



Jesus Christ

This icon portrays Christ as “Pantocrator” (all powerful). Christ is represented full-faced. He holds the book of the Gospels in his left hand and blesses with his right hand. The icon portrays Christ as the Righteous Judge and the Lover of Mankind, both at the same time. The Gospel is the book by which we are judged, and the blessing proclaims God's loving kindness toward us, showing us that he is giving us his forgiveness.

Although ruler of all, Christ is not pictured with a crown or sceptre as other kings of this world. The large open eyes look directly into the soul of the viewer. The high curved forehead shows wisdom. The long slender nose is a look of nobility, the small closed mouth, the silence of contemplation.

The image is often found in the central dome of a Church as it is in the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem and in St

Katherine’s Monastery on Mount Sinai.

Christ is clothed in the red of divinity and the green of hope, new flowering and eternal renewal.

In 1712 a new Chapel was built in Canvey Island dedicated to St Catherine. The current Heritage Centre (the Old Parish Church) was built in 1975 and dedicated to St Katherine.

A Prayer to Christ

Κύριε Ἰησοῦ Χριστέ, Υἱὲ τοῦ Θεοῦ, ἐλέησόν με τὸν ἁμαρτωλὸν

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, the sinner