Cathedral Coat of Arms, 1949

The Cathedral coat of arms uses color and images to represent different parts of the Cathedral’s identity.

- On the very top sits a bishop’s miter, because the Cathedral is the seat of the Episcopal Bishop of Washington. *(The miter is a special headdress worn by the bishop.)*

- A key and the crozier are crossed beneath the miter, more symbols for the bishop. *(The crozier is the pastoral staff of the bishop.)*

- The sword in the middle represents Paul.
- The two keys represent Peter. Do you see the fish in the handles of the keys? Fish are an ancient symbol of Christianity, and Peter used to be a fisherman.
- The crown in the center represents the crown of martyrs and the sovereignty of Christ.
- The shield shape has a red background, which means courage, loyalty, and the martyrdom of the apostles.

Now it’s your turn! Let’s make a coat of arms! What colors and images would you use? How would they represent who you are?
Design your own coat of arms!

Add some images, colors and patterns to the shield to create your own coat of arms. What could you include?

- family members
- favorite color
- your home
- favorite flowers/plants
- friends
- favorite animal
- hobbies
- pets ... and more!