



Newsletter



Joannes de Doper
a missionary parish in Hoofddorp



English speaking community

Issue Quarter 4 2023



Message from

Fr. Albert Toppo

The bold and golden choice made by Mary

I came across a lady during my Dutch language study who came

from Turkey, married to a man of Turkish origin. She used to say happily that she and her husband are quite delighted and elated to accept their first baby. Six months before the due date they began to plan a beautiful room for the baby with bed, dresses, toys, and school etc. We can imagine, how happy they were to accept the baby. Whole family was overjoyed. That brought lot of happiness and unity in the atmosphere.

But Jesus' birth was quite opposite because many were unhappy about it. First and foremost, Mary and Joseph were not happy in the beginning to accept the baby. But later they realized that the baby is a child of God, and the birth is by the Holy Spirit. That realization made them courageous to face any difficulty. The cruel King Herod was the most unhappy, who ordered to kill the children of two or under two years (Mt 2:16-18).

The bold and golden choice made by Mary and Joseph is greatly appreciated and admired in the gospels. Their hardship and suffering to save Jesus are remarkable. Four Sundays of advent is the time to learn to make a good choice by prayers and meditations even if the world is unfriendly and unjust. Good people make good choices even though it is tough, and that is the source of happiness. Christmas is a graceful time to learn to make good choices in which Jesus is happy and we, too. Our team wishes you the blessings of bold spirit, health, happiness and peace to you and your family.

Calendar 4th Quarter 2023

November 1st All Saints Mass 7:30pm
November 2nd Church open 07:00am – 5:30pm for All Souls Day
November 2nd All Souls Mass 7:30pm
November 25th Feast of Christ the King
December 3rd First Sunday of Advent
December Exhibition of Nativity sets from all over the world – Het Fundament (basement Church).
Christmas Eve Holy Mass English 11:30pm

Weekly Mass/Prayer Schedule

Saturdays

7:00 pm (Dutch)

Sundays

10:00 am (Dutch)

12:00 pm (English)

Tuesdays and Thursdays

11:30 am Praying of the Rosary (Dutch)

12:00 pm Holy Mass (Dutch)

Prayer of the Holy Rosary

Every Wednesday **7:30 pm** in the chapel

Eucaristía en Español

Every first Sunday of the month 2:00 pm

Eucharistic Adoration

Every first Friday of the month 11:00 am

Our church is open daily

between 11:00-12:00 for private prayer.

Information & Registration Parish

For all your questions and registration into our parish, please visit the office, located in the Parish House next to the Church. All registered parishioners do receive a copy of our parish magazine INFO at home. Open Mondays to Fridays 09:00 – 12:00

email: secretariaat@hjoannesdedoper.nl

Telephone: 023-563 81 45

Emergencies: Father Eko Manek svd (see website)

Information about our International Community please contact Siobhan Regtering siobhankerr@yahoo.co.uk or Ruby Cumba rubicumba@gmail.com

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Meet our volunteers Delvin

1. What do you do in our Parish?

I am part of the live streaming team, where we stream the Sunday Mass on YouTube. For all those people who can't attend Mass physically, I hope that watching the Sunday Mass virtually is very graceful.



2. What does your faith mean to you? For me, faith is a gift that I received from God. When I was a kid, I received my lessons of faith in God from my parents. As I grew up, God always helped me to nourish my faith. As Ephesians 2:8 says, 'For by grace, you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God.' In my day-to-day life, this faith helps me face challenges. Today, what I am is all because of my faith. In my life, if I achieved something, I will give

credit to God because I strongly believe that my prayers, along with my faith, helped me to achieve those.

Job is my favorite character in the Bible. The faith of Job always inspires me. If anyone else were in his place, they might have forsaken God, but Job never did that. His strong faith was the only reason that helped him face those challenges. I always want to pray the prayer that he recited in his difficulties and happiness: 'The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord.' My faith revolves around this prayer.

3. What are your dreams for our Parish?

Parish is the place where we cherish our faith. I am always thankful for being part of this wonderful parish community. It would be nice if we had the opportunity to attend English Mass on other days along with Sunday. Also, it would be very nice if we had youth groups and activities for young people. As Pope John Paul II said, 'Young people are the future of the world and the hope of the Church.'

Alpha English? Would you be interested in Alpha English courses, let us know via email alpha-haarlemmermeer@outlook.com

Advent Project for kids

A bit early perhaps, but we want to start preparations for the Advent period. This year we would like to organize a workshop for kids during the Advent mass, to help our children prepare for Christmas. We are seeking volunteers to help guide the kids and help prepare content for these 4 Advent Sundays. If you are interested to help please send an email to catechese@hjoannesdedoper.nl

English Newsletters

Starting in January next year we are planning to include the English Newsletter into our parish Magazine INFO. If you want to receive this magazine at home, please register with our parish to stay connected and be aware of all activities in our wonderful parish.

International Choir John the Baptist is looking for an enthusiastic pianist/keyboard player to assist from time to time in the international masses on the 1,3 and 5 Sundays of the month, and any additional Feast days. For more information, please contact Siobhan siobhankerr@yahoo.co.uk

Follow and like us on social media

Our church is also using social media for new and updates. Follow us on Instagram and Facebook as well our YouTube channel for livestreams and videos. If you like to join the communications team and help creating content in English, please send an email to CT@hjoannesdedoper.nl

God of Love Advent prayer

Your son, Jesus, is your greatest gift to us.

He is a sign of your love.

Help us walk in that love during the weeks of Advent,

As we wait and prepare for his coming.

We pray in the name of Jesus, our Savior.

Amen



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