Fortune favours the bold

Fugit hora – The hour flies

Fuimus – We have been (We have made our mark)

Fulcrum dignitatis virtus – Virtue is the support of dignity

Fulget virtus – Virtue shines forth

Fulminis instar – Like lightning

Gaudet tenamine virtus – Virtue exults in the trial

Gearaig agus dog buad – Cut and burn to victory

Generositas et victoria – Generous in victory



Glandium musqrum nutrix – The sword is the muse of muses

Gluaiseact ar agaid – Forward motion

Grato animo – With grateful mind

His secutitas – Safety from these

Hoc majorum virtus – This is the valour of my ancestors

Honeste audax – Honourably bold

Honestum praefero utili – I prefer what is honourable to what is useful

Honestum praetulit utili – He has preferred honesty to advantage

Honi soit qui mal y pense – Shame to him who evil thinks

Honor et virtus – Honour and virtue

Honor virtutes praemium – Honor is the reward of valour

Honos virtutes satilles – Honour the attendant of virtue

In hoc signo spec mea – In this sign is my hope

In hoc signo vinces – Under this sign you shall conquer

In lumine lucem – I may shine in the light

In periculis audax – Bold in dangers

In scientia veritas in arte honestas – In science truth, in art honour

In veritate victoria – Victory in truth

Inclytus virtute – Renowned for virtue

Indignante invidia florebit justus – The just man will flourish in spite of envy

Industria veritas et hospitalis – Industry, truth, and hospitality

Justitia et fortitudo invincibilia sunt – Justice and fortitude are invincible



L'homme vrai aime son pays – The true man loves his country

Labor omnia vincit – Work wins everything

Lasair romuin go buad – The torch before us triumphantly

Le dsais – By all means

Leges juraque servat – He observes the laws and statutes

Leve et reluis – Arise and re-illumine

Levius fit patientia – Patience makes burdens lighter

Liber et erectus – Free and erect

Libertas – Liberty

Loyal aut mort – Loyal to the death

Lucent in tenebris – They shine in darkness

Magnum in parvo – Much in little

Maireann a sgríobtar – History cannot be denied

Maireann a sgr¹obtar – That which is written lives

Malo mori quam foedari – Death rather than dishonour

Manu forti – With a strong hand

Manus hoec inimica tyrannis – This hand is hostile to tyrants

Me stante virebunt – While I stand they will flourish

Memor esto – Be mindful of thy ancestors

Memoria pii aeterna – The memory of the pious is eternal

Mens conscia recti – A mind conscious of rectitude

Morior invictus – More wonderful unconquered

Mors aut honorabilis vita – Death or a life of honour

Moveo et proficior – I proceed and am more prosperous



Ne cede malis – Yield not to adversity

Ne oublies – Do not forget

Ne parcas nec spernas – Neither spare nor scorn

Ne quid falsi – Nothing false

Ne timeo nec sperno – I neither fear nor despise

Nec cupias, ne metuas – Neither desire nor fear

Nec elatus nec dejectus – Neither overjoyed, nor dejected

Nec flectitur nec mutant – They neither bend nor change

Nec temere nec timide – Neither rashly nor timidly

Nic opprimere nec opprimum – Neither to oppress nor be oppressed

Nihil alienum – Nothing strange

Nihil amanti durum – Nothing is hard for one who loves

Nihil sine labore – Nothing without labour

Nihil verius – Nothing more true

Nil admirari – Not to admire

Nil claraius astris – Nothing brighter than the stars

Nil conscire sibi – To have a conscience free from guilt

Nil desperandum – Never despairing

Nil desperandum est – We must never despair

Noli irritare leonem – Do not irritate the lions

Non dormis – I sleep not

Non nobis sed omnibus – Not for us but for all

Non sibi sed toti – Not for one self but for all

Nunquam acquiescere – Never Acquiesce



Nunquam non paratus – Never unprepared

Nunquam obliviscar – I will never forget

Omina vincit labor – Labor conquers all things

Omnia pro bono – All things for the good

Omnia vincit amor – Love subdues all things

Optima sperando spero – Hoping for the best, I live

Per ardua surgo – I rise through difficulties

Per mare per terras – By sea and land

Per varios casus – By various fortunes

Perge sed caute – Advance but cautiously

Praemium virtutis honor – Honour is the reward of virtue

Praestare et prodessee – To outstrip and do good

Praestat opes sapientia – Virtue by wisdom

Prend moi tel que je suis – Take me such as I am

Primus ultimusque in acie – First and last in battle

Prisco stripe Hibernico – Of ancient Irish stock

Pro aris et focus – For our altars and our home

Pro Deo et patria – For God and country

Pro Deo, rege, et patria – For God, king, and country

Pro fide et patria – For faith and fatherland

Pro veritate – For truth

Pro virtute – For virtue

Probitate et labore – By honesty and toil



Prodesse quam conspicui – To do good rather than be conspicuous

Providentia divina – By divine providence

Prudens ut serpens simplex ut columba – Prudent as a serpent simple as a dove

Prudentia et honor – Prudence and honour

Qui nucleum vult, nucem frangat – Who so wishes the kernel must crack the nut

Qui vit content lient assez – He that lives content has got enough

Quod ero spero – I hope that I shall be

Regarde bien – Attend well

Res non verba – Facts not words

Resistite usque ad sanguinem – Resist even to death

Resolutia cauta – Prudent resolution

Respice finem – Regard the end

Reviresco – I flourish again

Robori prudentia praestat – Strength prudence excellence

Rotione non vi – By reason not force

S'ils te mordent mors les – If they bite thee, bite them

Salus in fide – Salvation by faith

Sans changer – Without changing

Sans crainte – Without fear

Sapiens dominabitur astris – A wise man can rule the stars

Sapientia donum Dei – Wisdom is the gift of God

Scandit sublima virtus – Virtue scales great heights



Seasam go teann, go daingean – To stand firm

Sed contra audentior – Courage, against opposition

Semper eadem – Always the same

Semper fidelis – Always faithful

Semper idem – Always the same

Semper paratus – Always prepared

Semper patriae servire presto – Be always ready to serve your country

Semper praecinctus – Ever ready

Semper vigilans – Always watchful

Sic itir ad astra – This is the way of the stars

Sic nos sic sacra tuemur – Thus we guard our sacred rights

Signum pacis amor – Love is the token of peace

Sine fine – Without end

Sine labe – Without dishonour

Sine labe resurgens – To rise again

Sine macula – Without spot

Sine metu – Without fear

Sola bona que honesta – Those things are good which are honest

Sola virtus nobilitat – Virtue alone ennobles

Soli Deo gloria – Glory to God alone

Soyez fiel – Be faithful

Spectemur agendo – Let us be judged by our actions

Spei bonae atque animae – Of good hope and courage

Sperandum est – It is to be hoped

Spero meliora – I hope for better things



Spes lucis aeternae – The hope of eternal life

Stat fortuna domus – The good fortune of the house stands

Stat veritas – Truth stands

Studio sapientia crescit – Wisdom grows by study

Su se robore firmat – He strengthens himself by his own might

Suaviter et fortiter – Mildly and firmly

Sub cruce salus – Salvation under the cross

Sub hoc signo vinces – Under this sign we shall conquer

Sub lege libertas – Under the law there is liberty

Sub libertate quietem – Rest under liberty

Sub sole, sub umbra virens – Increasing both in sunshine and in shade

Te ipsum nosce – Know thyself

Tosac cata a's deireair – The beginning and end of battle

Toujours fidele – Always faithful

Toujours fort – Always strong

Toujours prest – Always nimble

Toujours pret – Always ready

Toujours propice – Always propitious

Transfixus sed non mortuus – Wounded but not dead

Tutum monstrat iter – He showed a safe road

Tutum refugium – A safe refuge

Ubi amor ibi fides – Where there is love, there is faith

Ut quocunque paratus – That I may be prepared on every side



Ut reficiar – That I may be refreshed

Utilem pete finem – Seek a useful end

Ventis secundi – By favourable winds

Verax atque probus – Trust worthy and honest

Versus et fidelis semper – True and faithful ever

Vi et armis – By force and arms

Vi et industria – By strength and industry

Vi et veritate – By Force and by Truth

Vi et virtute – By strength and valour

Victoria a Domino – Lord of victory

Vide sed cui vide – Trust but in whom take care

Vigour de dessus – Strength from above

Vigilans audax – Vigilant and bold

Vigilans et audax – Vigilant and bold

Vincit omnia virtus – Virtue conquers all

Vincit qui patitur – He conquers who endures

Vincit qui se vincit – He conquers who conquers himself

Vincit veritas – Truth conquers

Vir super hostem – A man above an enemy

Virtus auro praeferenda – Virtue is to be preferred to gold

Virtus basis vitae – Virtue is the basis of life

Virtus in arduis – Courage in difficulties

Virtus invicta gloriosa – Unconquered virtue is glorious

Virtus non vertitur – Virtue not changed



Virtus potentior auro – Virtue is more powerful than gold

Virtus semper viridis – Virtue is always flourishing

Virtus sibi aureum – Virtue is worth gold to itself

Virtus sola nobilitat – Virtue alone ennobles

Virtute acquiritur honos – Honour is the reward of virtue

Virtute et claritate – By virtue and high repute

Virtute et fidelitate – By valour and fidelity

Virtute et fortuna – By virtue and fortune

Virtute et labore – By valour and exertion

Virtute et numine – By virtue and prudence

Virtute et valere luceo non uro – By virtue and valour I shine, but do not burn

Virtute et valore – By virtue and valour

Virtute non verbis – Deeds not words

Virtute probitate – By virtue and honesty

Virtute res parvae crescunt – Things increase by virtue

Virtute vici – I have conquered by virtue

Virtutes et honor – Honour and virtue

Virtutes parvae crescunt – Small things increase by virtue

Virtutis praemium – Virtues reward

Vis fortibus arma vigour – Vigour is arms to brave men

Vitae via virtus – Virtue is the way of life

Viva ut vivas – Live that you may live forever

Vulneratur non vincitur – Wounded not vanquished

Vulneratus non victus – Wounded not conquered

Vulneror, non vincor – I am wounded, but not vanquished



