

CELEBRATING DIFFERENCES

WE ARE ALL SPECIAL



SAFEGUARDING
CHILDREN ACTIVITY BOOK
CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY





The Safeguarding Office has designed this booklet for Children, to help them recognise and celebrate differences and diversity within our community and the world. If you are a Child in the Archdiocese of Sydney this book is for you!

***“I can do all things through Him who strengthens me”
- Phil 4:13***

THE CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY ACKNOWLEDGES THE AUSTRALIAN ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PEOPLES AS THE FIRST INHABITANTS OF THE NATION AND THE TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS OF THE LANDS WHERE WE LIVE, LEARN AND WORK.

**HI, I AM SAINT PHILOMENA,
I AM THE PATRON SAINT OF INFANTS
AND YOUTH**

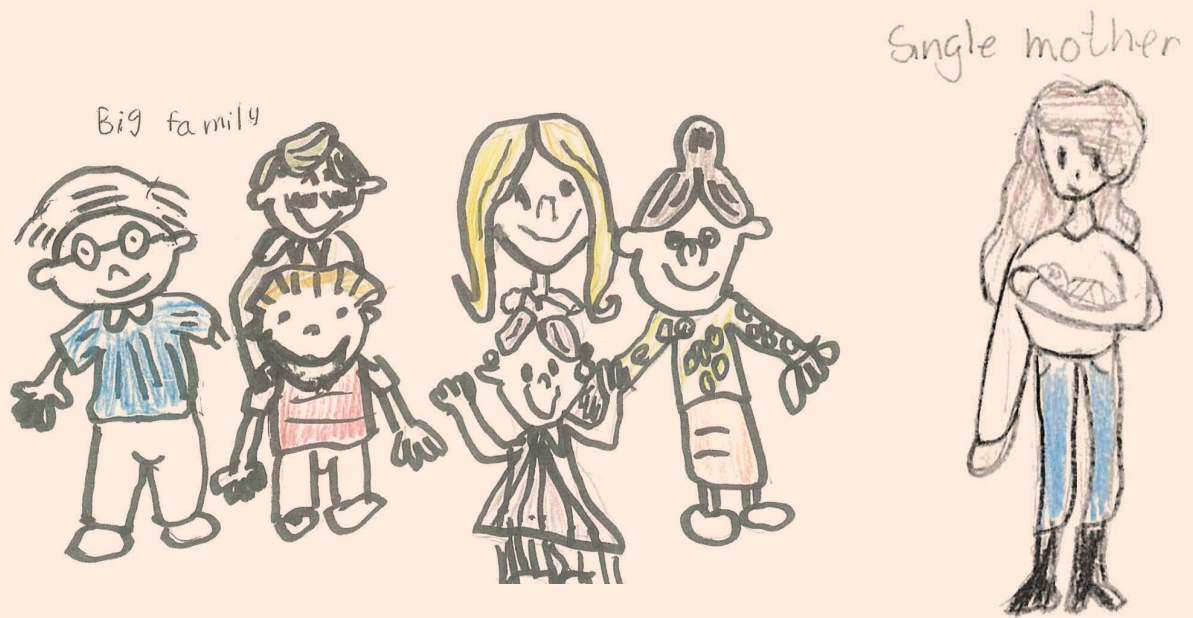
**I WAS BORN IN
GREECE.**

**I AM THE DAUGHTER
OF A GREEK KING AND
QUEEN, WHICH MAKES
ME A GREEK PRINCESS:**

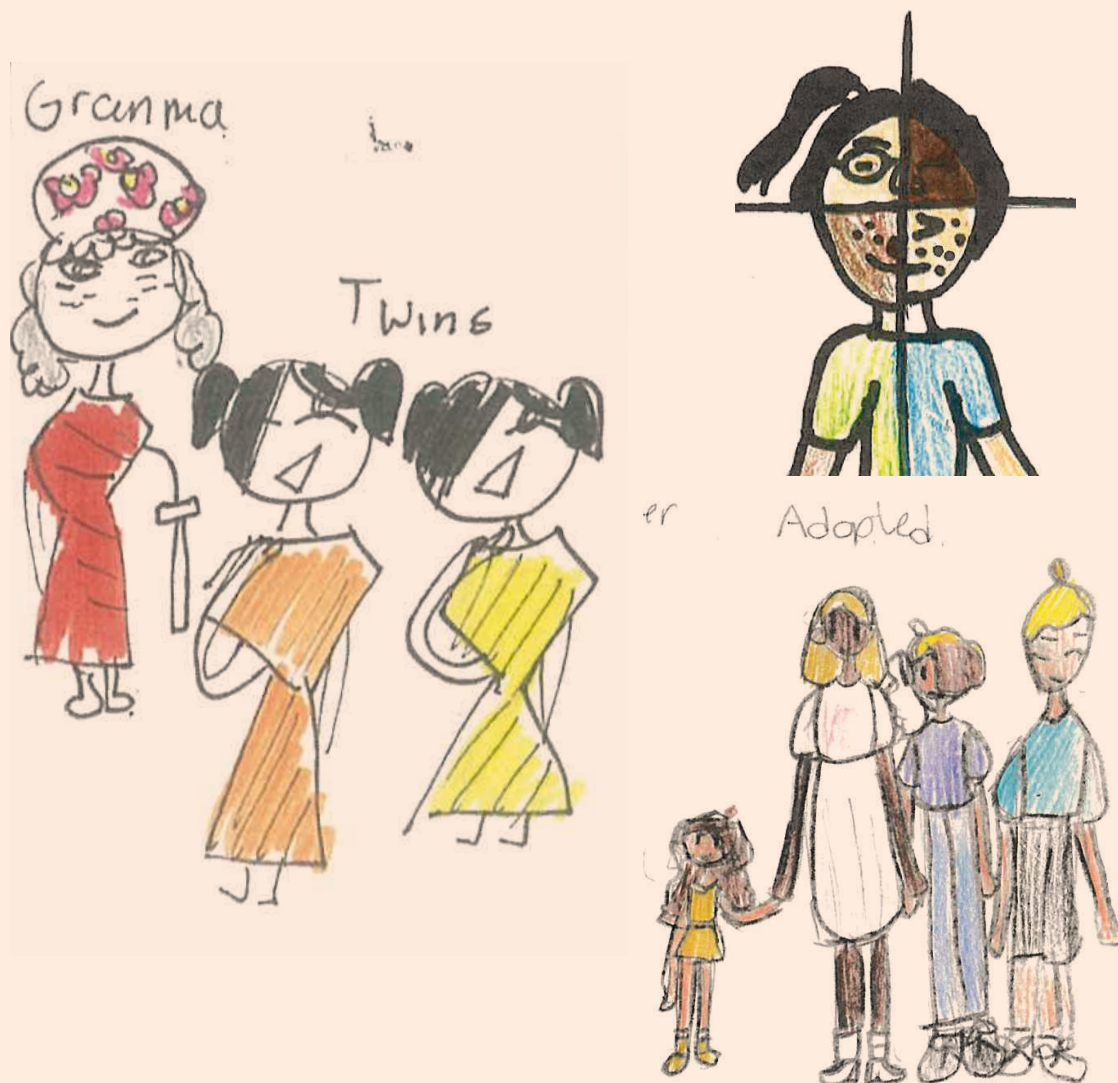
**WHEN YOU SEE
IMAGES OF ME I AM
OFTEN WEARING A
FLOWER CROWN AS
WELL AS HOLDING
FLOWERS, ARROWS
AND AN ANCHOR.**



**Count how many times you can see
St Philomena throughout the book.**



DIFFERENCES



We are all different

Some people like singing, some people don't like lollies. Some people are tall, some are short. Some people have dark skin, some have light skin. Some people love sports and some people don't like cats.

If we are all the same, our world would be a little bit boring. Being different makes our world fun and exciting.

Being different means that you don't have to like the same colours as your friends or the same food as your brother or sister. Being different means being the **REAL YOU**.

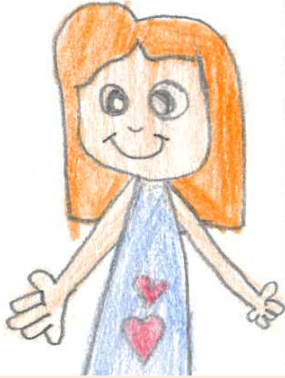
"To have courage for whatever comes in life – everything lies in that."

– St Teresa of Avila



We are all different

I have straight hair



I have curly hair



I have freckles



I have glasses



I have dark skin



I have light skin



I use a wheelchair



I use a cane



I have a different arm



What makes you different...

We are all different in our own way and that's what makes us special.

Draw a picture of you ...

Draw a picture of your friend ...

How are you different
from your friend?

.....
.....
.....

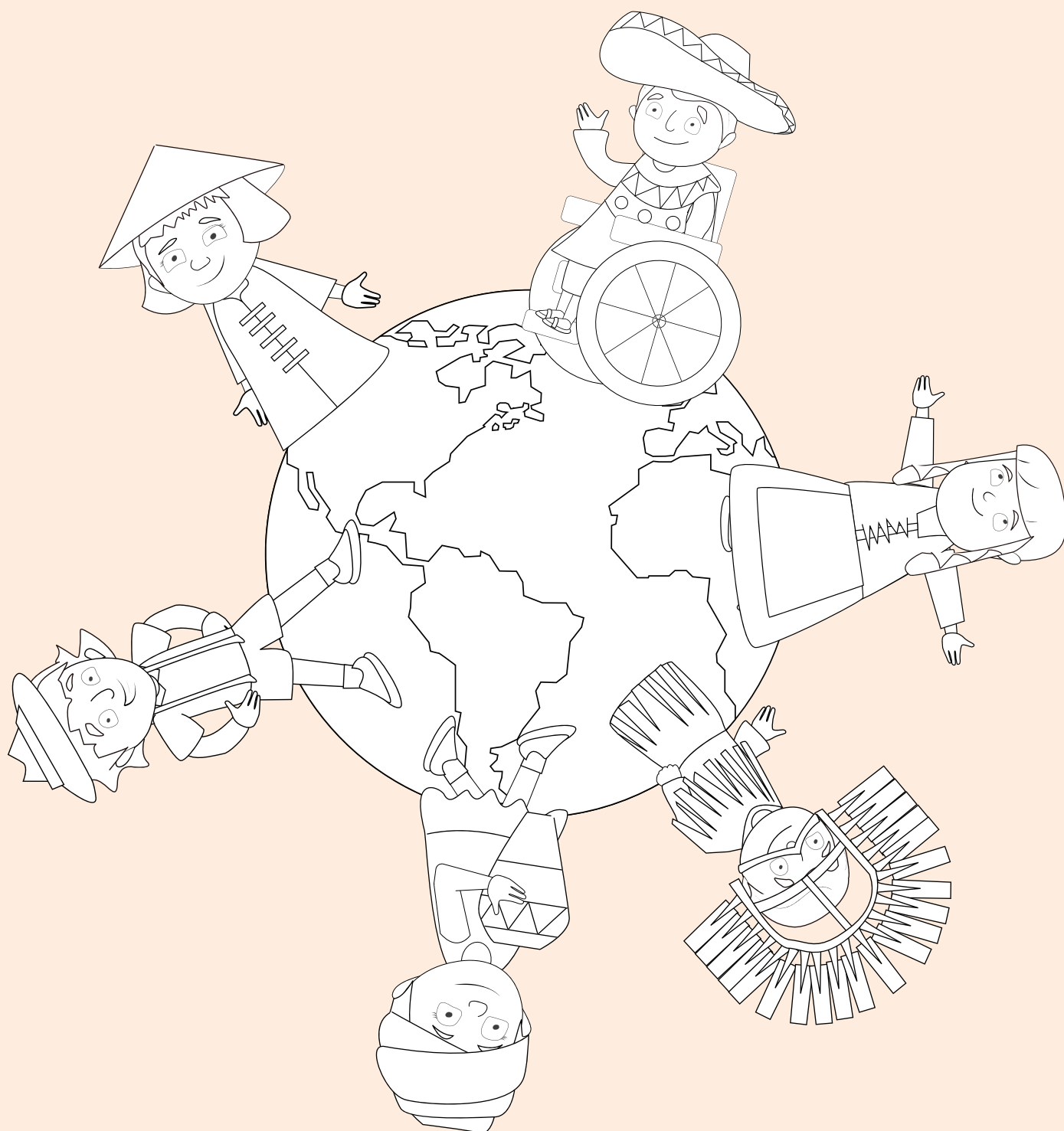
Think about

- What colour are your eyes?
- What colour is your hair?
- Are you tall or small?
- Do you wear glasses?



Children from around the world

Colour in the children from all over the world. Look at how children from different countries around the world dress for special occasions.



The Accepting Garden

This is the Accepting Garden. Just as we grow flowers to make our garden bright, we need to let our differences shine to make our life bright.

Colour in the different flowers.



Spot the Difference Activity



“We become what we love and who we love shapes what we become.”

– St Clare of Assisi



Different Families

Not all families look the same as your family. BUT every family is special in their own way and Jesus loves all of our families no matter how different they are.

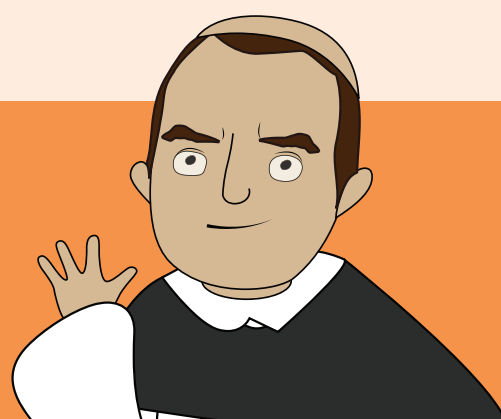
Draw a picture showing what your family looks like.

Draw a picture of another family you know.



“The things that we love tell us what we are.”

– St Thomas Aquinas



Different Religions

There are many different religions around the world. Each religion is called something different and believes in something different. You might even know someone who follows a different religion than you do. It is important that we are kind and accept people from different religions.

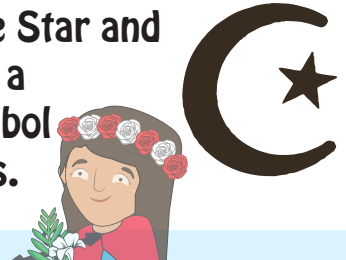
Christianity

Christians come together and pray in a Church. The book that stories and prayers are read from is called the Bible. The main character in the bible is Jesus. The Cross is a special symbol for Christians.



Islam

Muslims pray in a Mosque and say 5 prayers a day. The book that stories and prayers are read from is called the Qur'an. The Star and Crescent is a special symbol for Muslims.



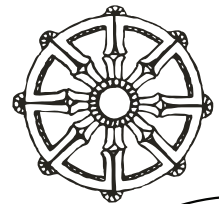
Hinduism

Hindus pray at home or at a Hindu Temple. Hindus read from a number of sacred texts. The Omkah is a special symbol for Hindus.



Buddhism

Buddhists pray and meditate in a temple. Buddhists read from a sacred book called Tripitaka. The Wheel of Dharma is a special symbol for Buddhists.



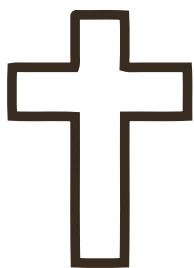
“The world is a book, and those who do not travel read only a page.”

– St Augustine



Different Religious symbols

Colour in the different Religious Symbols then circle which symbol represents your religion.



Christianity



Judaism



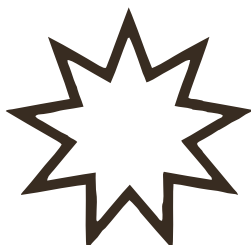
Taoism



Islam



Hinduism



Bahai



Catholicism



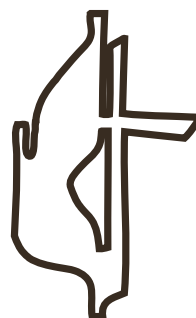
Orthodox



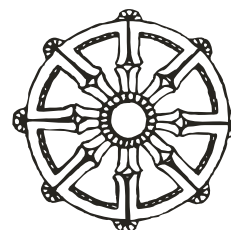
Shinto



Sikhism



Uniting



Buddhism

“As Christ has His work we too have ours. As He rejoiced to do His work we must rejoice in ours also.”

– St. John Neumann



Different Disabilities

When someone has a disability it can be hard for them to walk, see, hear, speak or learn. People who have a disability can sometimes look or speak a little differently than you but that is okay because everyone is different and unique in their own way.



“We can only build the future by standing together including everyone.”

– Pope Francis



Aaron's Story

When Aaron was born he had 10 toes, 2 feet, 5 fingers and 1 arm, Aaron was born without his right arm. When Aaron started school he noticed that he wasn't like the other children. The other children had two arms and he only had one, although Aaron's friends didn't mind that he only had one arm.

When Aaron was in year 2, the doctor gave him a really cool robotic arm that moved just like his friend's arms. Aaron was very happy because he could now play more sports with his friends.



Can you draw a photo of Aaron playing with his friends?

**“In the company of friends we
will find strength.”**

– St Maximilian Kolbe



Different Cultures

Culture is the way that people live. Sometimes people speak a different language, wear different clothes and eat different food than us. People do this because of their culture.

Do you have any friends that speak a different language than you?

Can you make a list of the special things you do in your culture that might be different to what your friends do?

-
-
-
-
-

Draw a picture of something that is special in your culture

“Let us love, since that is what our hearts were made for.”

– St Therese of Lisieux



Celebrating Different Cultures

Have you ever seen someone in your community celebrate a festival or event that celebrates their culture? Below are some celebrations and festivals that different cultures celebrate. Colour them in.

Cinco de Mayo

Cinco de Mayo is a celebration of Mexican heritage, culture, and pride. It is celebrated on the 5th May. Cinco de Mayo traditions include street festivals, parades, and music performances.



Hanukkah

Hanukkah is the Jewish festival of lights. It starts on the 25th day of the Jewish calendar month of Kislev, which is usually around December. The festival lasts for eight days and involves an eight-branched candlestick called a Hanukkah menorah, or hanukkiya. During the festival people usually eat fried foods such as potato, pancakes and doughnuts.



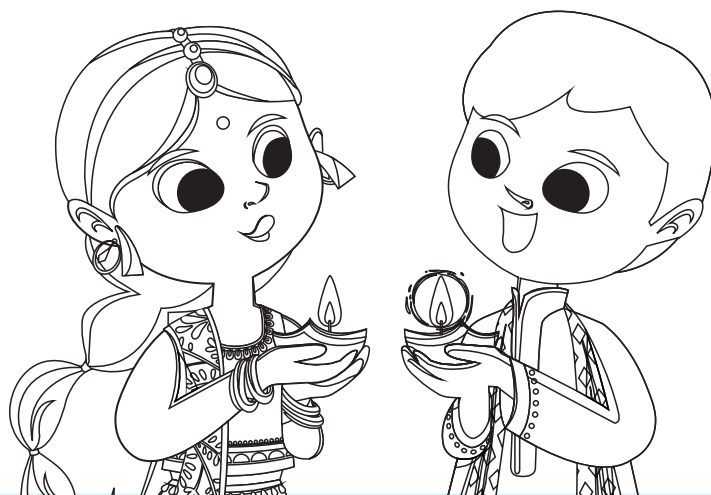
Chinese New Year

Chinese New Year, also known as Lunar New Year or the Spring Festival, is the main Chinese festival of the year. As the Chinese use the lunar calendar for their festivals the date of Chinese New Year changes from year to year. The spring festival celebrates the start of new life and the season of ploughing and sowing.



Diwali

Diwali is celebrated as a five-day New Year festival; it symbolises good over evil, light over darkness and new beginnings. Buildings and streets are decorated with lights, and there are firework displays. Homes are cleaned, new clothes worn and cards and gifts are exchanged.



Ramadan

Ramadan is the ninth month on the Islamic calendar, which marks important holidays and events for people who practice Islam. During Ramadan people don't eat or and drink, while it's light outside. Once the sun sets, families meet for big meals that may include stew, rice, dates, lentils and more. People also have a morning meal before the sun rises.



Smoking Ceremony

A Smoking Ceremony is an important part of First Nations Australians Celebrations. The smoking ceremony is usually performed at the beginning of a ceremony and it is not just the smoke that is important in the ceremony but also how the fire is lit and what is used to make it. The purpose of a Smoking Ceremony is to assist in cleansing the area and the people of bad spirits and promotes the protection and well-being of visitors.



Accepting everyone

No matter what gender, culture or religion someone is, we should always be kind to them. Let's celebrate everyone's differences.



“Let us care for one another and let us be loving custodians of creation.”

– Pope Francis



SOMEONE WILL LISTEN TO YOU

Tell a trusted adult if you or another child is feeling hurt, worried, anxious or embarrassed.

An adult will:

LISTEN to what you have to say

They will help you feel **SAFE**

They will **TELL** people who will be able to help you



Your safety comes first! Remember to speak to a trusted adult such as a parent or teacher.

Kids Helpline: 1800 551 800 | kidshelpline.com.au



Thank you

The Safeguarding Office would like to thank the Children from the following Parishes and Communities for participating in the ‘Celebrating differences’ competition for this activity book.

- Holy Innocents, Croydon Parish
- St Therese, Mascot Parish
- St John of God, Auburn Parish
- St Dominic’s, Flemington Parish
- St Christopher’s, Panania Parish
- Chinese Catholic Community, Sydney
- St Kevin’s, Eastwood Parish
- St Brigid’s, Marrickville Parish
- St Christopher’s, Panania Parish
- St Anthony’s, Marsfield Parish
- St Joan of Arc, Haberfield Parish
- Mary Immaculate, Bossley Park Parish
- St Augustine’s, Balmain Parish
- Our Lady of the Rosary, Kensington Parish



CATHOLIC
ARCHDIOCESE

OF SYDNEY



BATBB
BEATING AROUND
THE BURNING BUSH