



Newsletter



Joannes de Doper
a missionary parish in Hoofddorp



English speaking community

Issue March 2023



Message from Seminarist, John Christian Caberoy

My name is John Christian Caberoy, I am 23 years old and I come from the Philippines. Starting last September 2023, I live in St. Willibrord Grootseminarie in Heiloo, the Netherlands. I am a seminarist and I already had finished my Philosophical Studies and received a Bachelors degree in Philosophy in St. Francis Xavier College Seminary of the Archdiocese of Davao, Philippines. Now, I am now in my first year as a seminarist in this Diocese, but this is already the 5th year of my formation.

Currently, I am assigned at St. Johannes de Doper Kerk, Hoofddorp as an seminarist intern. Deacon Eugene Brussee asked me if I would want to be assigned in this place, and I said YES for this parish is somehow the start of my calling here in the Netherlands. Last 2018, during my vacation here in the Netherlands, I had the chance to meet Bp. Johannes Hendriks for the first time in this parish. He heard that I had a vocation for the priesthood and he gave me an option to start my study in the Willibrord seminary in Heiloo. But then, I preferred to go the seminary in my own country, because I thought it would be easier to study in an environment that is familiar.

However along the course of my formation, I had a change of heart and was able to accept the challenge of being a priest here in the Netherlands. Being away from the comfort of my own land is a challenging thing for you must adjust with the different culture, people, weather, and other unfamiliar things that you are used to. But, even amidst of these challenges, I am trusting of God's providence and guidance for He is the one who called me to be here.

My faith and vocation started with my family. My father is John and my mother is Christina, and I have two little sisters, Johanna and Janna. As a child we would go the parish every Sunday to attend mass. I remember joy of going to the church. What attracted me the most are the hymns in the mass, it made me active for it is pleasant to my ears and I wanted to sing through it, together with the people. I was not ashamed even though at times I just babble some words going through the music that I hear. As I grew up, my faith deepened, I came to understand more and more about the church. As I grew in faith, I was also able to see my vocation towards priesthood. My faith in God drives me all the way throughout my life as a Christian. It reminds me of my identity, of my being, and of the God who loves me. It helped me a lot to see more of the joy of this life, as well as of the lessons behind the trials that I experience. With my faith, I always try to hear more of God's calling, specially in this vocation to priesthood.

As Christians, we are called to be instruments of faith. We are to be the living witnesses of God's love and grace. Our words and actions are powerful for it may bring many people come to believe God. However, it is also by it that people may leave the church, through our misdeeds. Thus, as a Christian we should shed the light by being true to the word of the Lord, giving the people enough strength and hope to go on with their lives. And I think it can be good to start sowing these seeds of faith into our own families. Nurturing it on our children would be a great start. The children are the future of our church, therefore, let us strengthen our families by putting God as the center of it.



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Weekly Mass/Prayer Schedule

Saturdays

7:00 pm (Dutch)

Sundays

10:00 am (Dutch)

12:00 pm (English)

Tuesdays and Thursdays

18:45 Praying of the Rosary (Dutch)

19:15 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.

Calendar March 2024

March 29th Good Friday 15:00 Way of the Cross

March 29th Good Friday 19:00 Veneration of the Cross

March 30th 19:00 Children's Easter Vigil (Dutch)

March 30th 22:00 Easter Vigil (Dutch)

March 31st 12:00 Easter

Activities coming up

Lenten Prayer



During Lent we hold a meditation (in Dutch) at the 14 Stations of the Cross every Friday at 7 p.m. We walk the road together past all the stations, with a short reflection at each station. These meditations alternate with singing and prayer.

Reliquary of Saint Bernadette Soubirous



In 1858 14 years old Bernadette Soubirous saw an apparition of Mary in Lourdes. Through Bernadette, Mary called all to prayer, especially for the conversion of sinners. Throughout the month of April, a reliquary of Saint Bernadette Soubirous will tour all dioceses in the Netherlands.

You can visit see the Reliquary of Saint Bernadette Soubirous in these churches in our diocese:

H.Urbanuskerk – Amstelveen 5th of April

Heiligdom O.L.V. ter nood Heiloo 6th-8th April

The precise program can be found at the beginning of April on their websites as well as on the diocese's website: www.bisdonhaarlem-amsterdam.nl.

Information & Registration Parish

For all your questions and registration into our parish, please visit the office, located in the Parochiehuis next to the Church.

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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