

Buds

WITHIN

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Cathedral,
Vienna,
Austria**

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OF THE SNOW**



Putting on
**Wisdom
Goggles**



WITHIN

KIDS
Buds



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VIENNA, AUSTRIA**

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Life-giving Love

Last week, we made a family trip to the historic city of Malacca in Malaysia. A unique aspect of this place is its connection to St Francis Xavier, a great missionary saint. After his death in 1552 on Shangchuan Island, his body was initially transported to Malacca and temporarily buried in St Paul's Church, located on a hilltop. This church remains a significant historical site in Malacca. Later, his body was moved to Goa, India, where it now rests in the Basilica of Bom Jesus. Historically, Malacca observed a special Holy Mass on 3 December, the feast day of St Francis Xavier, to honour his remarkable missionary work and his temporary resting place in the city.

The Sacred Heart Canossian convent is very close to the St Paul's church and we visited Sr Shanti who is a good friend of Jesus Youth. Our family received a warm welcome and Sr Shanti showed us around the premises and chapel. Her genuine love and hospitality was heart touching. Our kids were presented with a book and images of St Josephine Bakhita, who was a Canossian nun. We presented some copies of *Kairos Buds* magazine for the children studying in their schools.

Sr Shanti invited our attention to the tabernacle in the chapel, a very unique design is beautifully engraved on the tabernacle door; a mother pelican feeding her young ones. She explained the meaning. The pelican is known to be particularly attentive to her young. If no food was available, the pelican would wound her own breast to shed her blood to feed her young. The self-sacrificial aspect of the pelican has come to symbolise Jesus, who shed His blood for us. The motif of the pelican feeding her young, on the door of a tabernacle is a vivid metaphor because the Eucharist within the tabernacle is Jesus Christ who gave Himself as flesh and shed His blood for us.

As we begin a new year, let's turn to Jesus, who is ever present in the Eucharist, and make visiting Him a new habit.

Blessed New Year 2025.

Nobin Jose, Singapore

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ST STEPHEN'S CATHEDRAL, VIENNA, AUSTRIA

- TRINA ISRAEL » 17 YRS

The enormous Gothic building – the St Stephen's Cathedral in Vienna – is one of the national shrines in Austria and is lovingly called by the local people 'Steffl'.

Initially in 1147 the first parish church was consecrated as the church of St Stephen. Throughout the years the church was extended and reconstructed several times, because it was destroyed due to fire and war. In 1469 Vienna became the residential city of the bishop and till today the cathedral holds the seat of the local bishop. Another title which was given around 300 years ago, is the title of the 'Metropolitan Church,' which brings privileges and honours with it.

The cathedral is built in such a way that on the feast of St Stephen, 26 December, it is oriented towards the sunrise. The two towers mark the exceptionality of the



cathedral, as they are among the tallest church towers at 136 meters in Austria. One special trait of the exterior appearance is the roof with its colourful ornaments. The roof is covered with 230,000 tiles which create a mosaic of the

coat of arms of the city.

If you walk into the church you are overwhelmed by the Gothic interior architecture with its detailed ornaments, small altars and statues. One special icon is Máriapócs, the Byzantine style icon of Mother



Mary and Baby Jesus. At the side naves there are many small chapels dedicated to different saints. For example, there is a chapel dedicated to St Valentine. Above the cross of the chapel many relics are kept, like a piece of the tablecloth from the Last Supper.

Beneath the cathedral there are catacombs - cemeteries as early as the Roman times where many important people like bishops and nobles are buried.

St Stephen's Cathedral is home to 22 bells, all named after various saints. The largest is the bell named for St Mary, but popularly called Pummerin, which is also the largest bell in Austria. This bell rings in the north tower of the church. Nowadays you can admire the second version of the bell, because the original bell was destroyed when it fell due to a fire.

The feast day of St Stephen and All Saints Day are celebrated in the cathedral in a special way.

JESUS WITH THE SAMARITAN WOMAN

JOHN 4:1-42

PART 2

As he was passing through Samaria, Jesus met a Samaritan woman who had come to draw water at the well. Jesus then speaks the reality of her life, tells her about living waters and who he really is.

I know that the Messiah is coming. When he comes, he will explain everything to us.

I, the one speaking to you—I am he.

Just then his disciples returned and were surprised to find him talking with a woman. But no one asked, 'What do you want?' or 'Why are you talking with her?'

Then, leaving her water jar, the woman went back to the town, gathered the people and spoke to them.

Come, see a man who told me everything I ever did. Could this be the Messiah?

They came out of the town and made their way toward him.

Meanwhile his disciples urged him to have food.

Rabbi, eat something.

I have food to eat that you know nothing about.

His disciples began talking to each other.

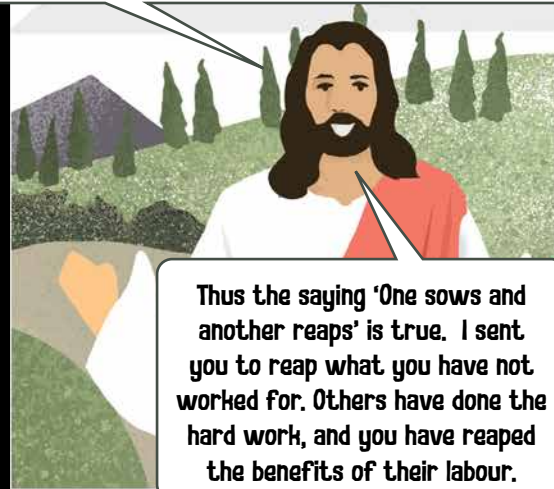
Could someone have brought him food?

My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work. Don't you have a saying, 'It's still four months until harvest'? I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest.



Even now the one who reaps draws a wage and harvests a crop for eternal life, so that the sower and the reaper may be glad together.

Many of the Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman's testimony.



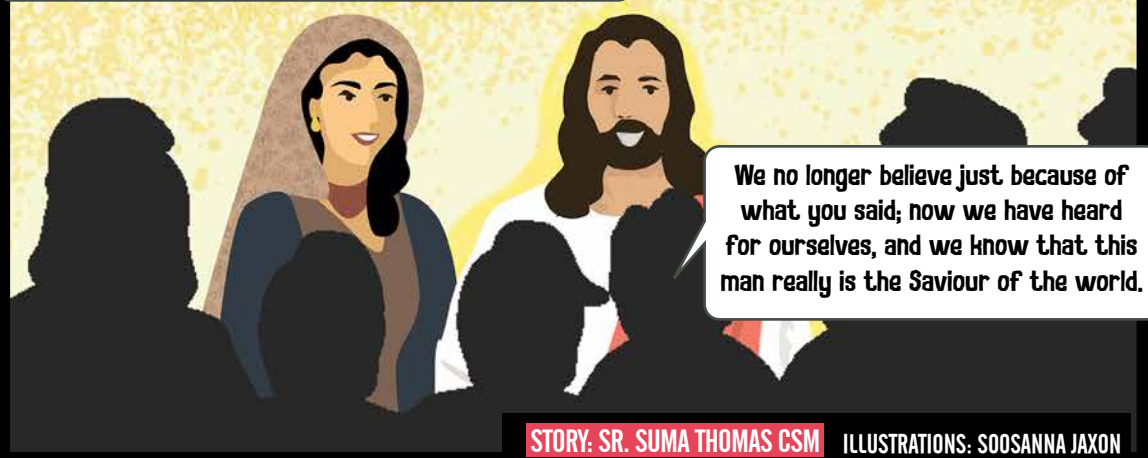
Thus the saying 'One sows and another reaps' is true. I sent you to reap what you have not worked for. Others have done the hard work, and you have reaped the benefits of their labour.

He told me everything I ever did.



So when the Samaritans came to him, they urged him to stay with them, and he stayed two days.

Because of Jesus' words many more became believers.



We no longer believe just because of what you said; now we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this man really is the Saviour of the world.

STORY: SR. SUMA THOMAS CSM

ILLUSTRATIONS: SOOSANNA JAXON


Wisdom OF GOD

- FR MELVIN PAUL

Do you know someone in your family, church, or school who lovingly helps you move forward when you've made a mistake? Maybe they offer advice or guide you to make better choices. That person might have the gift of wisdom – a special gift from God through the Holy Spirit. This gift allows us to see things from God's perspective, like viewing the world from a bird's-eye view. Everything becomes clearer when we look at life the way God sees it. Let's explore how this gift works and how we can use it in our lives.

When we're baptised, we receive sanctifying grace, which gives us the ability to follow the Holy Spirit's guidance. Later, in Confirmation, this grace is strengthened, and we receive the seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit. Among these gifts, the gift of wisdom is unique. But what is wisdom?

Wisdom isn't just about knowing a lot of information. While knowledge is important, wisdom goes beyond that – it's a divine gift that helps us see and understand the world as God does. Imagine wearing special goggles underwater; without them, everything looks blurry, but with them, everything becomes clear. God's 'Wisdom goggles' help us see clearly, inspiring us to know,



SO, HOW DO WE 'STIR UP' THE GIFT OF WISDOM IN OUR DAILY LIVES?

PRAY DAILY: Talk to God about everything – big and small – because it all matters to Him. Through prayer, we grow closer to God and discover how much He loves us.

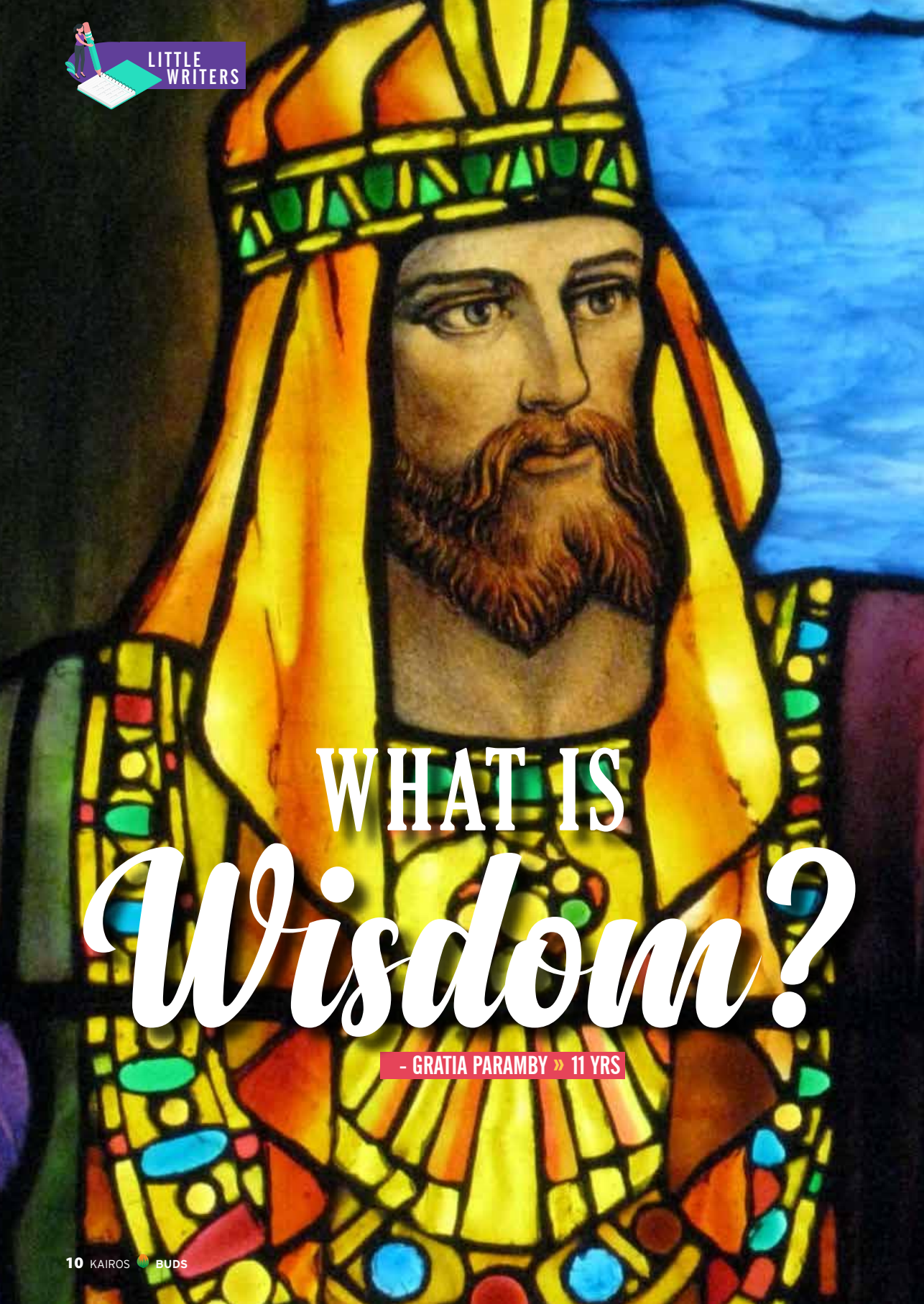
MAKE DECISIONS WITH GOD: Wisdom helps us make good choices by showing us what's right and wrong. Whether it's a big decision or a small one, wisdom keeps us on the path God wants for us.

love, and serve Him better. As St Paul says, *Because we are sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, 'Abba, Father'* (Galatians 4:6).

Even though this gift is planted in our hearts by God, it sometimes lies unused, like lemonade powder settling at the bottom of a glass. To enjoy its full flavour, we need to stir it up.

One of the greatest examples of wisdom is Mary, the Mother of Jesus. She is called the 'spouse of the Holy Spirit' because she has such a close relationship with God. She prayed, listened, and trusted God, even when His plans seemed difficult or frightening. Because of her openness to the Holy Spirit and her trust in God's wisdom, she said 'yes' to becoming the mother of Jesus, bringing salvation to the world.

We, too, can use the gift of wisdom to follow God's plan for us. Let's pray every day and ask the Holy Spirit to guide us. When we do, we'll see the world as God sees it and live the life He has lovingly prepared for us.



WHAT IS *Wisdom?*

- GRATIA PARAMBY » 11 YRS

Wisdom is a precious gift from God that helps us to make good decisions that are fair and kind to everyone. Proverbs 2:6 says, *The Lord gives wisdom; from his mouth comes knowledge and understanding.* This means that true wisdom comes from God. For us, acting wisely means to make good choices from what Jesus has taught us and by treating others with kindness and respect.

The Bible has a lot about wisdom! One of the most famous stories is about King Solomon. When Solomon became king, God told him he could ask for anything he wanted. But instead of asking for money or power, Solomon asked for wisdom so he could lead God's people the right way. God was pleased with Solomon's request and gave him great wisdom, as well as other gifts he didn't ask for. Solomon became known as one of the wisest people in history! His story shows us that wisdom isn't about getting what we want – it's about doing what's right for God.

These are some tips to help grow in wisdom every day



1. Pray often

We should set a time every day to pray to God and ask for His wisdom.



2. Read the Bible

Spend time learning stories, lessons, and verses about wisdom.



3. Listen to Others

We should pay attention to the advice from our parents, teachers, and others in authority.



4. Thinking before acting

By asking ourselves, 'What would Jesus do,' we can try to avoid impulse behaviour.



5. Being thankful

Thank God for His blessings and remember that He gave everything good.



St John Vianney

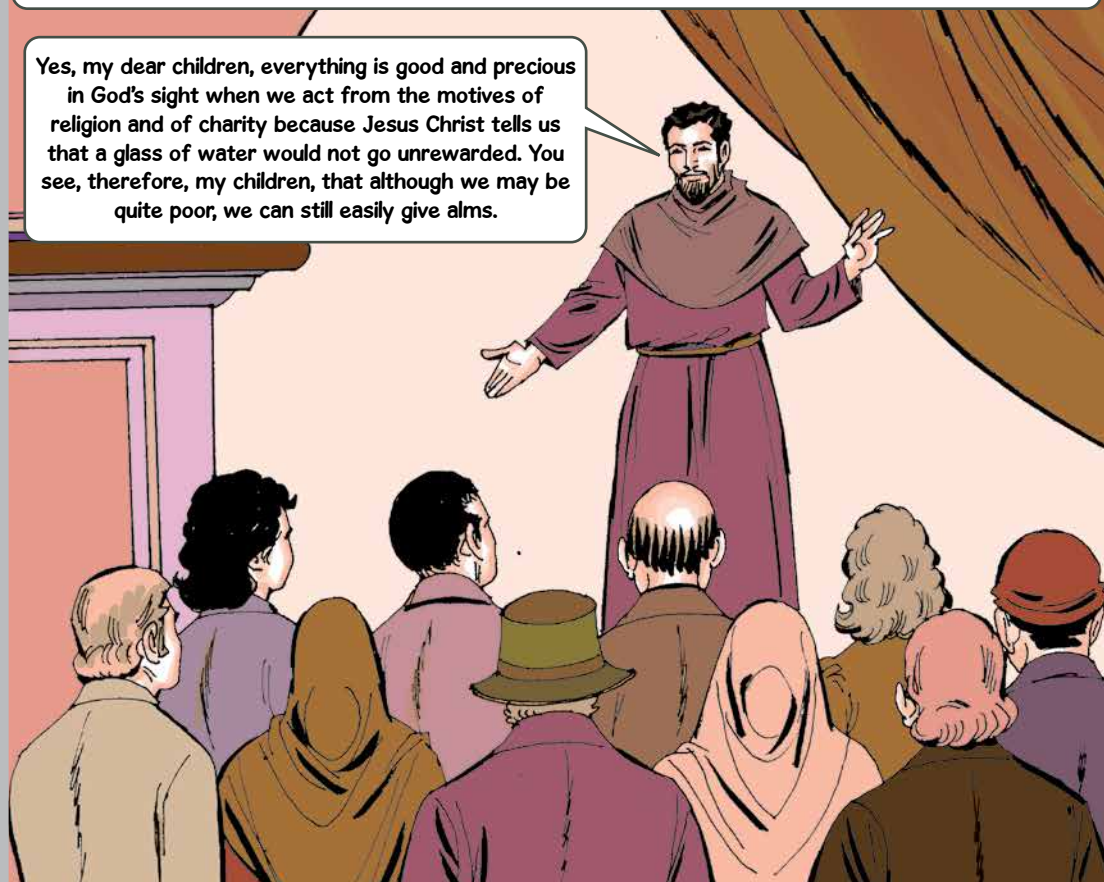
Part 2

John was sent to Ars, a small town with a population of 200 people. He celebrated Mass with barely anyone present on the first day. When parishioners came to see him, they found him kneeling before the tabernacle and he did this throughout the whole day and night.

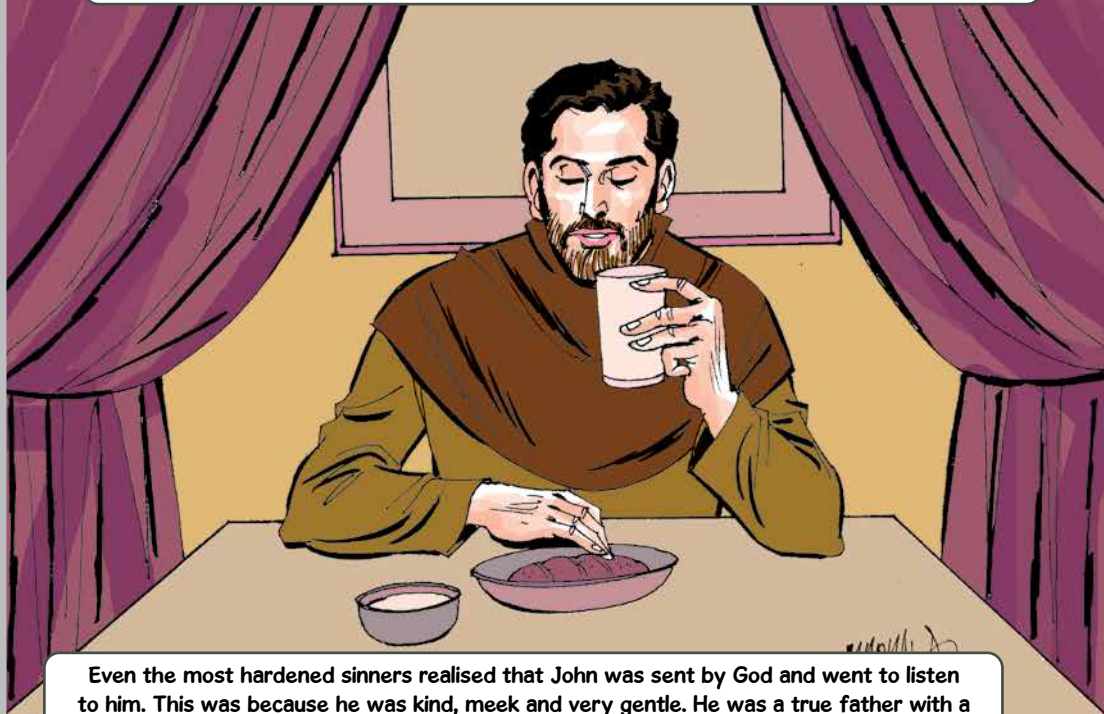


Those who came to his Sunday Mass were moved by him talking about God, paradise, Jesus dying on the cross and of God's infinite love, forgiveness and joy for those who change their lives and follow him.

Yes, my dear children, everything is good and precious in God's sight when we act from the motives of religion and of charity because Jesus Christ tells us that a glass of water would not go unrewarded. You see, therefore, my children, that although we may be quite poor, we can still easily give alms.

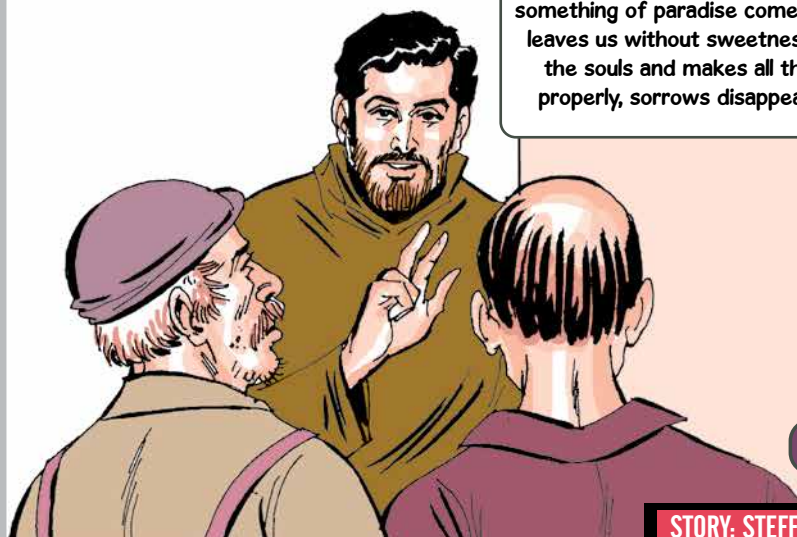


John upheld his values in his personal spiritual life too. Some ladies who went to help him at home discovered that he ate simple meals of a little dry bread and boiled potatoes. He had seen the sins of his people and he fought these evils with prayer, fasting and penance.



Even the most hardened sinners realised that John was sent by God and went to listen to him. This was because he was kind, meek and very gentle. He was a true father with a wonderful message, love for Jesus Christ and intimacy with him.

My little children, your hearts, are small, but prayer stretches them and makes them capable of loving God. Through prayer we receive a foretaste of heaven and something of paradise comes down upon us. Prayer never leaves us without sweetness. It is honey that flows into the souls and makes all things sweet. When we pray properly, sorrows disappear like snow before the sun.



To be continued...

STORY: STEFFI SIBY ILLUSTRATIONS: MADHU S

And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another,
as God in Christ has forgiven you.
(Ephesians 4:32)

Perfect Gifts

- JOAN JERO D'CRUZ » 16 YRS

Wow, what a birthday! Today was the best day ever. Mom made pancakes for breakfast with extra syrup – just how I like them. Then my friends came over, and we played soccer in the yard until we were all sweaty and laughing so hard. I even scored two goals!

The best part was the cake – it had chocolate frosting and sprinkles, and everyone sang so loud. I got some really cool gifts, like a new soccer ball and a book about space.

Before bed, Mom read me a Bible verse: *Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights* (James 1:17). It made me think about how much fun today was and how lucky I am to have people who make me feel special.

I also thought about how not all gifts are things you can hold, like soccer balls or books. Having friends to laugh with and a family that cares is the best gift ever. I'm really thankful for that.

Do you have a faith experience you'd like to share for this page? Send it to us at kairosbuds@jykairosmedia.org with your full name, age and complete postal address.



Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights.

James 1:17

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Colour. Arrange. Frame (Part 2)

In this section, a picture is divided into 4 parts, one for each issue. Children can colour each part, and when the picture is complete it can be glued together and framed.



'Learn and Colour'

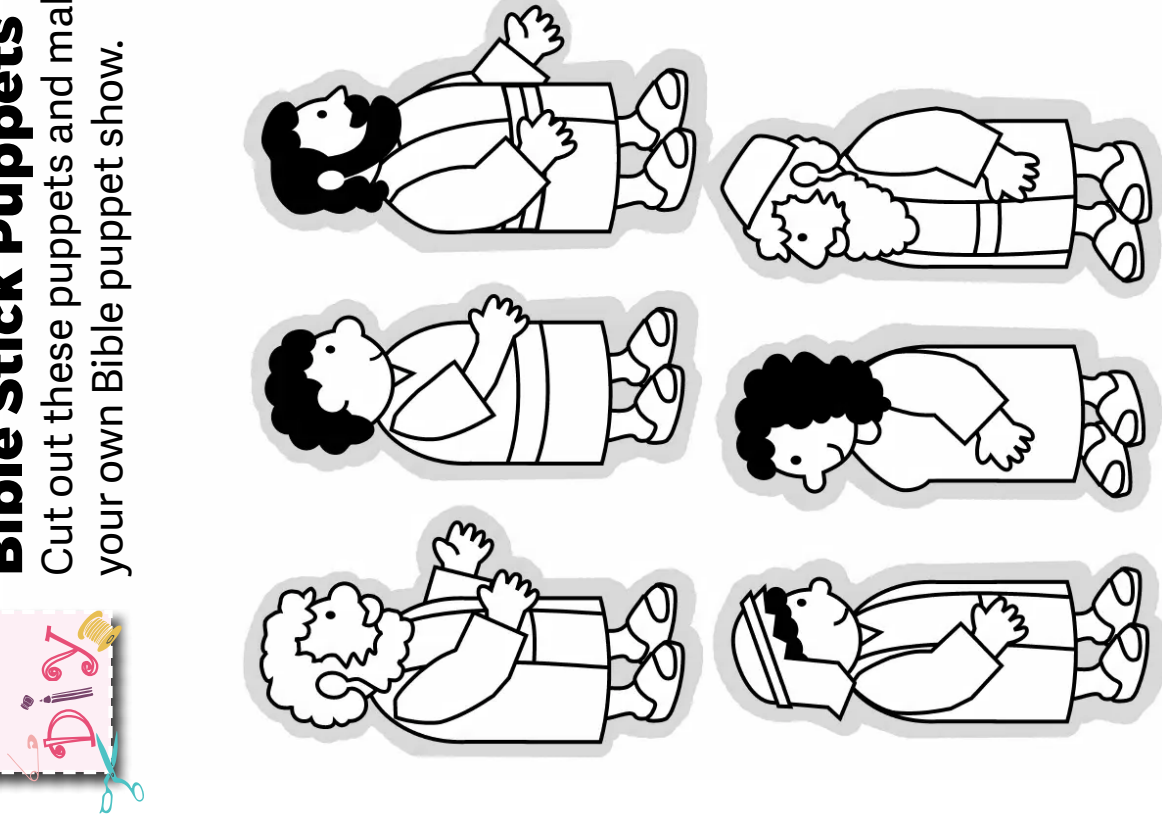
**The fear of the Lord
is the beginning of wisdom**

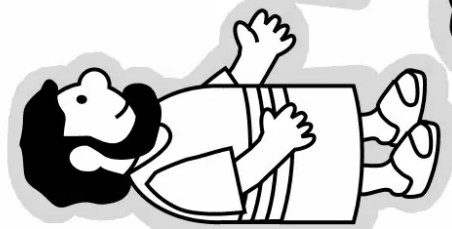
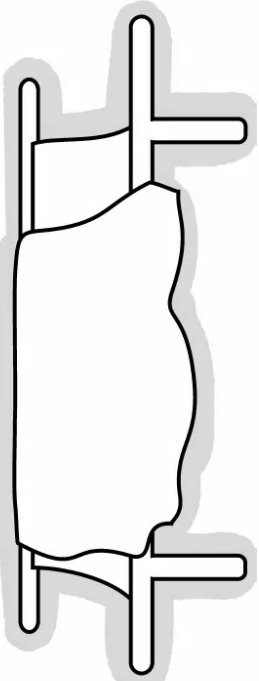
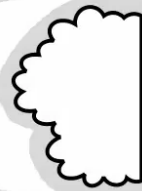
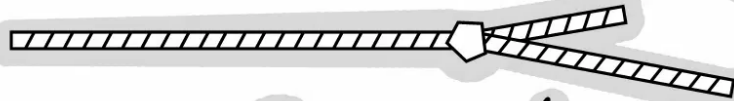
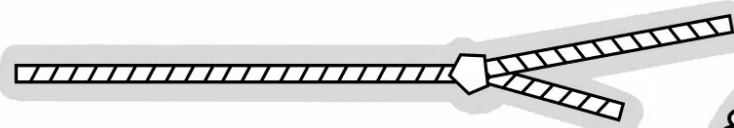
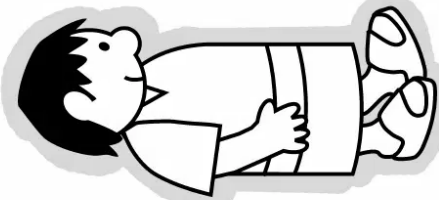
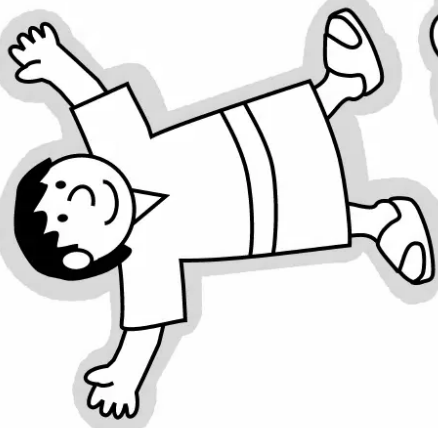
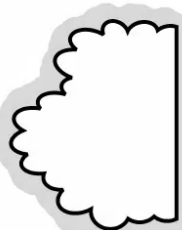
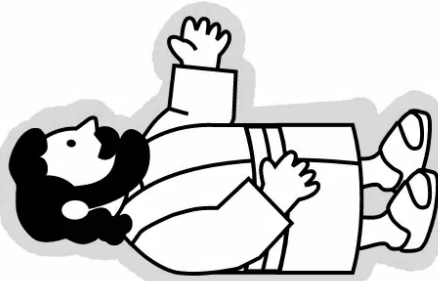
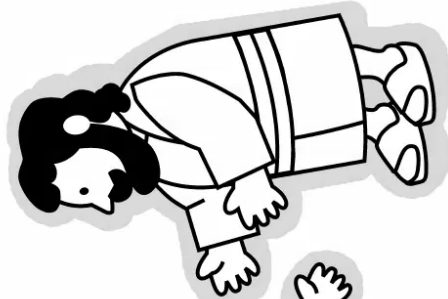
Proverbs 9:10



Bible Stick Puppets

Cut out these puppets and make your own Bible puppet show.





ANNA MARIA JOHN MARANGOLIL » 11 YRS
» BHARNANGANAM, INDIA



JAIRON JOSHY » 8 YRS » HOUSTON, USA



ANTONIO RINTO » 10 YRS
» ABU DHABI, UAE



CATHERINE NICHOLSON » 6 YRS » OMBALL, USA



ANNA JAISON » 10 YRS » MUSCAT, OMAN



Art and articles can be sent by email to kairosbuds@jykairosmedia.org. Please include full name, age, place/country.





Picture It Out

Fr Melvin said something very important in his article, 'Wisdom of God'. He said: Wisdom is the divine gift that helps us see and understand the world _____.

WHAT IS IT?

To find out, use the first alphabets of the below pictures in the boxes below.

1



2



3



4



5



6



7



8



9



1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

Rosary Hanger

- ROSE MARY TOM



MATERIALS REQUIRED

- Cardboard piece
- Glue
- Twine/Yarn (any colour)
- Adhesive hook
- Ribbon - small piece
- Artificial leaf or flower
- Double-sided tape



PROCEDURE

Step 1: Cut the cardboard piece into the desired shape (square/rectangle/heart, circle) and paste the hook onto it.

Step 2: Apply a small amount of glue on the surface of the cardboard piece and use the twine to wrap around the board covering the adhesive hook support as shown.

Step 3: Make a small ribbon bow and paste the artificial leaves/flower and ribbon to the board using glue/double sided tape. Hanger is ready now.

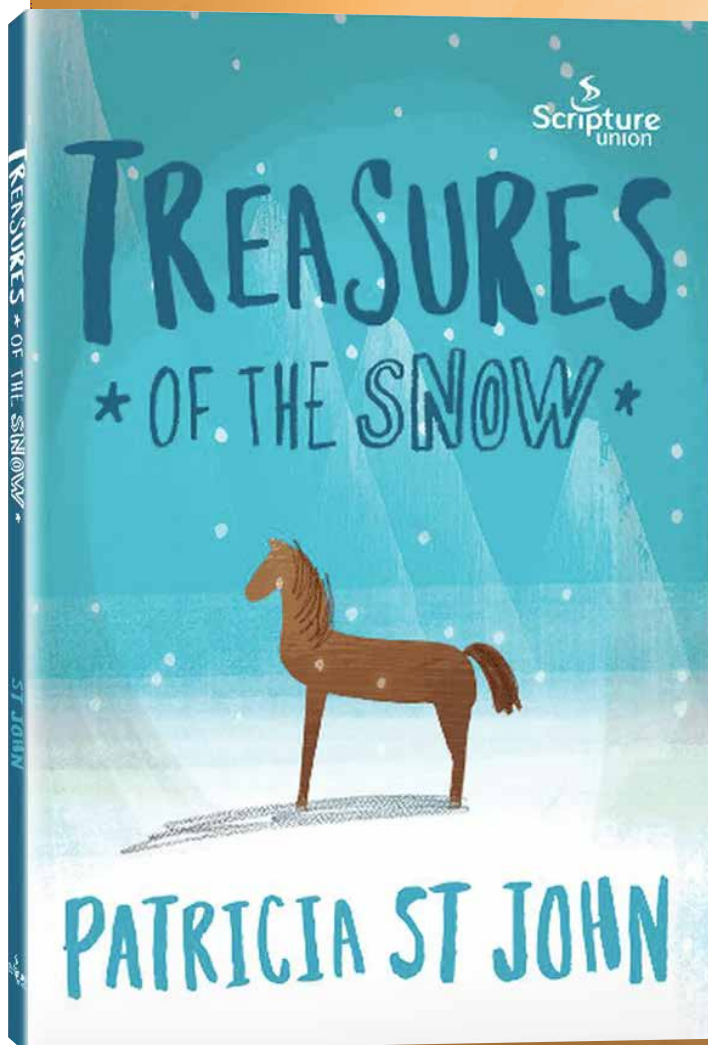
Step 4: Stick the hanger to the wall using double-sided tape and hang your rosary.

Treasures of the

Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him. Revelations 3:20 captures the message of this beautiful book in a sentence. Treasures of the Snow was written by the British

Evangelical author, Patricia St John (1919-1993). Set in the Alpine mountains, the story follows Annette Burnier, a twelve-year-old girl, her little brother Dani, and their neighbour Lucien Morel as they learn to love, forgive, and ultimately let Jesus be born in their hearts.

After a prank gone wrong accidentally leaves Dani unable to walk without crutches, Annette swears to herself that she will never forgive the culprit, Lucien. Shunned by everyone in the village, and haunted by what he has done, Lucien is lonely and miserable until he finds an old man living in the woods at the top of the mountain. This man is a master woodcarver and finds that Lucien has a natural talent for the art. While instructing Lucien to carve wood, he also teaches



Snow

- ANNA-CLAIRE ANTHRAPER » 12 YRS

him about perfect love, which can only be given by Jesus. However at the same time, Annette is nurturing her anger against Lucien and turns away his many attempts to make things up.

Christmas in their little village is a truly magical experience. On Christmas Eve all the families head down on their sleighs to the church, where they hear the Christmas story. But, best of all is the Christmas tree, which stands tall over all else. And hanging on the tree, among all the baubles and candles are gingerbread men, one for each of the children. That Christmas after receiving her and Dani's gingerbread men, Annette hears the pastor speak about letting Jesus into their hearts, and, after a series of exciting events, decides to forgive Lucien, and asks the Lord

Jesus to enter into her heart. Later, both of them, relieved at ending the feud, read the beautiful Word of God held in 1 John 18-19, *There is no fear in love; perfect love drives out all fear*. Thus, their Christmas becomes a time not just for rejoicing but also for forgiveness and reconciliation.

This heart-warming story carries on with an amazing adventure of Lucien's bravery and courage, Annette's affection for young children, and little Dani's optimism through all times, good and bad. However, the moral of the book can be captured in two words - Perfect Love - you will find this popping up everywhere in this book and its message is conveyed perfectly by the author. This is one of the most famous works of Patricia St John, and is a perfect read for the whole family, especially during Christmastime.

Ding-Dong Dashing

It all happened when Kevin had to attend the diocesan youth retreat over a long weekend. Fr Joseph Mary accompanied the children from St Michael's parish to St Joseph's Capuchin House, where the retreat would be taking place, and dropped them off with some instructions. 'Children, remember you represent St Michael's, so be on your best behaviour. Let there be no cause for the fathers here to find fault with you.'



That evening, after the last session and while everyone was having dinner, the retreat coordinator, Fr Cassian addressed the crowd of youngsters. 'Dear children, as you finish your dinner and settle into your dorms, there is a little contest I would like all of you to work towards. At the end of the retreat, we will be giving away prizes to each member of the parish group, who have been the best-behaved during this retreat!' The children erupted into loud talking and cheers on hearing this. Fr Cassian continued, 'The fathers here will keep an eye on the boys, while the sisters will watch over the girls in their building. So, all of us hope to have a crowd of well-behaved boys and girls!'

Lights-out was at 10pm, and half-an-hour later, Kevin and the boys from St Michael's were all sound asleep in their dorm. Suddenly, 'KNOCK KNOCK' – a loud rap on their door jolted Casey awake. Reaching over to Kevin, who was in the adjacent bed, he whispered urgently, 'Kev, hey Kev! Wake up!' 'Huh? Casey? What happened?' Kevin said blearily. 'Kev, there was a loud rap on the door!' 'Are you sure Case?' Kevin asked, yawning widely. Just then both of them heard it – 'KNOCK KNOCK!'





Wide awake now, Kevin sat up in bed and looked at Casey, gesturing for him to be quiet. He got out of bed and looked around the dorm – no one else was awake. Tip-toeing to the door, he put his ear to it. Was that the sound of feet running that he could hear? And from a few doors away, he heard it faintly – 'knock knock!'

Returning back to his bed and to a worried Casey, Kevin said, 'Hey Casey, it's nothing to worry about. I think some of the guys are up playing ding-dong dash to get others into trouble!'

'You mean knocking on others' doors and dashing away before they open it?'

'Yup. I bet some group is trying to win the best-behaved prize the wrong way!'

'What do we do Kev?' Casey whispered. 'Nothing. We ignore it and go to sleep.'



The next morning after everyone had gathered in the retreat hall, a visibly exhausted Fr Cassian walked up to the mic.

'Good Morning children.'

The crowd wished Fr Cassian back.

'Now before we prepare for Mass, I would just like to say that we do have CCTV cameras in the corridors – though it might appear otherwise to some. And apart from a lot of ding-dong dashing on MY DOOR last night, all the culprits have been identified!'

A ripple of whispers echoed in the room. Fr Cassian continued, 'Garden duty for all the ding-dong dashers during leisure time today!'

Hearing this, Casey turned to see Kevin grinning at him. He whispered to Kevin, 'It was wise that we ignored it and went to sleep.'



STORY: TANIA ROSE JOSUN ILLUSTRATIONS: STEFFI ANDRAT FARIA



BRAIN GYM

SPOT EIGHT DIFFERENCES



FOLLOW THE ARROW!

Find out what the below Bible verse says about wisdom.

N	C	H
S	T	I
E	H	R
L	U	A
W	O	D
K	G	F
	M	

R ↑
T ↑ ←
S ↑ →
N → →
U ↑ →
A ↑ ↑
C ↓ ←
E → ↑

.....

**ARE HIDDEN
 ALL THE
 TREASURES
 OF WISDOM
 AND
 KNOWLEDGE**

- Colossians 2:3

LOVE IS PATIENT AND KIND

Mrs Parker directs Tina, who has come to visit her friends, inside.

Tina has gone visiting her neighbour.

Hello Tina! Haven't seen you in a while...

Hello Mrs Parker! I've been a bit busy this past week.

Sorry to leave you now, I'm a bit busy with my chores. You'll find them at the back.

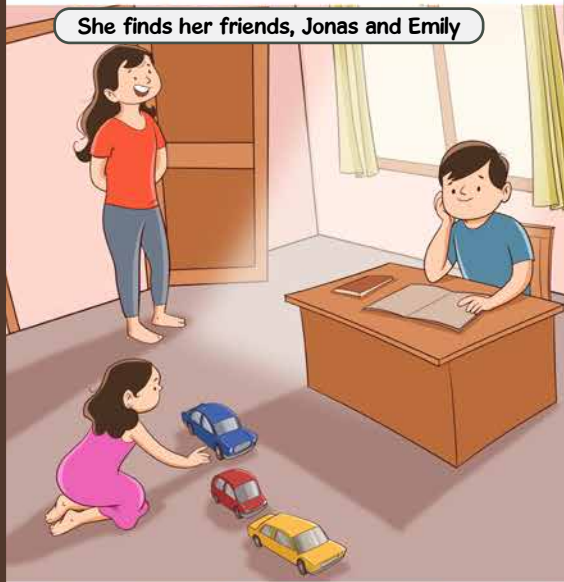
She finds her friends, Jonas and Emily

Jonas has always been quick to respond to his sister, Emily's needs, her being a sensitive child.

No... no!

While Tina has always wondered how he managed it...

Hello, Emily! Isn't it a beautiful day?



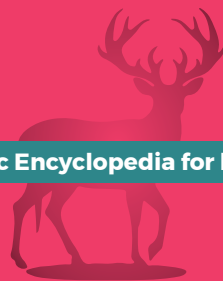


STORY: ANEESH SUNNY THOMAS ILLUSTRATIONS: SANISH DIVAKARAN

KID CATHOPEDIA

- MARIA TERES SEBASTIAN

Catholic Encyclopedia for kids!



Bethlehem

Hebrew: כְּחֵל תִּיב

Meaning: House of bread



Significance in the Bible:

Birthplace of Jesus (Matthew 2:1-12; Luke 2:4-20). Home of King David; this was where he was anointed by Prophet Samuel!
Tomb of Rachel, wife of Jacob and mother of Joseph and Benjamin (Genesis 48:7);
Valley of Ruth, the great grandmother of King David (Ruth 1:16).

PERSONAL SIGNIFICANCE:

As Jesus was born in the little town of Bethlehem, let us invite the Saviour into our humble hearts too!

Unscramble the jumbled words

He prophesied that the birth of Jesus would be in Bethlehem.

HICMA :

King David's father who was born in Bethlehem.

SESJS :

He was known as the Father of Bethlehem (1 Chronicles 2).

MLASA :



PONTIUS WHO?

At Sunday school, the younger children were drawing pictures depicting scenes from the Bible. As the teacher walked by, she noticed one little boy drawing an airplane!

‘Oh, what Bible story are you drawing?’ she asked.

‘This is the Flight into Egypt,’ the little boy answered. ‘See, here is Mary, Joseph and Baby Jesus. And this,’ he said, pointing to the front of the plane, ‘is Pontius. He’s the Pilot.’



Holy Habits 2024

MOST LIKED (TOP 5) ON INSTAGRAM

PHOTO CATEGORY

1

3 YEARS | INDIA



HAZEL MARIYAM ALEX
dressed as St. Therese of
Lisieux

2

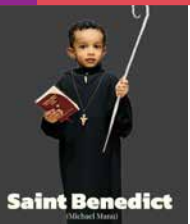
3 YEARS | INDIA



JESSICA CLAIR GEO
dressed as St. Agnes of
Rome

3

2 YEARS | UAE



MICHAEL MANU
dressed as St. Benedict

4

3 YEARS | INDIA



JAYDEN JOMON
dressed as St. John Bosco

5

3 YEARS | INDIA



ANNLIYA ASHISH
dressed as St. Therese of
Lisieux

REELS CATEGORY

1

3 YEARS | UAE



GIANNA THERESA JOSEPH
dressed as St. Mother Teresa

2

6 MONTHS | UK



NOAH MATTHEW TIJIT
dressed as St. Anthony of
Padua

3

8 YEARS | UAE



SERA PRINCE
dressed as St. Faustina
Kowalska

4

3 YEARS | INDIA



CLARA PRINCE
dressed as St. Clare of Assisi

5

5 YEARS | INDIA



ROOHA MARIAM ANTONY
dressed as St. Jacinta Marto



@kairosbuds