Les symboles de la Société Honoraire de Français

The pins awarded to our members bear the symbols of the National French Honor Society:

The rooster: symbol of France. This is a strong Christian symbol: prior to being arrested, Jesus predicted that Peter would deny him three times before the rooster crowed on the following morning. At the rooster's crowing, Peter remembered Jesus's words. The rooster’s crowing at the dawn of each new morning makes it a symbol of the daily victory of light over darkness and the triumph of good over evil. It is also an emblem of the Christian's attitude of watchfulness and readiness to begin anew, and the hope of a better tomorrow.

The fleur de lys: a lily flower. This symbol, adopted by the French nobility in the 12th century, represents the French devotion to the Holy Trinity and the Virgin Mary. The petals of the flower represent not only the Trinity but the ideals of faith, wisdom, and chivalry.

The leaves of a laurel tree: Since the days of antiquity the laurel has been the symbol of honor, victory, and achievement. It also represents intellectual prowess, long-term vision, and in the Christian tradition, the laurel represents the immortality of the soul.

*The symbols of both the laurel and the fleur de lys were bestowed upon the Ursuline Sisters in the 16th century by the French king Henri IV and remain a part of our Beaumont crest today. The branches of the laurel tree, rooted deeply in the mountain of God, bear God's presence and life to the world, symbolizing glory and immortality, and evoking for us Ursula (The Latin word laurus is actually an anagram of the name Ursula, in whose name St. Angela founded her Company.)

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[Image of the pins awarded to our members bearing the symbols of the National French Honor Society: the rooster, fleur de lys, and laurel tree.]