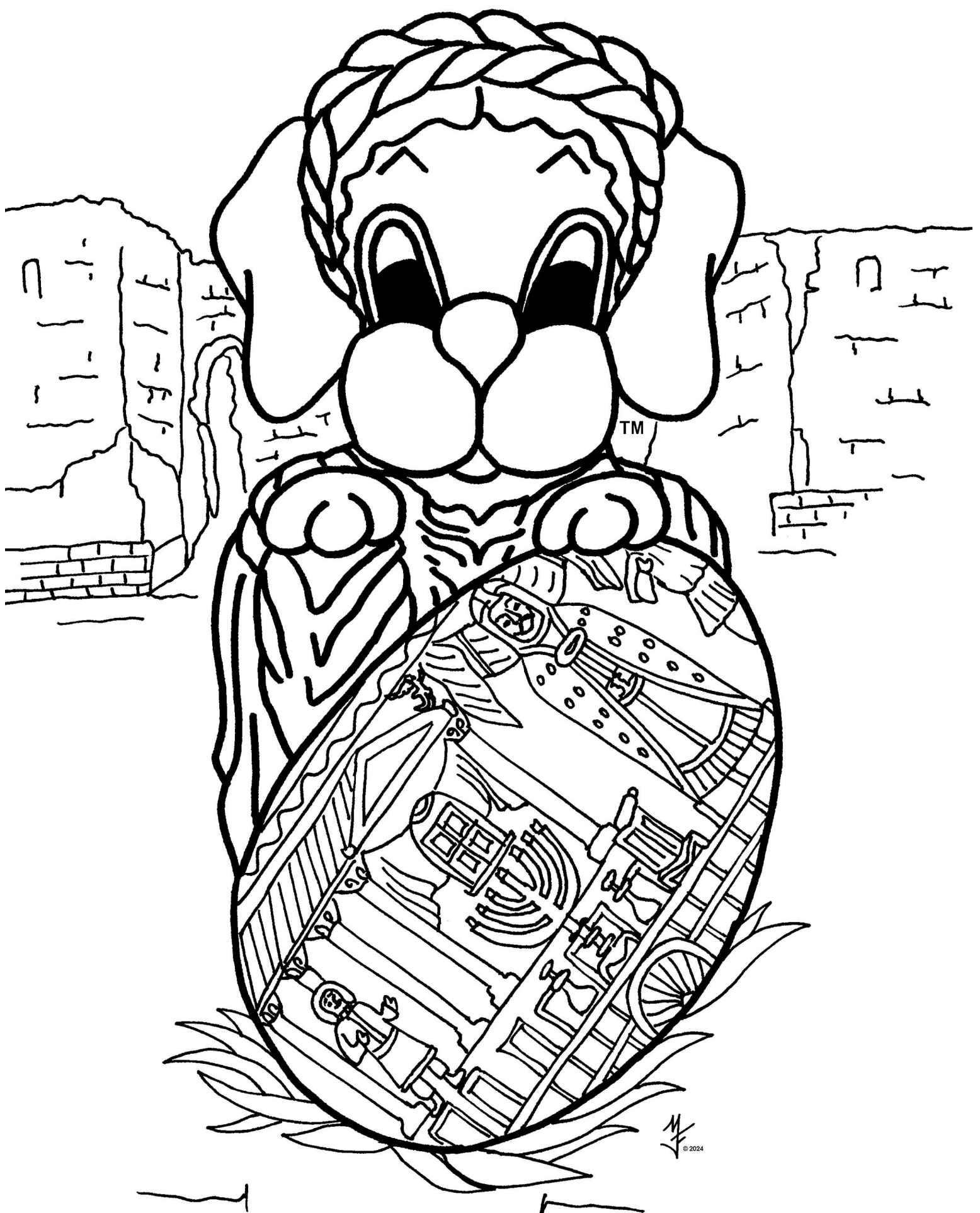


Dreamy Dog's Early Christian Egg Artistry



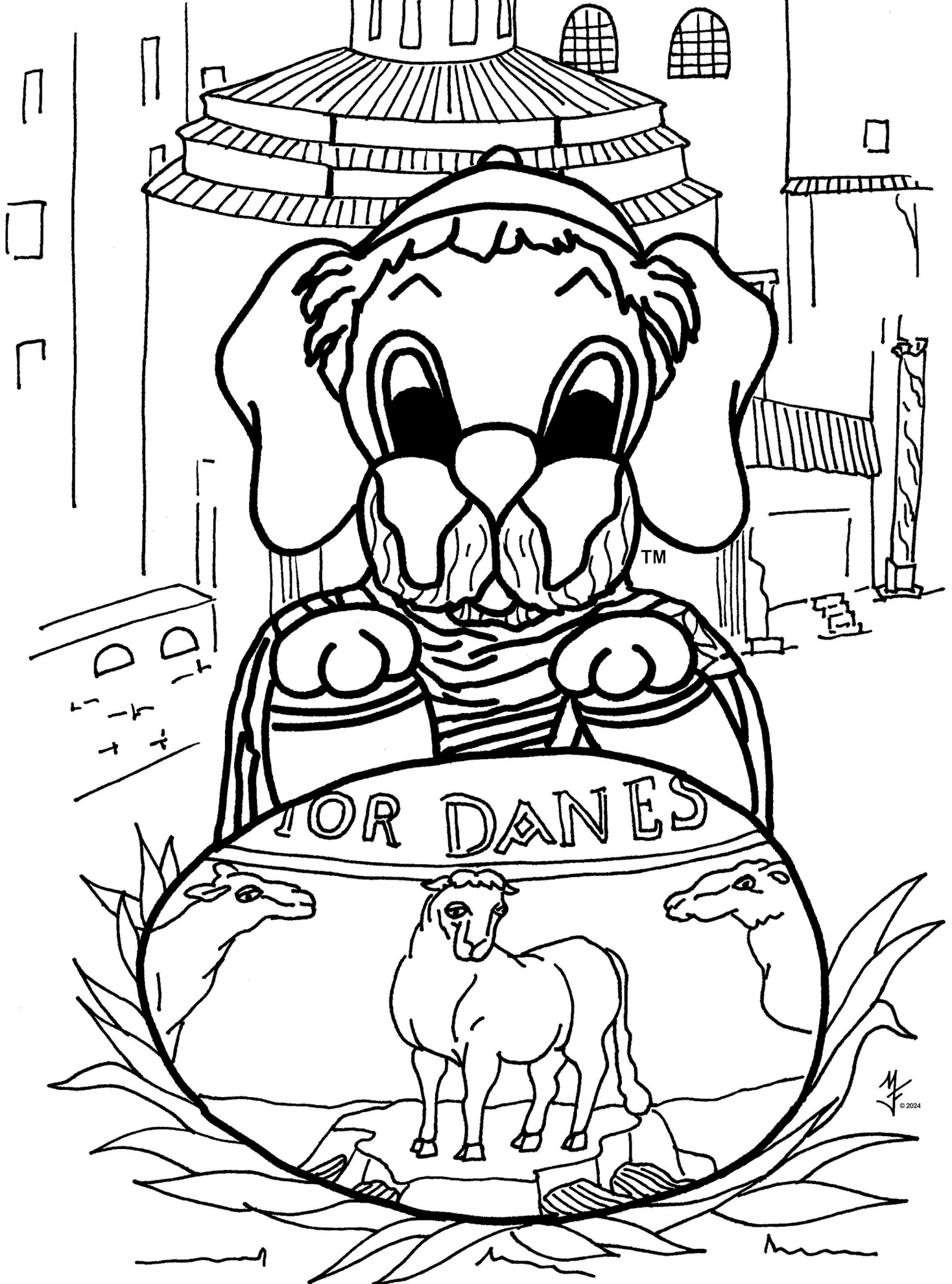












Dreamer Dog's Early Christian Egg Artistry

Christianity was one of many religions in the Roman Empire. Dreamer Dog studied early Christian art and painted eggs in some of the best examples of this period. The early Christians worshiped in secret. Many of their early meeting places were private homes or in the catacombs beneath the city of Rome. Did you know the Ancient Roman Senate house, or Curia, was once a church?

Saint Helena (c. 246 – 249 to 330 CE) – Flavia Julia Helena Augusta, or Saint Helena, was the mother of Constantine the Great. She was canonized, or made a saint, for finding the True Cross and the tomb of Jesus in the Holy Land on her pilgrimage in 326 to 328 CE. The egg shows a fresco, or mural, from the synagogue at Dura Europos, c. 244 to 256 – 257 CE. The fresco is from the assembly hall of the synagogue and depicts the consecration of the tabernacle and the priests. Although Judaism prohibits visual images, the frescoes at the synagogue are thought to have been used for religious instruction. This is one of the oldest synagogues in the world and includes inscriptions in Aramaic, the language of Jesus. The site of Dura Europos also included numerous religious buildings and churches from a variety of religions, including some of the earliest church wall paintings and earliest Christian art. The background depicts the Palmyrene Gate at Dura Europos. In an effort to save the city, it was buried during a siege by the Sasanian Empire in 256 CE, but was abandoned at that time.

Julian the Apostate (331 to June 26, 363 CE) – Flavius Claudius Julianus, known as Julian the Apostate, was a Roman emperor. His reign was short, from 361 to 363 CE. He is remembered as an Apostate because of his rejection of Christianity. He promoted a form of Hellenism and sought to balance the numerous Roman religions. He is often depicted in the toga of a Greek philosopher and the crown of a pagan priest. The egg and background show an anonymous tomb on the Via Dino Campagni (Via Latina) in the Hypogeum of Tellus, late fourth century CE. Tellus was a personification of the earth. The peacocks drinking from a kantharos is a motif found in both Christian and pagan tombs at this time.

Saint Jerome (c. 342 – 347 to September 30, 420 CE) – Saint Jerome of Stridon, or Eusebius Sophronius Hieronymus, was an early Christian priest, theologian, translator, and historian. He translated the Bible from Koine Greek into the Latin Vulgate. The egg depicts a detail from the Catacomb of Saint Callixtus in the Crypt of Lucina, second century CE. This crypt is the burial site of Pope Cornelius, a martyr. A martyr is someone who is put to death or tortured for refusing to renounce their beliefs. From the third century CE onward, this catacomb was used to bury popes. The painting represents the Eucharist with the symbols of fish and bread. The background is the Basilica of Saint John at Ephesus, Turkey. This basilica was constructed by Justinian I in the sixth century CE.

Theodosius I (January 11, 347 to January 17, 395 CE) – Theodosius I, or Theodosius the Great, was a Roman Emperor. His reign was 379 to 395 CE. He established the Creed of Nicaea as the orthodox doctrine of Christianity through the Edict of Thessalonica, which was directed to the city of Constantinople. The egg depicts the apse mosaic from Santa Pudenziana, 402 to 417 CE. It shows the four Evangelists and the ideal city of Jerusalem. The Evangelists are depicted as a man, a lion, an ox, and an eagle. The original mosaic was reduced in size during remodeling in the 16th century. This mosaic adheres to the Roman tradition of having illusionistic tendencies. The background is the Basilica of Santa Pudenziana. The basilica is dedicated to Saint Pudenciana, a woman mentioned by the Apostle Paul in 2 Timothy 4:21. This is one of the oldest Christian places of worship in the city of Rome.

Saint Augustine of Hippo (November 13, 354 to August 28, 430 CE) – Aurelius Augustinus Hipponensis, or Saint Augustine, was the bishop of Hippo Regius and a theologian. His writings included views on Original Sin, Divine Grace, predestination, and celibacy for priests. The egg depicts a mosaic in the ambulatory in the former Mausoleum of Constantina. Originally, this was constructed as a tomb for Constantine the Great's daughter in 360 CE and was a private monument. The mosaic illustrates a micro structure of a vine pattern with animals and other objects. These are a vague allegory for Salvation as a reference to joy and hope for a peaceful afterlife. Attaching a church to an important mausoleum was common in the city of Rome. Today, it is part of the Church of Santa Constanza, which is considered an excellent example of Early Christian art and architecture. The background is the Early Christian Basilica B, end of the fifth century CE, in Philippi, Greece. Philippi was originally constructed by Thracian settlers and named for King Philip of Macedon, the father of Alexander the Great. The Apostle Paul visited the city during his second missionary journey in 49 or 50 CE. Early Christians believed that he founded their community. This resulted in the construction of the first European church. Philippi became a metropolis of Christianity in the fifth and sixth centuries CE. There were seven churches constructed there between the mid fourth and end of the sixth century CE.

Leo I (c. 400 to November 10, 461 CE) – Pope Leo I, or Leo the Great, was Bishop of Rome. He was elected Pope on September 29, 440 CE. He met with Attila the Hun in 452 CE outside the city of Rome and persuaded Attila to abandon his conquest of Italy. The egg depicts a pastoral motif from the Lamb of God mosaic in the apse of the Basilica of Santi Cosma e Damiano, c. 527 CE. The sheep represent Christ and the apostles. The background is the Temple of Valerius Romulus. The small, round temple was originally dedicated to Jupiter Stator. It was then dedicated to the deified son of the Roman Emperor Maxentius in 309 CE. The building survives as it became a vestibule for the Basilica of Santi Cosma e Damiano on the Palatine Hill. Saints Cosmas and Damian were twin brothers and early Christian martyrs. They were Arab physicians, who practiced medicine and performed surgeries without a fee.

Gluten-Free Zone



More Dreamee Dog Fun at:

yummeeyumme.com

