



# The 51<sup>st</sup> IEC Symbol

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## The IEC 2016 Symbol

The Local Committee has chosen as symbol of the 51<sup>st</sup> IEC a replica of the shrine that houses the Cross of Magellan. It is chosen for the following reasons:

1. The Cross of Magellan is the symbol of the beginning of the Christianization of the Philippines. It was planted as a commemorative marker of the arrival of Magellan together with the first missionaries and the initial baptisms in the island of Cebu.
2. The Cross is the symbol of the hope that we have in Jesus Christ.
3. The Cross is the symbol of the faith that we embrace. This same faith allows us to receive Jesus in the Holy Eucharist.
4. Although the Cross of Magellan may represent the imposition of the faith on the native Filipinos at the initial stage of evangelization, the cross itself becomes the symbol of the purification of our way of evangelization, so that it actually points to us the way to the New Evangelization, marked by the joy of the Gospel and the witness of our lives.

The replica of the Shrine of the Cross of Magellan will contain a relic of the True Cross so that when people welcome it in their communities; they will be venerating the relic.

