

WELCOME TO

ST BRENDAN'S

CATHOLIC PARISH



St Brendan's Parish is a Child Safe community. We promote the safety, wellbeing and inclusion of all and a zero tolerance to child abuse.

Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

25 August 2024

First Reading Jos 24:1-2, 15-18

We will serve the Lord God, because he is our God.

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel together at Shechem; then he called the elders, leaders, judges and scribes of Israel, and they presented themselves before God. Then Joshua said to all the people: 'If you will not serve the Lord, choose today whom you wish to serve, whether the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are now living. As for me and my House, we will serve the Lord.'

The people answered, 'We have no intention of deserting the Lord and serving other gods! Was it not the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors out of the land of Egypt, the house of slavery, who worked those great wonders before our eyes and preserved us all along the way we travelled and among all the peoples through whom we journeyed. We too will serve the Lord, for he is our God.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 33:2-3. 16-23. R. v.9

(R.) Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

1. I will bless the Lord at all times,
his praise always on my lips;
in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.
The humble shall hear and be glad. *(R.)*
2. The Lord turns his face against the wicked
to destroy their remembrance from
the earth.
The Lord turns his eyes to the just
and his ears to their appeal. *(R.)*
3. They call and the Lord hears
and rescues them in all their distress.
The Lord is close to the broken-hearted;
those whose spirit is crushed he will save. *(R.)*
4. Many are the trials of the just man
but from them all the Lord will rescue him.
He will keep guard over all his bones,
not one of his bones shall be broken. *(R.)*
5. Evil brings death to the wicked;
those who hate the good are doomed.
The Lord ransoms the souls of his servants.
Those who hide in him shall not be
condemned. *(R.)*

Second Reading Eph 5:21-32

This is the great mystery, it applies to Christ and the Church.

Give way to one another in obedience to Christ. Wives should regard their husbands as they regard the Lord, since as Christ is head of the Church and saves the whole body, so is a husband the head of his wife; and as the Church submits to Christ, so should wives to their husbands, in everything. Husbands should love their wives just as Christ loved the Church and

sacrificed himself for her to make her holy. He made her clean by washing her in water with a form of words, so that when he took her to himself she would be glorious, with no speck or wrinkle or anything like that, but holy and faultless. In the same way, husbands must love their wives as they love their own bodies; for a man to love his wife is for him to love himself. A man never hates his own body, but he feeds it and looks after it; and that is the way Christ treats the Church, because it is his body – and we are its living parts. For this reason, a man must leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two will become one body. This mystery has many implications; but I am saying it applies to Christ and the Church.

Gospel Acclamation See Jn 6:63. 68

Alleluia, alleluia!

*Your words, Lord, are spirit and life:
you have the words of everlasting life.
Alleluia!*

Gospel Jn 6:60-69

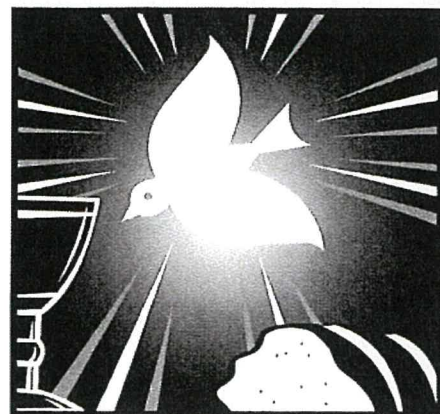
Lord, whom shall we go to? You have the words of everlasting life.

After hearing his doctrine many of the followers of Jesus said, 'This is intolerable language. How could anyone accept it?' Jesus was aware that his followers were complaining about it and said, 'Does this upset you? What if you should see the Son of Man ascend to where he was before?'

'It is the spirit that gives life,
the flesh has nothing to offer.
The words I have spoken to you are spirit
and they are life.'

'But there are some of you who do not believe.' For Jesus knew from the outset those who did not believe, and who it was that would betray him. He went on, 'This is why I told you that no one could come to me unless the Father allows him.' After this, many of his disciples left him and stopped going with him.

Then Jesus said to the Twelve, 'What about you, do you want to go away too?' Simon Peter answered, 'Lord, who shall we go to? You have the message of eternal life, and we believe; we know that you are the Holy One of God.'



Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

The decisions called for in today's readings are life decisions. The people at the time of Joshua had to decide which god they would worship. The disciples of Jesus had to decide if he was the one who would fulfill their messianic expectations. We have life decisions to make as well. How will we choose?

The choices we make determine the character of our union with God. God called us out of the slavery of sin and protected us throughout the journey of our lives. Jesus walked with us through the challenges of life and performed wonders for us. Why should we look elsewhere? Because we face new challenges. The new demands placed on us may be so great, or the commitment required of us may be so demanding that we feel that we can no longer walk with him. The church may be changing in ways we do not appreciate, or it may not be changing in the ways we believe it should, and so we may feel that we can walk with him no longer.

If we decide to commit ourselves, we will enter into a union with God that is deeper than anything we have previously known. However, this union will be based on faith. We may understand no more than we did in the past, things may be no more to our liking. But, 'to whom shall we go?' Jesus is God's holy one; he has the words of eternal life.

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ST BRENDAN'S PARISH NEWS

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Email: shepparton@sandhurst.catholic.org.au

Website: sheppartoncatholic.org.au

Facebook: [sheppartoncatholic](https://www.facebook.com/sheppartoncatholic)

Parish Priest: Fr Joe Taylor

Priest in Residence: Fr. Joseph Thekkemuriyil CMI

Associate Priest: Fr Jackson Saunders

Deacon: Francois Baguma

Office Manager: Diane Teitzel

Child Safe Officer: Jason Giuliani Ph: 5821 2633

Office Hours: Mon to Fri 9am - 2pm

Weekend Mass Times

Saturday Vigil 6pm

Sunday 8am & 11am



Syro Malabar Rite: Wednesday 6.00pm,
Saturday 8.30am, Sunday 5.30pm

Weekday Mass Times

Tuesday to Friday 9.15am

Reconciliation

Saturday 9.45am to 10.30am (in the Church)

Rosary— The Rosary is prayed in the Marian Chapel after weekday Masses and after the 8am Mass on Sunday.

Holy Hour with Adoration of the Blessed

Sacrament: Thursdays 7pm to 8pm and
Fridays 5pm to 6pm

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We turn our hearts and minds to the people of the Yorta Yorta nation, who have occupied this country for thousands of years. We pay respects to their Elders, past, present and emerging, and commit to walking alongside Aboriginal Australians in truth and justice.

Readers & Commentators August 31 & September 1, 2024

6pm	D. Tarquini	K. Hunt
8am	G. Adams	B. O'Hara
11am	J. Pilkington	M-A Demase

Recently Deceased: Fr Gerald (Gerry) O'Collins SJ., Bernard Murphy

Anniversaries: Rose Clurey, Eliza Dunne, Rocco Mammone, Monsignor Anthony Bones, Concetina Ganino



If you are thinking about becoming a Catholic and wondering where to start our Parish RCIA process will begin on October 10.

Anthony is happy to speak with you and can be contacted on Tuesdays and Thursdays on 5821 2633 for enquiries or email shepparton.pastoral@sandhurst.catholic.org.au

Blessing for recently baptised children/adults in the parish

On November 17, the 11am Mass will be especially

dedicated to those who have been recently baptised.

We are inviting all families of children baptised in 2024 to join us. Also, adults who have been recently baptised are included as well.

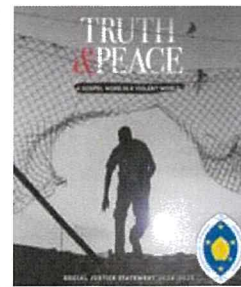
Please invite all those whom you know.



TODAY IS SOCIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY

In their **2024/2025 Social Justice Statement: "Truth and Peace: A Gospel Word in a Violent World"**, Australia's Bishops scrutinise the signs of our troubled times, observe the violence around us, and ask why it is so. They also ask what is needed if there is to be peace. In a world full of pessimism, they put their faith and hope in the possibility of peace. Read the Bishops' Statement & associated resources at

<https://socialjustice.catholic.org.au>



SAVE THE DATE: Annual Public Rosary

All are welcome to attend this prayerful and social gathering. **Saturday October 12, 2024, 10.30am**, St Brendan's Parish Church Gardens.

(If wet weather: we will move to the Church)

Followed by a cuppa in the MPJC.

The centre will be open prior to Rosary. Please bring a plate to share while socialising.

PETITIONS: Prayers and thanksgivings to Our Lady will be forwarded by ANF (Australia needs Fatima) to Fatima in Portugal.

BYO: Chair/Rug/Cushion/Hat and Spectacles for your comfort.



God of Boundless Generosity: May we recognise all people and all creatures for their true worth.

May we set limits on ourselves so that our surroundings will not deteriorate, and the sufferings of others will not be increased. Pope Francis

Care for Our Common Home Laudato Si, 208.

MARIAN FESTIVAL, BENDIGO Sunday, October 13.

To book the coach to travel across to Bendigo for the Marian Festival, we need numbers by September 7.

Contact Maureen: 0403 876 578.



SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM This weekend we welcome

Bishop Shane Mackinlay as we celebrate the following candidates who will receive the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation and First Eucharist).



Friday 23rd August 6:30pm

Charlie Damaschino (+Baptism)
 Jensen Damaschino (+Baptism)
 Kash De Palma (Baptism ONLY)
 Adriyanna Del Rosario
 Iyla Demase
 Harrison Few
 Lily Few
 Sadie Kelly
 Darcy Lott
 Penny Lott
 Bernice Madamba
 Nyageng Madan
 Evie McNamara
 Lily McNamara
 Maisie Moodie
 Sharlia Russell (+Baptism)
 Tallara Russell (+Baptism)
 Christopher Virgona
 James Virgona
 Noah Watkins

Saturday 24th August 6pm

Ruby Clarke
 Illarah Conte
 Queen Antionette Dela Cruz
 Marlee Fallon
 Christina Greco
 Marcus Hardy
 Harrison Jenkins
 Liam Jenkins
 Ella Jones
 Jenna Lancaster
 Emerson Mcdowall
 Ari Mcleod
 Mia Michel
 Difna Nanayakkara
 Dion Nanayakkara
 Lily Niglia
 Alexander Ralston
 Natalina Rullo
 Grace Stewart
 Ivy Weber

Sunday 25th August 11am

Sienna Fantig
 Kayden Ferreira
 Sienna Giuliani
 Gretta Kelly
 Georgia Kirby
 Piper Lane
 Angelo Maoe
 Ella Martin
 Allegra O'Brien
 Makedde O'Brien
 Patrick Peatling
 Hope Ryan
 Willow Ryan
 Ainsley Sargeant
 Madison Spencer
 Elijah Terry
 Mikaela Terry
 Jack Tracey
 Ethan Wright

NEW TAP-N-GO TERMINALS

The Tap N Go Terminals which were first introduced in our church in 2020, will become inactive by the end of August as the 3G towers to operate them will no longer be available.

Therefore, we had no choice but to upgrade to two new Terminals (located in the same positions as the old ones).

These new ones run off 4G connectivity.

You will notice that you now have 4 choices to donate (\$12, \$15, \$25 and \$50).

To use the new terminals, you simply choose your preferred amount on the terminal and tap and go with your card (just like in the past).

We really appreciate your donations through this way. It is an efficient, convenient, easy way to financially assist our Parish. Thank you.



We say farewell and thank you to **Fr Joseph Kunnackattu** and wish him all the best for his new Parish in Wellington, New Zealand.

We welcome **Fr. Joseph Thekkemuriyil CMI** who joins us to lead the St. Alphonsa Syro Malabar community here at St Brendan's Parish.



ST BRENDAN'S CHURCH
SUNSET SESSION
IS THERE A
RIGHT WAY TO
PRAY?

FRIDAY AUGUST 30
 ALL YOUNG ADULTS AGED
 18-35 WELCOME TO COME
 TO THE MJPC FOR THE
 DISCUSSION 6-8PM



If you would like to receive our Parish Bulletin on email, you can subscribe using this QR code or visit:
<https://www.catholicparish.app/subscription?id=0018w000004eUxHAAU&req=subscribe>

50th Marian Festival
 Dedicated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary



Sunday 13th October 2024
 at the Sacred Heart Cathedral, Bendigo.

11:00 am - Mass celebrated by Bishop Leslie Tomlinson
 12 noon - BYO Lunch or BBQ available
 1:00 pm - Festival begins, Rosary procession, Guest Speaker, Benediction
 3:45 pm - Festival concludes with afternoon tea. Piety stall in cathedral

WEBSITE: www.bendigofatima.com CONTACT: info@bendigofatima.com

— PRAY THE ROSARY FOR WORLD PEACE —

Finally my Immaculate Heart will Triumph
 - Our Lady of Fatima, July 13, 1917



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Phone 5821 0311
enquiries@eyeshopshepparton.com.au

ST BRENDAN'S CHURCH
YOUTH GROUP
SEPTEMBER 6
COME JOIN US: FOR PIZZA,
GAMES AND DISCUSSION
 3-5pm at the
Monsignor Peter Jeffery Centre
(Hall behind Church).
 121 Knight Street Shepparton, Victoria

For more information please contact shepparton.ym@sandhurst.catholic.org.au

SANDHURST CELEBRATION of SEASON OF CREATION

You're all invited to come and celebrate our Care for Creation at Huntly Streamside Reserve on **Friday, September 6**, beginning with **Mass at 11am** celebrated by Bishop Shane followed by **Picnic Lunch**. BYO chairs encouraged although some seating available. Sausage sizzle provided or BYO lunch if preferred. BYO drinks; BYO water bottles. **EVERYONE** is invited and encouraged to come. RSVP not essential.



The firstfruits of hope
 (Rom 8:19-25)

Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) in Shepparton

A part-time Unit of CPE will be conducted in Shepparton in first semester 2025, from February 3 to June 24. The course will be conducted by the North-east Victoria CPE Centre.

CPE is one of the most highly recognised programs of supervised education for provision of spiritual and pastoral care, and is rarely available outside the metropolitan area.

For more information, please contact the CPE Centre Director, Dan Murphy, on dan.murphy1949@gmail.com

Long Term Volunteer Opportunities in the Australia-Pacific Region - The Cagliero Project, Salesians of Don Bosco

We are seeking long term (6-12 month) volunteers for departure in January 2025 to work with young people in our Salesian communities in Samoa, Cambodia, Timor Leste, Solomon Islands and Mongolia. Applications close October 31, 2024. Send us an enquiry lhichaaba@salesians.org.au www.cagliero.org.au




COASIT AGED CARE are looking for Italian and English-speaking volunteers in the Shepparton Tatura Mooroopna surrounding areas.

The volunteers will be visiting lonely, isolated people who would appreciate a friendly chat once a week for an hour or so.

If you would like to make a difference to an elderly persons' life please contact Josie Pellegrino on 0481 603 740 or email Josie on jpellegrino@coasit.com.au

PRAYING *With* CHILDREN

SUNDAY LITURGY



21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

25 August 2024 - Year B

"To whom shall we go? You have the words of everlasting life."

Something to Think About

Think about the kinds of decisions you make each day.

Perhaps you have to think about what to wear, and what you would like for breakfast. What other choices do you make?

The Story

Many people were finding it too hard to follow Jesus, and so they were turning away from him. In the gospel story we hear today, the disciples too were faced with the important choice of whether or not they were going to follow Jesus. Simon Peter declares that there is no one else that they can go to. He tells Jesus that the disciples have faith in him, because the words of Jesus give eternal life.

The Scriptures

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

6:65-69

Jesus said,
"You cannot come to me,
unless the Father makes you want to come.
That is why I have told these things to all of you."

Because of what Jesus said,
many of his disciples turned their backs on him
and stopped following him.

Jesus then asked his twelve disciples if they were going to leave him.
Simon Peter answered,
"Lord, there is no one else that we can go to!
Your words give eternal life.
We have faith in you,
and we are sure that you are God's Holy One."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Video

Click to watch the video and sing: [Fixin' My Eyes on You](#)



Group Discussion

Will we follow Jesus, or will we choose to follow someone or something else?

Who else or what else might people choose to follow?

It may not always be easy to follow Jesus, but to whom can we go? Who else offers eternal life?

Praying For Others

Leader: Let us pray now for the leaders of our Church, our world, for those in our community and for our own needs.

Reader 1: We pray that we will choose to follow Jesus in our lives. Lord hear us.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Reader 2: We pray for those who do not know Jesus. Lord hear us.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Reader 3: We pray for generous and forgiving hearts. Lord hear us.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Reader 4: We pray that we will listen carefully to God's word. Lord hear us.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Reader 5: We pray that we will loving and supportive to our friends. Lord hear us.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Invite the children to pray for their own special intentions.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Leader: Loving God, listen to the prayers we make in the name of Jesus.

All: Amen.

Prayer



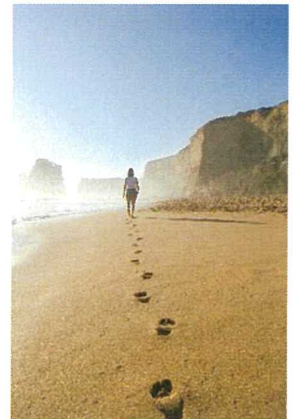
Dear God,
We thank you for Jesus, the only
one we can go to for the gift of
eternal life.
Teach us to listen to Jesus' words.
Amen.

Group Activity

FOLLOW IN JESUS' FOOTSTEPS

You will need: template page on white card, scissors, colouring pencils or markers, ribbon or pipe-cleaners, sticky tape

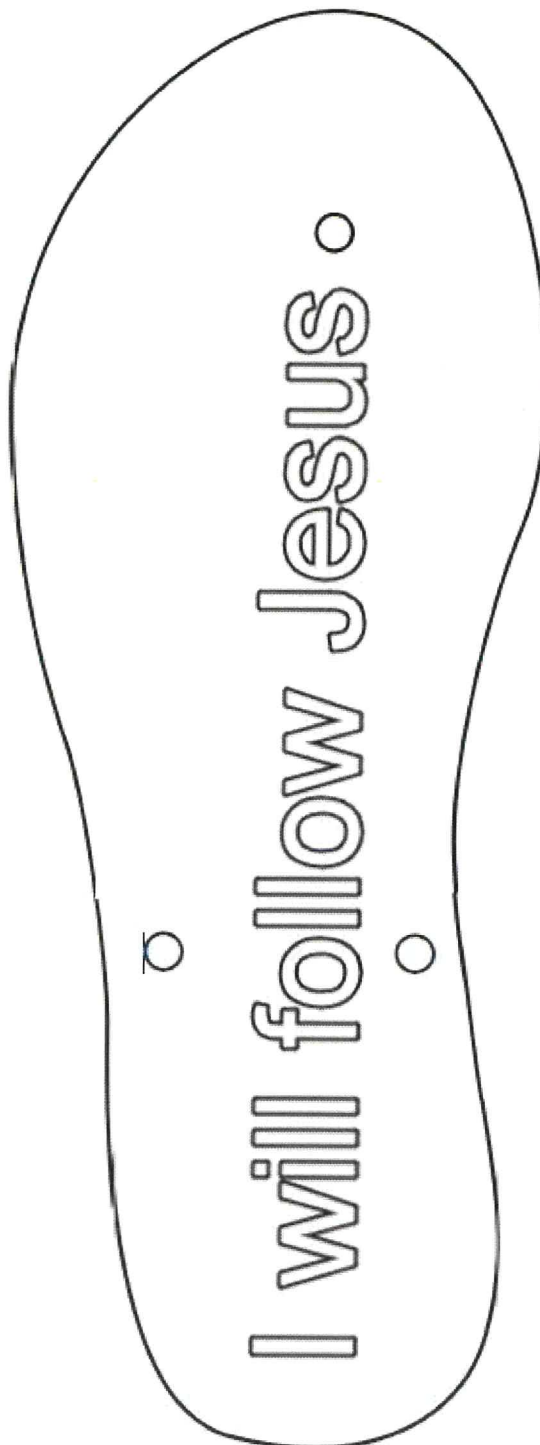
1. Colour the template page.
2. Cut around the sandal and make small holes where shown.
3. Thread two lengths of ribbon or pipe-cleaners through the holes. Tie and tape underneath.



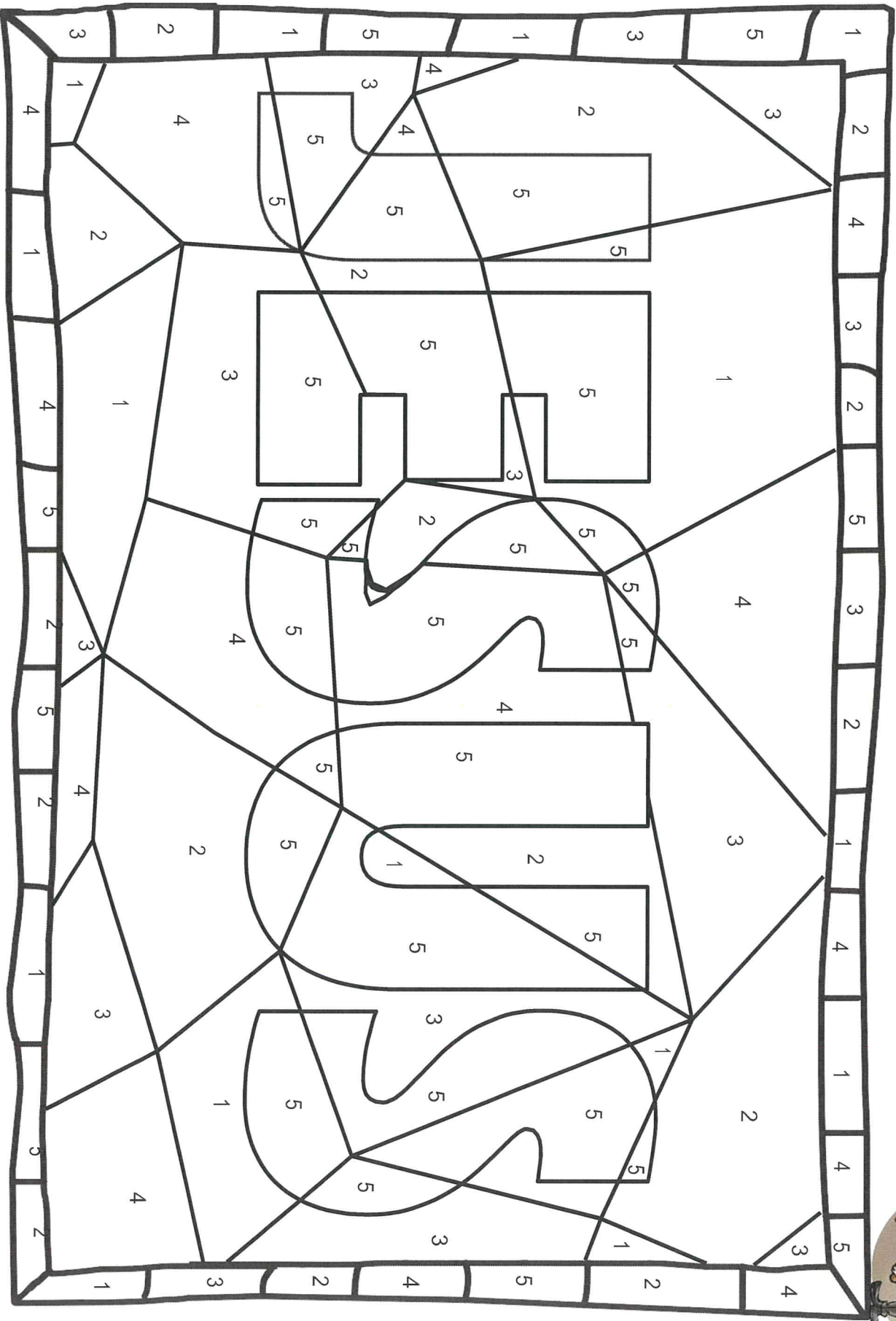
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3. Thread two lengths of ribbon or pipe-cleaners through the holes.
Tie and tape underneath.



USE THE CODE TO COLOUR THE SHAPES AND FIND A MYSTERY WORD!



- 1. Blue
- 2. Green
- 3. Orange
- 4. Purple
- 5. Yellow