



August 2026 Cathedrals Answer Sheet

- To access online resources
- To leave us feedback
- To learn about authoring your own puzzle set
- To become a Patreon supporter



Tonight

- We're here to help! This is not a competitive event. Ask the Game Control volunteers (GC) for hints as often as you'd like. The goal is to have fun, not to be frustrated!

The Puzzles

- Each puzzle's solution is a short word or phrase. How do you find it? That's for you to discover!
- Need a code sheet or solving resources? Check out the online resources using the QR code above or <http://www.puzzledpint.com/resources/>
- You can use anything to help solve: Use your phone: the internet is fair game! Think your father might have an insight? Give him a call!
- While each month has a theme, you need no special knowledge of the theme to solve the puzzles.

About Puzzled Pint

- We're an all-volunteer organization.
 - Help us run locally: Talk with Game Control about how you can volunteer.
 - Help us run globally: <https://www.patreon.com/PuzzledPint>

We are always looking for puzzle sets for future months! Check out how you can write puzzle for Puzzled Pint: use the QR code above or: <https://puzzledpint.com/volunteering/write-puzzles/>

Team Name:

Start Time:

Team Size:

End Time:

Dr. James Langdon, Professor of Puzzlology, is always trying to prove to his older brother, Robert, that his specialty is every bit as legitimate as "Symbolology".

This month, he's hot on the trail of puzzles hinting at a secret meaning behind cathedrals...

Puzzle Answers	
Notre Dame	
Monreale	
León	
St. Vitus	
Checkpoint! Have GC verify your answers to receive the Meta and Bonus puzzles.	
Meta: Winchester	
Bonus: St. Stephen's	

How did tonight go? Email feedback@puzzledpint.com or fill out the survey with the QR code above.

Notre Dame

Paris, France

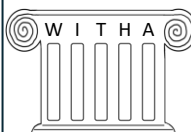


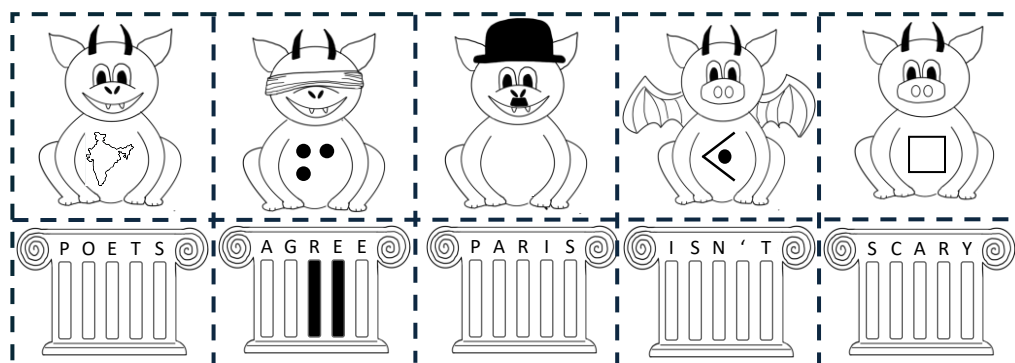
While studying the iconic Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris, the professor is stopped by Joel and William, stone masons renovating the infamous gargoyles and grotesques that line the exterior. During the renovation, the sculptors had mischievously **rearranged** the statues and their pedestals.

“For the longest time, gargoyles have been **encoded** with **all kinds of symbolism**.”
 “Don’t ask me why, but the **key** in carving stone is knowing what to **keep or not**.”
 “You may be right, and **the sixth pedestal is already in the correct spot**.”

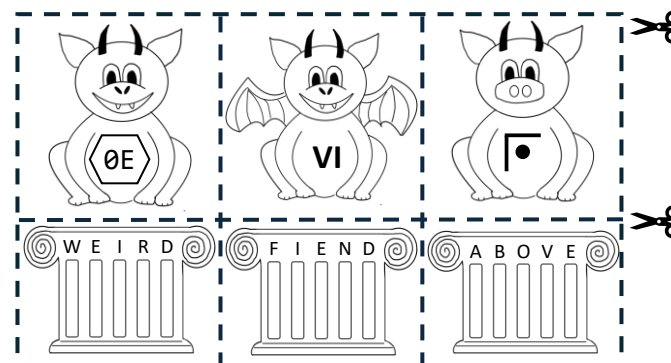
Then they abruptly left the professor with a list of criteria for ordering the remaining statues and pedestals. *What were they trying to tell him?*

- The winged statues were on opposite ends.
- There’s something *poetic* about quadrilaterals.
- *Paris* is penultimate.
- For famous silent movie actors, we’d rank Chaplin *above* the rest.
- The blind statues had two statues between them.
- The ‘fiend’ was chiseled from marble imported from India.
- The statue with a bowler hat had the ‘scary’ statue on the left and a blind statue on the right.
- The words on the four right-most pedestals were in reverse alphabetical order.
- The flying pig is quite *weird*.
- Two of the pig-faced statues are next to each other.
- We could *agree* at the very end.



Note to solvers:
you can just write
in the symbols /
words if you want
to avoid cutting!





The professor's investigation leads him next to inspect the León Cathedral in northwest Spain, along with its spectacular array of ornate 13th-century windows.

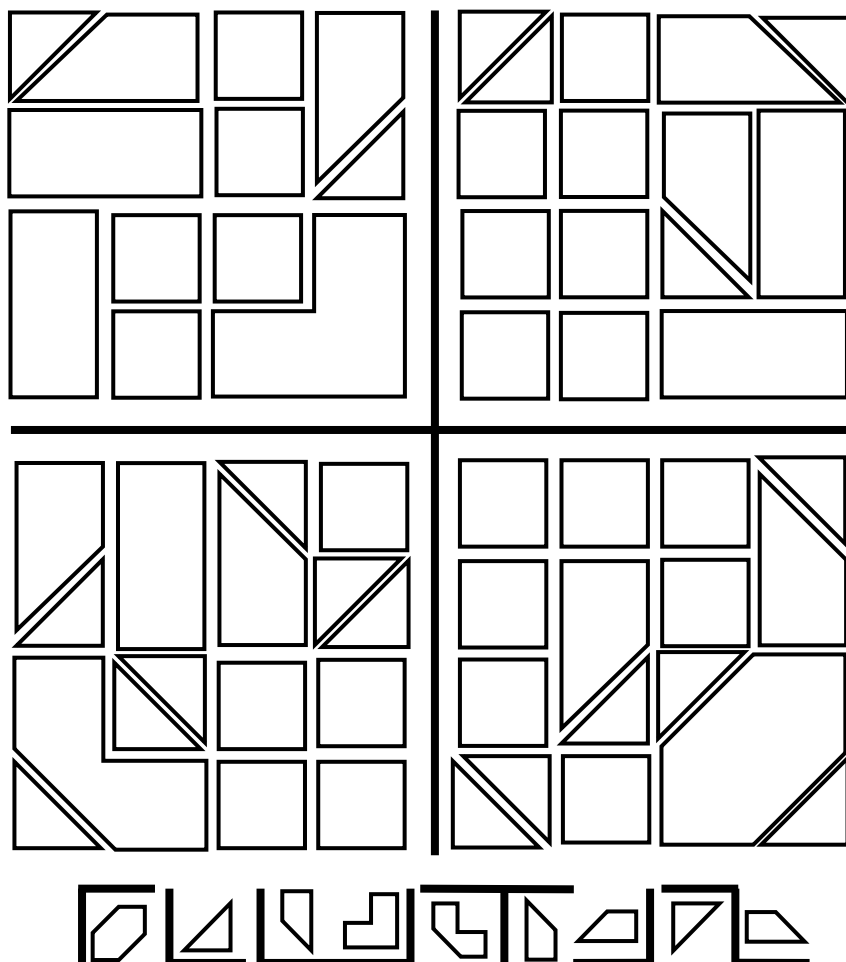
Underneath one massive stained-glass window, a small exhibit shows artifacts from the original construction. One of them, a "cartoon", is a diagram showing the layout of the glass fragments, although the directions for construction are rather *cryptic*.



Fortunately, the exhibit has a Quite Remarkable guide to help those who haven't seen these before. A Generally Courteous tour guide noted the lists were ordered A to Z, as they often are.

In the margins below the cartoon, Professor Langdon spots one apprentice's doodles describing the work.

What was the master glazier's design?



Across:

- ⌌ Mixed-up old man is a nut (6)
- ⌌ An eel heard Italian love (5)
- ⌌ Vessel given by an operations research teaching assistant, initially (5)
- ⌌ Crazy armed fantasy (5)
- ⌌ Green reactor, alternately (3)
- ⌌ Wipe out, as in before, poetically (5)
- ⌌ Listen for headless hammerhead (4)
- ⌌ Ring bear in reverse (4)
- ⌌ Partly legal segment (3)
- ⌌ Tall pine (4)
- ⌌ Honolulu keepsake contains Jedi (4)
- ⌌ Work given by part of an octopus (4)
- ⌌ Start to spruce, elm, eucalyptus, and dogwood? (4)
- ⌌ Woman with short album for ewes (5)
- ⌌ Slides small papers (5)
- ⌌ Virtuous without out-back contagion (5)

Down:

- ⌌ Beers are almost bargains (4)
- ⌌ Sounds like a sad, soothing succulent (4)
- ⌌ The wooden carved blue bird ultimately was finished (5)
- ⌌ Electric photo makes great story (4)
- ⌌ Capital in Europe? (4)
- ⌌ Everyone at the end of hot corridor (4)
- ⌌ Tiny speck found in audio tape (4)
- ⌌ Barrel potassium, for example (3)
- ⌌ Canon fodder? (4)
- ⌌ Horse coming out of moat reef, oddly (4)
- ⌌ Pose wildly for money (4)
- ⌌ Got up for wine (4)
- ⌌ Step on the ladder to race against gravity (4)
- ⌌ Piece of glass distributed without electron (5)
- ⌌ Push five into footwear (5)
- ⌌ Junk mail from dad between two sizes (4)

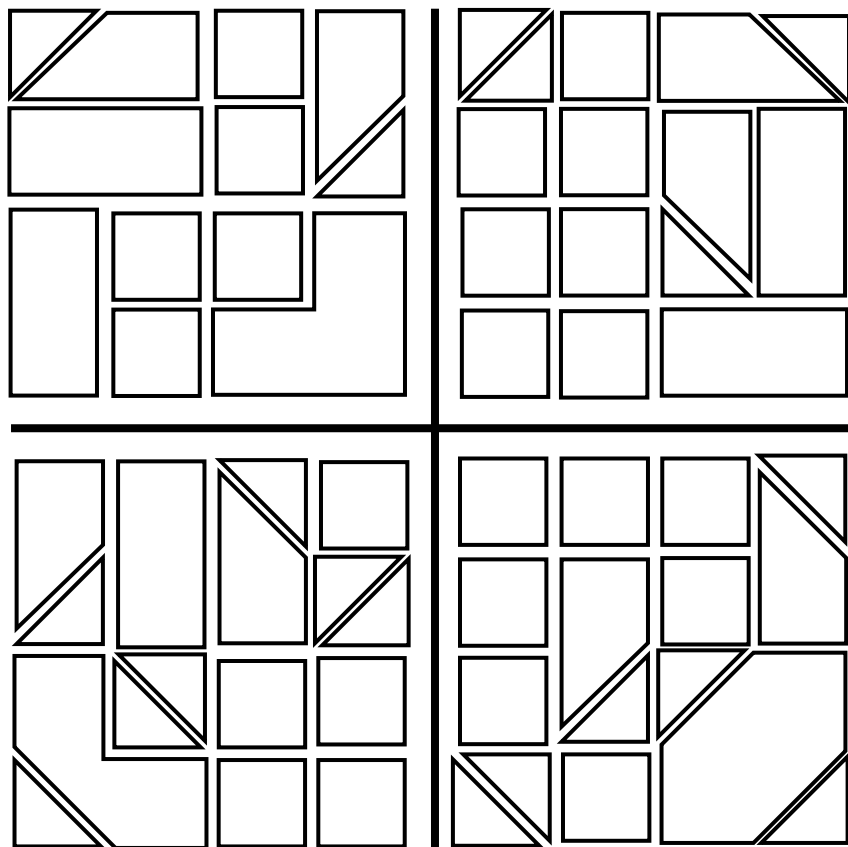


Standard

The professor's investigation leads him next to inspect the León Cathedral in northwest Spain, along with its spectacular array of ornate 13th-century windows.

Underneath one massive stained-glass window, a small exhibit shows artifacts from the original construction. One of them, a "cartoon", is a diagram showing the layout of the glass fragments, although the directions for construction are rather puzzling. A Generally Courteous tour guide noted the lists were ordered A to Z, as they often are.

In the margins, they spot one apprentice's doodles describing the work. *What was the master glazier's design?*



Across:

- 7 Marzipan ingredient (6)
- 7 Romance in Rome (5)
- 7 Major artery (5)
- 7 Night vision, perhaps (5)
- 7 Green prefix (3)
- 7 Remove pencil or chalk (5)
- 7 Listen, as to an angel (4)
- 7 Hula ____ (4)
- 7 Part of a relay race (3)
- 7 Pine [for] (4)
- 7 Skywalker with a Cool Hand (4)
- 7 Noted work, as in art or music (4)
- 7 Tournament ranking (4)
- 7 Ovine livestock (5)
- 7 Meets a banana peel, maybe (5)
- 7 Non-bacterial pathogen (5)

Down:

- 7 Malty beers (4)
- 7 Soothing succulent (4)
- 7 Finished (5)
- 7 Great story! (4)
- 7 Money in Madrid (4)
- 7 Corridor (4)
- 7 Tiny bit, or a Greek letter (4)
- 7 Source of pints at a frat party (3)
- 7 Folk tales and myths, e.g. (4)
- 7 Mate to a stallion (4)
- 7 Money in Mazatlán (4)
- 7 Pink, as in wine (4)
- 7 Part of a ladder (4)
- 7 Tiny bit, as in glass (5)
- 7 Push comes to this (5)
- 7 Canned meat (4)



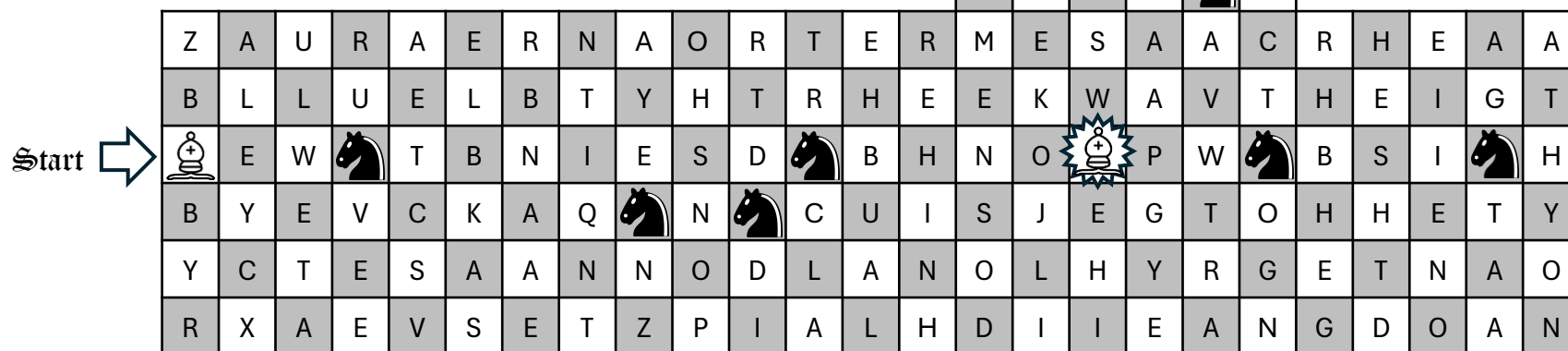
St. Vitus

Praha, Česká republika



At the St. Vitus Cathedral, the professor encounters the Bishop of Sydney. He's here to visit the Bishop of Prague—his *Czech mate*, if you will. The Bishop of Sydney timed his arrival poorly: there's already a tour group from the Knights of Columbo, a fraternal order of chess-playing detectives recognizable by their trench coats emblazoned with a horse. They arrived earlier and clogged up the entrance hall, bragging about their Elo ratings. And oh, one more thing: not only are the chess nuts boasting in an open foyer, but some are now loitering throughout the main hall of the cathedral!

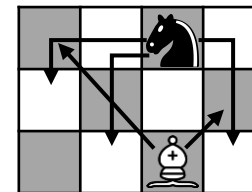
Starting at the west entrance, the Bishop of Sydney wants to tour as much of the cathedral as possible before meeting his friend at the center.



The Bishop seems annoyed at the tour group's aimless demeanor, as they are spread throughout the cathedral's traditional cross-shaped floorplan. In contrast, the Bishop likes to **go as far as he can before turning**. He's not as spry as he once was and **must stop to change directions**. Most importantly, the Bishop would like to **avoid the attention of the Knights** altogether, meanwhile **pausing every chance he can to take it all in**, and **not retracing his steps**. He won't see the entire cathedral, but he's resigned himself to that sacrifice. It would be a blunder to get caught by one of the Knights; they'd probably ask him if they can borrow a pen.

What is the behavior the Bishop of Sydney finds so offensive?

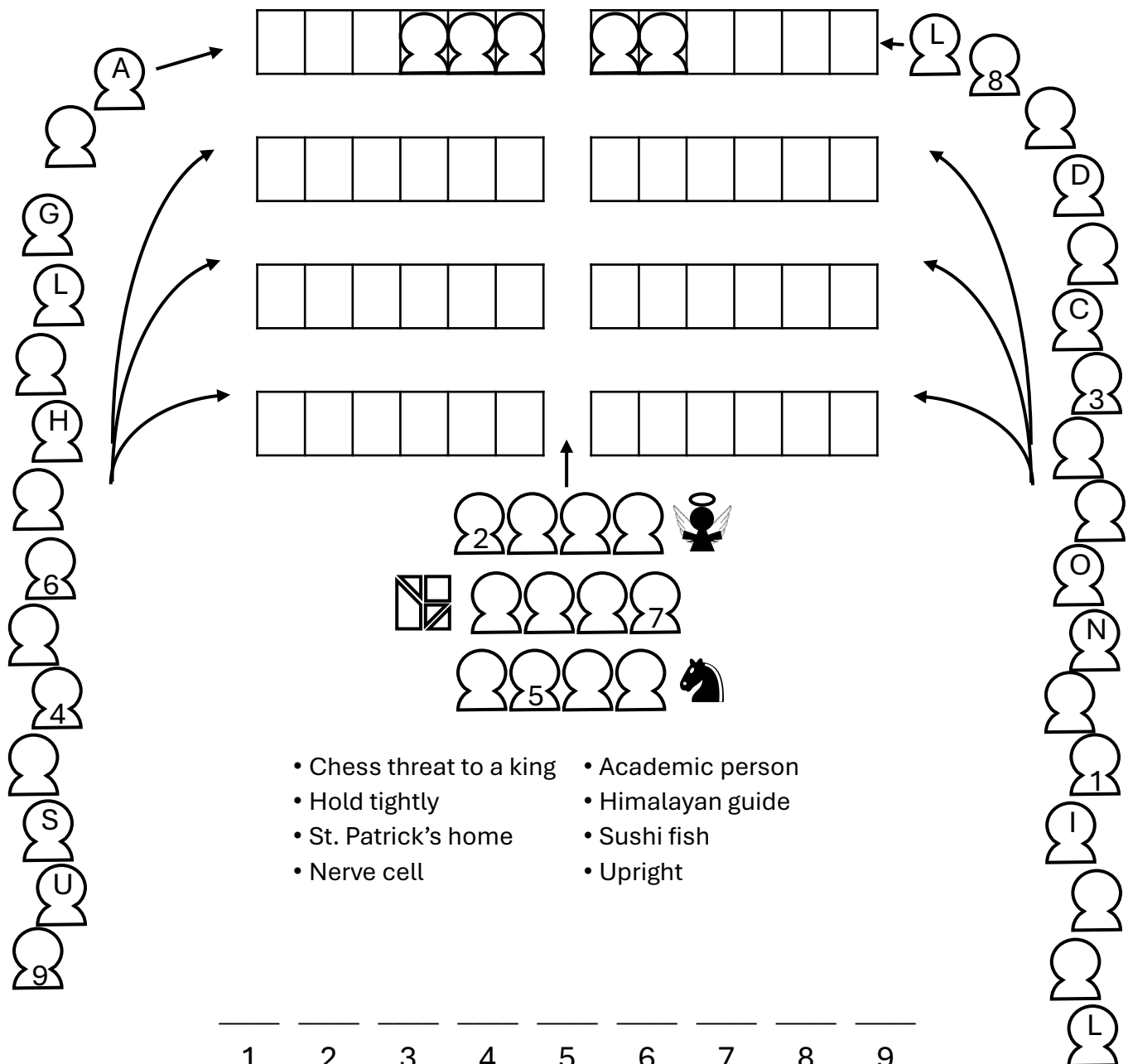
Chess tip: knights move two squares in any cardinal direction then one square to either side. Bishops move diagonally.

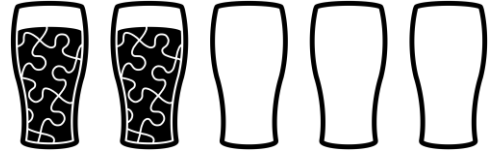




Professor Langdon arrives at the final cathedral just as a public mass is about to start. Parishioners are filing into the pews from each side, filling the rows front to back. The professor also notices four groups of architecture students that he recognized from the previous four cathedrals, each admiring **the cathedrals' distinct architectural features**. It's a busy service, so to avoid being rood, the groups of students move up the center aisle looking for places to fit into the middle. Each row ends up being filled with both parishioners and students, although the student groups might cross the center aisle.

The professor notices there's one pew missing in the back. As it turns out, when the last bishop moved to Rome, he interpreted *ex cathedra* literally and decided to...





The professor has been offered a once-in-a-lifetime tour of the catacombs underneath the cathedral, which houses numerous crypts. He wants to **visit every crypt** and doesn't have time to backtrack to crypts that he has already visited. Once he's found a good path through the catacombs, though, the local guide **pointed out** he'll have to be observant about identifying **the occupants** of the crypts. There are **a number of torches in each crypt**, but they only provide enough light **for both the current crypt and the next crypt**. It's very dusty down there, and the thought of the catacombs is enough to make him sick...

