



# CATHERINE PROGRAMME SUMMER SCHOOL 2026

**We invite you to be part of the 19th  
Catherine Programme Summer School**

The Catherine Programme Summer School 2026 will take place from Sunday 23th of August to Saturday 29th of August in The Netherlands.



2026

The Catherine Programme helps to do one's work more inspired and more in line with what is in the heart of the organisation:

**the love of Jesus Christ, and the care for those who are in need.**



## BACKGROUND



The Salvation Army is an organisation that is one in its kind. It is a movement that is a church and an organisation for social work. It has members and employees. It is worldwide, working in more than 130 countries with all kinds of differences and yet one strong identity and culture with a long-standing tradition since 1865.

For those who recently have taken up or are preparing to take up the position as an officer and for those who work as an employee in a key-position, it is necessary to know about this background of The Salvation Army. It helps to do one's work more inspired and more in line with what is in the heart of the organisation: the love of Jesus Christ, and the care for those who are in need.

The Catherine Programme Summer School offers lectures with an introduction in history, doctrine and social work of The Salvation Army. These lectures take place in an international atmosphere in which the meeting of one another, and the 'learning together' are important. Beside the sharing of knowledge, in the Summer School much emphasis is placed on the calling of the participant, be it as an officer or as an employee.

The first Catherine Programme took place in February 2007 in Basel. Nowadays yearly more than 80 participants from about 15 countries come together for this Summer School. The Catherine Programme is named after 'the Army mother' Catherine Booth who emphasised the importance of studying.

## MISSION AND AIM OF THE PROGRAMME

The Catherine Programme provides grounding in The Salvation Army identity and mission for officers (in training), salvationists and employees in leading positions. The Catherine Programme Summer School (CPSS) fulfils this Catherine Programme mission by teaching Salvation Army subjects as history, theology, and practical ministry, within an European Salvation Army setting. The Catherine Programme is named after 'the Army mother' Catherine Booth-Mumford who emphasised the importance of studying alongside hands-on work.

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## PARTICIPANTS

The Catherine Programme Summer School is specifically intended for:

- » Accepted Candidates;
- » First and Second years Cadets;
- » Lieutenants;
- » Officers wishing to refresh their knowledge of TSA (participation of AC only is possible);
- » Salvationists in short-term full-time or employed ministries like Envoys, Sergeants, Auxiliary Lieutenants and Auxiliary Captains;
- » People within The Salvation Army in a leadership role or in a key position in which a broad knowledge of the movement in Europe is necessary.

Participants come from one of the territories in the Europe Zone, although guests from other Zones can be welcomed as well.



## TWO COURSES

The CPSS includes a Basic Course and an Advanced Course. Only participants who have previously attended the Basic Course can participate in the Advanced Course.

### BASIC COURSE (BC)

#### **The Salvation Army mandate and mission**

- » My relationship with TSA
- » Aspects from the history of TSA:
  - General overview,
  - How TSA became international,
  - Symbols and rituals,
  - Women in TSA, and
  - Latest developments in TSA today
- » Introduction into the doctrines of TSA
- » Key elements of the theology of Social Work
- » Visit to TSA social institutions in the Netherlands
- » Form & Essence
- » Dealing with ethical questions

### ADVANCED COURSE (AC)

#### **Reviewing the mission of The Salvation Army in the light of today**

- » Cultural changes in today's society
- » Language of the (he)art
- » Ecclesiology and TSA in the Body of Christ
- » Form & Essence
- » Social Justice
- » Visit to TSA social institutions in the Netherlands
- » Salvationist Expression of Spirituality
- » Leadership in mission
- » Visionaries if TSA

## LECTURERS

Every year several of the best The Salvation Army speakers are invited to give lectures in the Summer School. Their names will be published in CP-Online. Some of the lectures will be given by members of the Catherine Programme Committee.



## VENUE

The Summer School of 2026 will be held at **The Salvation Army 50|50 Hotel and Conference Centre Belmont** in Ede, near the village of Lunteren in the middle of the Netherlands.

This hotel has a Salvation Army atmosphere and is in a rural and wooded area.

[www.5050-belmont.nl](http://www.5050-belmont.nl)



## ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE

All delegates take part in the complete programme.

**The arrival** is on Sunday afternoon 23th of August before 17:00 hour.

**The Departure** is on Friday 28th of August after 21:00 hour, or on Saturday 29th of August before 10:00 hour.

All questions regarding your stay at the hotel must be sent to **[catherine.programme@legerdesheils.nl](mailto:catherine.programme@legerdesheils.nl)**. Do not contact hotel Belmont directly.

That Saturday morning the CPC provides for shuttle busses to Schiphol Airport and or Ede-Wageningen train station for € 40,- per person.

**It is not possible to arrive earlier or stay longer in Belmont.**

## ACCOMPANYING SPOUSES OR CHILDREN

Couples can **only** apply and stay in Belmont when both spouses are attending the Summer School. There is no accommodation for children.

## LANGUAGE

The main language used at the CPSS is English. It is the responsibility of each territory to arrange translation for participants who are unable to follow the lectures in English. As far as possible, group work and discussions will take place in language groups.

## DRESS CODE

On specified occasions Salvationists are required to wear summer uniform, and other delegates smart clothing. During lectures participants wear recognisable branded Salvation Army clothing.

## FINANCE

The fee for the course is € 895,-. This includes full board and lodging during the course, an excursion, teaching materials and administrative costs. Travelling to and from Belmont is not included in this fee.

In a spirit of solidarity, we ask financially independent territories with moderate travelling costs to the Netherlands (at present Switzerland, Germany, and the Netherlands) to pay an additional € 100,- per delegate, thereby reducing the costs for participants from the Southern European territories and Eastern European regions with € 100,-.

For this price participants share a room with one other participant. Participants can indicate with whom they want to share room.

In case someone wants to have a single room for whatever reason, an extra € 350,- will be charged for that participant.

The fee for a translator is € 545,-.  
Translators have a single room free of charge.



## CANCELLATION

When a participant withdraws from participation during the months June and July a territory still pays half a fee.

When a participant withdraws from participation during the month August or does not show up at the Summer School a territory still pays the full fee.

A territory can replace a withdrawn participant by an other new participant. In that case it is not necessary to pay an extra fee.

Fees are charged by the Catherine Programme Committee to the territories through the C-account at IHQ after the Summer School. No other way of paying is possible.

## APPLICATION PROCEDURE

The selection of delegates for the CPSS is the responsibility of Leadership of the Territory in correspondence with their Training Leader. Selected participants fill in an on-line application. The link to the online form will be available from the Leadership and/or Training Leader(s) in every territory.

Participants will be placed in the CPSS in order of receipt of the applications. When the maximum capacity has been reached, participants will be placed on a waiting list. The Catherine Programme Committee does not make reservations.

**Sending in applications is possible from 1 March till 1 June.**

## TEACHING MATERIALS AND E-MAIL

All correspondence will be done by e-mail. Participants receive an account for CP-Online. All information about CPSS, on-line resources and the hand-outs of the lectures can be found in it.

Participants are advised to bring their own laptop or tablet to the CPSS.

## PREPARATION

If you come to CPSS, you gain more from it when you prepare well by doing some reading in advance. This preparation is described in the Catherine Programme Summer School Study Guide 2026 that will be shared with the Training Leaders and with all participants.

## REFLECTION REPORT

Participants in both courses are invited to write a reflection report, containing reflections on books read, lectures heard and impressions throughout the programme. Those participants who wrote a sufficient reflection will receive a certificate for this. Some territories or may make this obligatory for (some of) their participants.

## CERTIFICATE

All participants will receive a Certificate of Attendance.





[www.catherine-programme.eu](http://www.catherine-programme.eu)

## ORGANISATION

The Catherine Programme Summer School is organised by the Catherine Programme Committee (CPC).

On the site [www.catherine-programme.eu](http://www.catherine-programme.eu) more information can be found, like the names of the CPC members.

Correspondence with CPC can be done through: [catherine.programme@legerdesheils.nl](mailto:catherine.programme@legerdesheils.nl)

