



R.C. PARISH CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOUR

COSCom Newsletter- Third Quarter 2026

Message from Fr. Sjaak

There is a time for everything... A time to plan and a time to harvest, a time to work, and a time to rest... (Eccl.3: 1-8) During this new pastoral year 2026-2027, I'll be reaching the retirement age of 67. Life is good when you still feel young, but the truth is, it's also time to look ahead. [Read more.](#)

Recent Highlights

First Holy Communion

On Trinity Sunday 2026, 73 children received their First Holy Communion in our parish. For the new RE Class 2026-2027, registrations are open via our website [here](#). More information [here](#).



Confirmation

On Ascension Day 2026, Fr. Jan Thomas Limchua from the Papal Nunciature in The Hague conferred the Sacrament of Confirmation on 27 teenagers. For the new Confirmation Class 2026-2027, registrations are open via our parish website [here](#).



Church Renovations

Changes made during the summer months, and which will continue for the rest of the year include the restroom renovation, painting of the gallery rafters, new church TV screens, and a new boiler heating system.

WHAT'S COMING UP

Charity Applications Open

The proceeds raised by the COS Food Fair 2026 on Saturday 13 June will help small, non-governmental self-help projects around the world. Please feel free to nominate a charity of your choice. More information [here](#).

Meet the Parish on 13 September

To mark the new pastoral year, our annual Meet the Parish will be held in the galleries of the church to allow newcomers to learn more about our parish and encourage them to join one or more of the activities available.

Parish Board Changes

Marta Kulis and **Genevieve Desouza** are leaving their roles as members of the Parish Board. Huge thanks to them for their hard work and dedication in serving our parish. We welcome **Servaas van Schijndel** as new Secretary to the Board, and **Heinrich Loechteken** as Treasurer. **William Marinus** will serve as our new Vice Chair. Congratulations gentlemen!

Fr. Sjaak's 40th Ordination Anniversary

Please join us as Fr. Sjaak celebrates his 40th Ordination Anniversary on Sunday 25 October 2026 during a festive Mass at 11AM in church. Please note that the clock falls back one hour on this date!

The book Fr. Sjaak wrote to mark this occasion is still available for purchase. Written in both Dutch and English, the book contains 40 stories from his life and ministry and includes some of the most amusing moments of his career. The book will help you discover that being a priest can be a lot of fun and can place you in the most unexpected situations and experiences. [Read more.](#)



The poster is a celebratory announcement for Fr. Sjaak de Boer's 40th ordination anniversary. It features a portrait of Fr. Sjaak on the left, framed by a laurel wreath. The right side contains the title '40th ORDINATION ANNIVERSARY JUBILEUM PRIESTERWIJDING' in a mix of serif and script fonts. Below this, it states that the R.C. Parish Church of Our Saviour requests the pleasure of the community's company to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the ordination of Fr. Sjaak de Boer. It then lists two events: a 'CONCELEBRATED FESTIVE MASS' and a 'RECEPTION', both on Sunday, 25th of October 2026. The Mass is at 11:00 at Bezuidenhoutseweg 157, The Hague. The Reception is at 12:30 - 14:30 at the Pastoral Center. The poster concludes with 'WE LOOK FORWARD TO CELEBRATING WITH YOU.'

40th
ORDINATION ANNIVERSARY
JUBILEUM PRIESTERWIJDING

The R.C. Parish Church of Our Saviour
requests the pleasure of your company
to celebrate the 40th anniversary
of the ordination of

Fr. Sjaak de Boer

PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE FOLLOWING CELEBRATION

	CONCELEBRATED FESTIVE MASS		RECEPTION
	Sunday, 25 th of October 2026		Sunday, 25 th of October 2026
	at 11.00		at 12.30 – 14.30
	Bezuidenhoutseweg 157, The Hague		at the Pastoral Center

WE LOOK FORWARD TO CELEBRATING WITH YOU.

COS Academy Resumes

Several parishioners have expressed the need to deepen their spirituality. In answer to this, the ongoing adult formation program involving faith conversations and information about the latest Vatican publications will resume in the new pastoral year. The coordinator is pastoral worker and

theologian **Marlene Falke**. We also have groups like the **Rosary Group** and **Christian Meditation**. As part of that wider program, we will also initiate a **Holy Hour of Adoration** on the first Fridays of the month and a **Parish Trip to Medjugorje** in April 2027. More information will be available on the parish website.

Parish Outings and Days for Reflection

- On 28 November, our Altar Servers will visit the Catholic churches at the Parkstraat and Elandstraat in The Hague to learn about Christian Art, symbolisms and liturgical objects. This will help them develop a sense of awe for the rich tradition of Catholicism.
- The Parish Board will have a similar outing to the National Museum for Catholicism in Catharijne convent in Utrecht on 3 October.
- The COS Music Ministry (CMM) will visit Jessekerk in Delft for a 2-hour mini-retreat on 7 November. CMM has organized one day spiritual retreats in Rijswijk in the past, but this year will be something different but still meaningful. “Praise and Worship through Music” will be the theme of the recollection.

European Pastors Symposium

From **25-28 October**, several pastors from English Speaking parishes around Europe will come to The Hague for the annual symposium. Plans include visits to the Peace Palace and the new **Papal Nuncio Mgr. Guzman**. Discussions will focus on how to provide a spirituality to answer the need of new Catholics in our parishes.

Refugee Football

The COS Justice and Peace Group’s Hand in Hand Refugee Project team, members of the Even Anders Foundation (who funded the event) and staff of COA (the government agency managing the asylum camps) organized a fantastic football tournament on Sunday 23 August. More than 120 youth and adult footballers participated from several COA asylum camps, including 20 youth and adult players from COS and local football clubs. A great atmosphere with friendly though competitive football, a DJ, and international food. Below on the left is a photo of **Nkemjika Ekwugha** (COS parishioner) and **Owen Ahmed** (COA Voorburg). And on the right are **Deacon Paul Falke**, **Anthony Heinsbroek**, **Basil Albem**, and **Dianne Luping** (coordinator of COS Justice & Peace). [Read more.](#)



Cross Examination Podcast

Don't forget to sign up and listen to our podcast, "[Cross Examination](#)".

Notable dates:

- **08 September – Mass in Chapel at 12 noon/ Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary**
- **13 September – Meet the Parish/ Opening of the New Pastoral Year and Open Monument Day in The Hague**
- **14 September – Marriage Prep Session 1**
- **27 September – Start of RE Classes**
- **27 September – RCIA Meet & Greet**
- **02 October – Friday Noon Masses resume in the Chapel (Koningin Marialaan 2)**
- **03 October – Parish Board Day**
- **04 October – Feast of St. Francis with the Blessing of Animals**
- **04 October – African Mass at 10.00**
- **04 October – FHC Parents Meeting at 11.15**
- **04 October – Start of Confirmation Class**
- **11 October – Mass Celebration of The Feast of Señor de Los Milagros at 10.00**
- **25 October – Clocks fall back one hour**

- 25 October – Fr. Sjaak’s 40th Ordination Anniversary Mass at 11.00 followed by a reception in the atrium. There is only one Mass this Sunday.
- 25-28 October – European Pastors Symposium
- 01 November – Feast of All Saints Mass at 10.00 & 17.30
- 02 November – Commemoration of the Feast of All Souls at 19.00
- 07 November – CMM Mini-Retreat in Jessekerk, Delft
- 09 November – Anniversary of the Consecration of the Church of Our Saviour
- 22 November – Feast of Christ the King
- 28 November – Altar Servers Outing in The Hague
- 29 November – First Sunday of Advent & Altar Servers Installation
- 29 November – First Sunday of Advent
- 01 December – Pastoral Council Meeting at 19.00

We wish all our parishioners, benefactors, and well-wishers a Happy New Pastoral Year!

Please help support us!



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