



The seal of St. Ignatius Church in Ignacio, Colorado, is a unique symbol of the unity of the parish and its two missions and of our Catholic identity. Our parish's seal is impressed on all official documents to authenticate the signature of the parish priest. In the circumference of the seal it reads: "***Seal of the Parochial Church of St. Ignatius of Loyola in Ignacio, Colorado***".

The central constituent of the seal is a wooden ***Celtic Cross*** representing the natural splendor of our region. The cross is indicative of our human longing to know and experience the unfolding mystery of life. The arms of the cross remind us of the four ways to ascension, that is, to objectively know God, Self, nature, and fear of the Lord. The circle around the interception of the cross represents unification, totality, wholeness and inclusion of the three cultures that form our unique parish.

The ***Rose*** at the foot of the cross is an illustration of the peaceful encounter and relationship between Utes and Hispanics. It is also an invitation to embrace our littleness and allow God to work in and through us for the building of His Kingdom in a wonderful and mighty little way.

The ***Eagle Feathers***, sacred to the Utes, symbolizes the incarnation of *the one true God for whom we live*. On each arm of the cross are fastened two feathers representing the duality of the human person, body and spirit, and the many choices we are presented in our lifetime: lightness or darkness, good or evil, life or death. The four feathers make a reference to the cardinal directions: *North, South, East, West* and indicate the proclamation of the Lord's gospel to all peoples. The four eagle feathers also affirm the values of our parish: *loyalty, patience, wisdom and trust*. *Loyalty* to Christ and our Catholic Church; *patience*, to accept our limitations without frustration; *wisdom*, to see with God's eyes and love with his heart; *and trust*, to grow in our understanding of one another and where we come from. The number four, also makes a reference to the 4th day of Creation in which God created and finished our material universe (Gen. 1, 14-19) by creating the sun, the moon, the stars, the seasons and the elements. Finally, the eagle feathers represent the four crests of Christ's life as communicated by the four holy gospel accounts.