



Onze Lieve Vrouwekerk

Keizersgracht 220
1016 DZ Amsterdam

September 2017



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info@olvkerk.nl



www.facebook.com/olvkerk
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Monthly Bulletin of the
Roman Catholic

Onze-Lieve- Vrouwekerk

Masses

Monday till Friday (Dutch)
12.15 - 19.30 Chapel
Saturday (Dutch)
19.00 Church
Sunday (Dutch)
11.15 Church
Sunday (English)
18.00 Church

Confession

Daily starting half an hour
before Holy Mass

Pastoral Word

The schools start again after the summer vacation. In September, we celebrate the birthday of Our Lady, the Mother of God and our Mother. We put the next season in her hands.

This year, for those who are interested, we want to pay attention to the formation of churchgoers and the deepening of our faith. We will have the children's catechism, a group for students, a group for young professionals and theology for older adults. We are also thinking of showing an inspiring movie once a month on Saturday night.

Of course, all these activities require enthusiastic volunteers. You can register as a volunteer by sending an email to info@olvkerk.nl. We are all responsible for the expansion of our church community. With your help, we will reach many more people who are open to the gospel of Jesus. The primary task of the priests is to care for the spiritual life of the churchgoers. Thanks in advance for your cooperation.

Rafael Ojeda, rector

Family Announcements

Baptized:

Eric Aron son of Floriana and Edwin Sieswerda-Cristea on August 26,
Guus van Waardenburg as adult, baptized and confirmed on August 27.

During the summer, the following couples married or will be getting married shortly:

Nicki Janna Francisca Verweij and Niels Pouw,
Eva Maria Renée Petra Lemmens and Pieter Christiaan Van Der Meyde,
Krystal Moody and Christian Howarth,
Natalia Maria Kaleta and Hendrik Klaas Schraa,
Patricia Rodrigues Ribeiro and Vitor Ayres Angelelli,
Dorota Szalas and Alessio Amatucci,
Valeria Vallejo Gómez and Indra Susanto Muller,
Sabina Rafaelievna Martirossian and Vittorio Bevilacqua,
Lilian Rocío Reyes González and Andrés Ortiz Gómez,
Claudia De Armas and Lars Albers,
Cassandra Adamofsky and Florian Schenkel,
Patricia Delgado Cascarejo and Luis Felipe Murcia Ocampo.

The following couples announced that they are getting married in the following months:

Julia Wagner and Owen Zachariasse,
Ambra Scimone and Roberto Pagano,
Florencia Juin and Jorg Regoort,
Nicole Gastaibert and Juan Manuel Sánchez,
Inez Johanna and Michael Gomes.

Liturgical Calendar

Date			Time
Fr 1 Sep	1 st Friday of the month	Mass in Dutch in the Chapel	12.15
		Mass in Dutch in the Chapel and adoration	19.30
Su 3 Sep	22 nd Ordinary Sunday	Mass in Dutch in the Church <i>International Mass in English</i> <i>in the Church</i>	11.15 18.00
Fr 8 Sep	Birth of Mary	Mass in Dutch in the Chapel	12.15 19.30

Su 10 Sep	23rd Ordinary Sunday	Mass in Dutch in the Church <i>International Mass in English in the Church</i>	11.15 18.00
Tu 12 Sep	Holy Name of Mary	Mass in Dutch in the Chapel Mass in Dutch in the Chapel	12.15 19.30
Th 14 Sep	Feast of Exaltation of the Holy Cross	Mass in Dutch in the Chapel	12.15 19.30
Su 17 Sep	24th Ordinary Sunday	Mass in Dutch in the Church <i>International Mass in English in the Church</i>	11.15 18.00
Th 21 Sep	St Matthew Apostle	Mass in Dutch in the Chapel	12.00 19.30
Su 24 Sep	25th Ordinary Sunday	Mass in Dutch in the Church <i>International Mass in English in the Church</i>	11.15 18.00
Fr 29 Sep	Feast of the Archangels	Mass in Dutch in the Chapel Mass in Dutch in the Chapel	11.15 19.30
Su 1 Oct	26th Ordinary Sunday	Mass in Dutch in the Church <i>International Mass in English in the Church</i>	11.15 18.00

Monthly Family and Friends Snack & Get-Together

Kindly be reminded that the Parish organizes on the 1st Sunday of every month, after the 18:00 Mass, a get together where all the families and friends of our community are more than welcome. The next ones take place on: 3 September, 1 October and 5 November. Save the date! Should you wish to be informed about the activities organized by the Get Together Team and/or to join the team?

Kindly contact Rita Pennisi at ritapennisi81@gmail.com or Maria Cecilia Martina at martina.catechesisolv@gmail.com

Looking for volunteers

Volunteers for assisting with different tasks and activities at our International Mass are welcome and needed! At present, we need more for volunteers to join the choir, as well as volunteers to assist with the monthly family snack after the Mass. We are also looking for volunteers for reading at Mass. Please contact info@olvkerk.nl

9 Bible Verses That Will Help You Discern God's Will for Your Life (5)

At the beginning of this year, we started the new column on discerning God's will in my life. We have gathered a few tips from the Daughters of Saint Paul, Scripture and a prayer for discernment from the Sisters of Mount Carmel. Before you begin the process of discernment, you should know two things: God always wants us to be

happy because He loves us. He also knows that only that which helps us grow in holiness will lead us to true happiness. And second: Discernment of God's will and plan usually involves a decision between two good choices. To discern between two goods is to choose the best option of the two.



Now invite the Holy Spirit to direct your prayer through the following scripture:

“But the seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop.” Luke 8, 4-15

“While a large crowd was gathering and people were coming to Jesus from town

after town, he told this parable: “A farmer went out to sow his seed. As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path; it was trampled on, and the birds ate it up. Some fell on rocky ground, and when it came up, the plants withered because they had no moisture. Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up with it and choked the plants. Still other seed fell on good soil. It came up and yielded a crop, a hundred times more than was sown.”

When he said this, he called out, “Whoever has ears to hear, let them hear.”

His disciples asked him what this parable meant. He said, “The knowledge of the secrets of the kingdom of God has been given to you, but to others I speak in parables, so that,

‘though seeing, they may not see;

though hearing, they may not understand.’

“This is the meaning of the parable: The seed is the word of God. Those along the path are the ones who hear, and then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved. Those on the rocky ground are the ones who receive the word with joy when they hear it, but they have no root. They believe for a while, but in the time of testing they fall away. The seed that fell among thorns stands for those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by life's worries, riches and pleasures, and they do not mature. But the seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop.”

Remember, there is no need to rush. Choose a quiet place to listen to God through His Word to help you discover where he is leading you. Discernment takes time and a lot of listening. Be patient and trust that the Lord only wants what is best for you.

A Prayer for Discernment: Loving and gracious God, you have led me to desire your will, which often seems beyond my knowing. Yet I know that you, who love me unconditionally, will continue to place in my heart a desire to follow in the footsteps

of your Son Jesus, who asks me to be His hands and feet, eyes and heart, in the midst of Your daughters and sons. I want so much to love as Jesus loves and to serve in whichever way You desire for me.

Grant me the desire to be still in Your presence so that Your Spirit can speak to my heart. May I respond with open hands and heart to Your calling, wherever You may lead. Grant the courage to say with Mary "yes" to You in all things, and may I have the passionate zeal of Your prophet Elijah. In gratitude, with Your grace, all of my life will be lived for the bringing about of Your reign on earth and for Your honour and glory. Amen.

Marriage Course in English, September - October 2017



Amsterdam is quite an international city and it is important to think of those who come from other countries when it comes to prepare marriage. This course brings the participants in touch with married couples who share their experiences and help them not only prepare the wedding but to think about your future married life.

You are welcome to apply for this course:

Wednesday Evenings from 20.00 to 22.00 hours, Saturday Afternoons from 15.00 to 17.00 hours. Keizersgracht 218 B, 1016 DZ Amsterdam. € 100 the couple.

Wednesdays, September 20th, 27th, October 4th and 11th;

Saturdays, September 30th and October 14th.

To apply and for more information: Fr. Rafael Ojeda 06-18519647, rector@olvkerk.nl

Pilgrimage to Kevelaer

In this year of Fatima, the whole family can go on pilgrimage to Kevelaer. The Pilgrimage takes place on Saturday October 28, 2017.

Departure is at 8:30am from the Westermarkt. The Eucharist is sung in the basilica at 12:00. From 11:15am there is the possibility to confess. Lunch is from 2pm to 3pm in St. Antonius. At 4:00pm Praise and Rosary prayer. Departure from Kevelaer at 5:30pm. Arrival back in Amsterdam around 8:00pm.

Participation is € 25 per adult, children up to 12 years € 10. This amount must be paid in cash in the bus. In the back of the church are leaflets to register. E-mail is also possible: info@olvkerk.nl



Is missing Mass on Sunday a mortal sin?

By Katrina Fernandez on Aleteia.org, August 24, 2017



Declaring otherwise in comboxes and on social media should leave us with much to consider about our own pride and authority.

“Missing Mass is NOT a mortal sin!”

Every time I write on the topic of not going to Mass, I invariably see that response, or something similar. In comments and emails, Catholics insist that missing Mass is not a mortal sin.

The frequency with which this happens is heartbreaking. It’s tragic that even one Catholic believes this, but it’s utterly devastating that — according to the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA) at Georgetown — only 23 percent of Catholics regularly attend Mass once a week. That means that most weeks, a whopping 77 percent of Catholics do not attend Sunday Mass.

Folks, it’s in the Ten Commandments: “Remember keep holy the Lord’s Day.”

Of course if you are cripplingly ill or your car breaks down, or your children are small and ill, and you have absolutely no family or friends who can watch your children for an hour or give you a ride to church and you just got robbed so you can’t afford cab fare ... then, yes, the first statement would apply. Outstanding circumstances aside, let it be stated for all those with eyes to read: missing Mass actually *is* a mortal sin.

Having a slight headache, over-sleeping, being too tired, not having anything clean to wear, Jimmy's soccer game, I'll go next week, God loves me so He'll understand ... none, and I mean NONE, of these reasons is a good enough reason (that last one isn't even a true enough reason) to willfully turn our backs on our obligation as Catholics or to ignore God's commandment, says every Church authority everywhere.

[Catechism 2181] The Sunday Eucharist is the foundation and confirmation of all Christian practice. For this reason the faithful are obliged to participate in the Eucharist on days of obligation, unless excused for a serious reason (for example, illness, the care of infants) or dispensed by their own pastor. Those who deliberately fail in this obligation commit a grave sin.

Missing Sunday Mass is a mortal sin. Period, full stop. When people declare otherwise, they are spreading soul-afflicting misinformation to other human beings. They should stop a minute and consider the Commandment, and whether they have the authority to counter it, or are just being prideful.

Then consider what the world would be like if the Mass were not so readily available to all of us.

Consider that, while so many shrug off this obligation so lightly, there is this story about a legless woman in Africa who crawls 2.5 miles to attend Mass.

Consider, while we hate feeling obliged when we would rather read the paper, that this priest bikes for hours in stifling desert heat to bring the Eucharist to his patiently waiting flock.

Consider what it is you're saying "no" to.

It breaks my heart to see our duty to attend Mass so passively dismissed and the graveness of the matter so trivialized. The liturgy and the Eucharist are the summit of our worship and the source from which all graces flow. Why, oh why, would you not want to go to Mass and why would you *dare* to encourage others not to go? Jesus is *there*, truly Present at the Mass! In the Flesh! We should be flinging ourselves against the doors of the church to get in, not making excuses for staying home.

Just go to Mass. *Go*. Jesus is there, in the Flesh. Really, and truly. He's waiting for you.

Anointment of the Sick & H. Communion

If you would like to receive at home the Anointment of the Sick or the Holy Communion, please contact one of the priests.

Baptism of Children

All information for the preparatory course Baptism for parents and godparents is provided by father Rafael Ojeda, rector@olvkerk.nl or 020 2400 803.

Collection and church contributions

The church collection during the last month resulted in € 2.171,49. We warmly thank you for your support. You can transfer your church contribution to our bank account, as mentioned beside.

Mass Intentions

You can use the corresponding form that is located in the back of the church and in the meeting centre in order to request a particular Mass intention. In the form it is indicated how you can make a contribution.

Catechesis for Children

Our church has an attractive program for children of different ages. The lessons take place every Sunday at 17:00 right before the 18:00 Mass. Kindly contact Rector R. Ojeda or Maria Cecilia Martina, tel. 06 52 541 481 who coordinates the classes.

Weekly Eucharistic Adoration

The Adoration takes place from Thursday 11.00 hrs until Friday 19.15. For more information, please contact Mrs. Gerda Hoogland, tel. 06 27 286 632 or email gerda.hoogland@live.nl

Bank

Onze-Lieve-Vrouwekerk
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Thank you for your support.

Contact

Priests

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Fr. W.J.G.A. Veth
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Fr. J. A. Núñez
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The pastoral care of Onze-Lieve-Vrouwekerk is entrusted to priests of the Prelature of Opus Dei.

Confidant

Mrs. Iris Maas-Bremer
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Catechesis for Children

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