



# R.C. PARISH

## CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOUR

---

*“Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Jesus Christ” Colossians 3:23-24*

### **Message from Father Sjaak**

Every 25 years, the Church celebrates a great jubilee with many special liturgies, events, charities and other initiatives. During the new Pastoral Year 2024-2025, our Parish will celebrate the Holy Year with the universal church. The theme for this Jubilee is “Pilgrims of Hope”. [Read more.](#)

### **Recent Highlights**

#### **Visit of Relics of St. Therese of Lisieux**

The relics of St. Therese of Lisieux were received in the St. Jacobus Church on Parkstraat, The Hague on 11 June. This visit was celebrated in our parish with a beautiful Mass commemorating the simple life of St. Therese. The relics of St. Francis of Assisi and St. Peerke Donders, part of the reliquary of our parish, were placed before the Altar during the Mass. Together with these sacred relics and the exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, a beautiful atmosphere of prayer and devotion filled the entire afternoon, where visitors spent moments of silence.

#### **COS Music Ministry**

A new ministry called COS Music Ministry (CMM) was introduced by Fr. Sjaak to the congregation, at both masses on 11 August. This ministry is guided by the key words of Pope Francis when he addressed the participants of the IV International Meeting

of Choirs in Rome on 8 June 2024 - Harmony, Communion and Joy. Read his address [here](#).

CMM involves not only singers and musicians but also parishioners who can help with support tasks like library work, lyrics preparation and projection, sound set up before mass, etc. Vocal workshops will be held regularly for voice improvement and to gain a better understanding of what it means to make music together to praise God with our talents and abilities. For more information, contact the parish office.

### **Meet the Parish and the Opening of the New Pastoral Year**

The Meet the Parish event was held on Sunday 8 September which also marked the opening of the new Pastoral Year. Fr. Sjaak invited the group coordinators of over 60 groups in our parish to receive a special blessing before they were sent off to their respective tables in the galleries of the church. Here, they met parishioners, shared their plans for the pastoral year, and received sign ups of new volunteers.



The new Pastoral Year started with large numbers. Our RE program is now filled with 125 children and our Confirmation Program with 40 youths. We currently have 17 couples in our Marriage Preparation Course and the first Young Adult meeting took off with 20 participants. With so many young people participating in various programs we feel the energy for the new pastoral Holy Year.

### **Parish Award – Hospitality Group**

Also, during Meet the Parish, the Hospitality Team received the Parish Award. The team has been tirelessly serving tea, coffee, cookies and doughnuts to our parishioners after every Sunday morning mass and have also helped at other parish events. Thank you, dear ladies, for your commitment, generosity and willing service for so many years.



### **Justice & Peace Project: Appeal for Clothes, Books, Games, and Bikes for Teenage Boys**

A group of 60-80 refugee boys aged mostly 15-18 years old have recently moved into a government-run facility in Leidschendam and have urgent need for second hand clothing, shoes, non-violent games, and age-appropriate/non-violent books in English, Dutch and/or Arabic and good quality bikes. Read more [here](#)

### **RE and Confirmation Classes start on Sunday 29 September**

We welcome our children for RE classes and our youths for our Confirmation Program this coming Sunday and pray that they will have a fun and fruitful experience in the months ahead.

## **Pope Francis Visit to Belgium**

Pope Francis's visit to Belgium this month will culminate in a Mass on 29 September at 10AM at the King Baudouin Stadium which will be broadcast worldwide. This will also mark the beatification of Anna of Jesus.

## **What's Coming Up at COS**

### **06 October – Celebration of the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi**

Children and parishioners are welcome to bring their stuffed animal toys or live animals to be blessed during this feast.

**Pop-Up Family Brunch and Girl's Bike Raffle Draw** from 11.30-12:30. Tickets available at the Welcome Desk. See more information on our parish [website](#).

### **20 October – Celebration of Señor de Los Milagros and Blessing of Rosaries**

The Feast of Señor de los Milagros (Lord of Miracles) will be celebrated with a special procession of the icon at the morning Mass.

As October is the month of the Rosary, parishioners are welcome to bring their rosaries to be blessed at both masses.

### **27 October – Celebration of the Feast of All Saints**

This feast which falls on 1 November will be celebrated on 27 October.

### **02 November – All Souls Day (Saturday)**

Mass will be held at 17.30 in church. If you wish to remember your loved ones who have passed away, please write their names and drop the paper in the designated box in church during the weeks leading up to this day. A stipend will be much appreciated.

### **1-3 November – Parish Retreat**

The COS 2024 Annual Parish Retreat will be held at the Beziningscentrum Emmaus in Helvoirt– near Den Bosch. The theme is “From passion to compassion- Christian pilgrimage through an agitated world” and will be led by Revd. Michael Roden. More information and registration [here](#).

### **24 November – Feast of Christ the King and our Parish Feast Day**

Installation of all Liturgical ministers will take place at both Masses.

### **26 November**

Pastoral Council Meeting. Mass at 19.00 in the atrium followed the meeting of all group coordinators.

### **1 December**

RE Class Mass and Sinterklaas comes to Children’s Liturgy

### **8 December**

Christmas Singalong after Sunday AM Mass followed by the Christmas Market.

### **15 December**

Advent Reconciliation Mass at 17.30.

### **Caring for the Physical and Financial Well-Being of our Church**

Behind the scenes of our welcoming church services and vibrant community gatherings, lies a foundation of dedicated effort and careful resource management. This often-unseen work ensures that our church building remains a safe and inviting haven. Oftentimes, we focus on the BIG C, but we need to shine the spotlight on the small c, too. This is because the small c is not just the church building but foremost the Care for the Church and the people who visit it. Read more [here](#).

**Please help support us!**



[Please scan or click to donate via  
PayPal or Credit Card](#)



[Please scan or click to donate via  
Tikkie](#)

**R.C. PARISH CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOUR**

Koningin Marialaan 2, 2595 GB, Den Haag