

**First place of worship of the Virgin Mary, north of the Alps. Enormous flower decorations, flags and lights.
Two years of preparation by hundreds of voluntary workers.
Septennial festivities.
3000 participants.
10 000 m² parking area.
500 000 visitors.**

The Septennial Coronation Celebration

The grandest procession in Belgium

Tongeren, cradle of christianity and first sanctuary of the Holy Virgin invites you to the coronation celebration of the miraculous statue “Causa Nostrae Laetitiae”. The showing of the treasure of relics is a revival of a sixteenhundred year old tradition of Holy Virgin Worship.

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5 - 7 – 10 – 12 July

The Septennial Coronation Celebration

Already for centuries, Tongeren has had a profound devotion for the Virgin Mary. The legend tells us that Saint Maternus built a church here in the fourth century A.D., "Prima cis Alpes Beatae Virgini consecrata" or the first church at this side of the Alps that was devoted to the Virgin Mary.

In Tongeren from the 14th century onwards, every seven years the relics were displayed during 16 days. From July 2 on, the Wednesday after the Celebration of Our Lady Visitation, the relics were shown to the pilgrims who came here. It was probably Rodolf van den Beek who organised the first septennial display of relics in 1390. This took place in the central gallery of the tower. In 1608, the date of the pilgrimage was modified. The starting date was changed into July 11, the displays lasted for fourteen days and were concluded with a solemn procession in which the relics were carried around the church. The last pilgrimage was in 1790. The French occupier did not allow the display of relics anymore.

During the procession the reliquaries, that were given to the Church of Our Lady through the ages, were and are still carried.

The showpieces of the Tongeren treasure of relics are the relic of the Holy Cross from the second half of the 12th century, with a piece from the cross, and a reliquary from the first half of the 14th century, containing a fragment of the veil of the Virgin Mary.

On June 22, 1479 the chapter granted the Brotherhood of Our Lady the privilege to order a new altar and a statue of the Virgin Mary for that altar. The statue, depicting Mary as "Cause of Our Joy" is cut from walnut, is 1.60 m high and weighs 70 kg.

In her right hand, the Mother of God holds a bunch of grapes, which she offers to her Son. The Divine Child on her left hand has a grape between his left thumb and index finger. The head of Our Lady is decorated with long locks of hair, pushed back at the temples and hanging down on her right shoulder and the middle of her back. We still do not know who made the statue.

At the end of the 19th century, the Roman Catholic Church had a special devotion to the Virgin Mary, which was demonstrated by the coronation of statues of the Virgin. On May 20, 1889 the Bishop of Liège filed a written request with Pope Leo XIII to crown the statue in Tongeren. In his letter of September 10, 1889 the Pope granted the request and entrusted Monsignor Doutreloux with the solemn coronation.

The Coronation was celebrated on Sunday August 31, 1890. After the celebration, for the first time the Coronation Procession went through the decorated streets and squares of the town. That is the origin of the Coronation Celebrations. The inhabitants of Tongeren found this to be the ideal occasion to go back to the earlier septennial pilgrimages. Up until now, every seven years the Coronation procession is organised in Tongeren. Only in 1918, because of the First world war, the procession could not take place.

Over the years, the septennial Coronation Celebrations evolved into an event that is known far beyond the boundaries of our country. In 2002 the oldest town of Belgium welcomed more than 500,000 visitors during the celebration week.

Already in 2005, the inhabitants of Tongeren started with the preparations of the first coronation celebrations of this century and this millennium. More than 3,000 inhabitants of Tongeren (of a grand total of 30,000) will participate in the Coronation procession and the evening play on a large stage on the Market Place of Tongeren, four times during the coronation week.

During both manifestations, the life of the Virgin Mary and Christ is depicted in a devote way.

The 18 group leaders take care of their participants, clothing, music, carts and choreography. It is customary for the participants to pay for their own procession gown.

Apart from the 3,000 extras, hundreds of other people will also walk on while praying. They form the group 'The praying people' and accompany a large treasure of relics. This group clearly points to the origin of the Coronation festivities in the 17th century.

The high point of the 2009 Coronation festivities will take place during the week from 5 to and including 12 July 2009. The Coronation procession will pass through the streets of Tongeren four times: on Sunday 5 and 12 July at 3.00 p.m. and on Tuesday 7 and Friday 10 July at 7 p.m. On these four days an evening play will take place at 10.30 p.m. at the Tongeren Grote Markt.

Using the authentic texts from the Gospel supported by a huge sound and light installation, the story of the procession will be acted out from a large platform during the evening play. This event in the shadow of the basilica tower and in the historic framework of the Town Hall and the statue of Ambiorix is for the thousands of visitors also the apotheosis of their Coronation day in Tongeren. The Coronation procession and the Coronation evening play can be attended free of charge, but tribune places for the procession and seats for the evening play can now be reserved.

Apart from the religious aspect of the Coronation festivities, a cultural component is clearly likewise present. Thus, not only are various songs performed during the procession and evening play, but there are also numerous activities.

On both Sundays 5 and 12 July 2009 there is a celebration of a Pontifical High Mass at 10 a.m. This is accompanied by the Coronation choir formed specially for the occasion from among members of various Groot Tongeren choirs. Several Coronation songs will be heard. The Kleine Cantorij will perform the new Coronation Mass composed by Kurt Bikkembergs.

Tuesday 7 July is the Third Age Day and Thursday 9 July the Youth Day.

In addition, different concerts will take place during the Coronation year as well as performances and exhibitions, including organ recitals played on the Le Picard organ. The rich historic past of Tongeren and the decorated town invite tourists to make a history or decoration tour.

2009 – the 17th Coronation festivities. The second Coronation festivities of this century and millennium. The massive participation of the Tongeren population. The Coronation procession, the grandest procession of Belgium. The splendidly decorated and most ancient town of Belgium. The fact that the procession and the evening play can be attended free of charge, will undoubtedly be powerful arguments which will cause you to decide to come to Tongeren in 2009.

We bid you very hearty welcome!

Itinerary of the Virgin Mary Procession

Sunday 5th July 2009 at 3 pm

Leopoldwal, Edmond Jaminéstraat, Stationsplein, Stationslaan, 18^{de} Oogstwal, 11^{de} Novemberwal, Sint-Maternuswal, Pliniuswal, Eeuwfeestwal, Sint-Truiderstraat, Grote Markt, Graanmarkt, Basiliek



Tuesday 7th July 2009 at 7 pm

Leopoldwal, 18^{de} Oogstwal, 11^{de} Novemberwal, Sint-Maternuswal, Pliniuswal, Hemelingenstraat, Maastrichterstraat, De Schiervelstraat, Predikherenstraat, Ridderstraat, Piepelpoel, Vrijthof, Basiliek



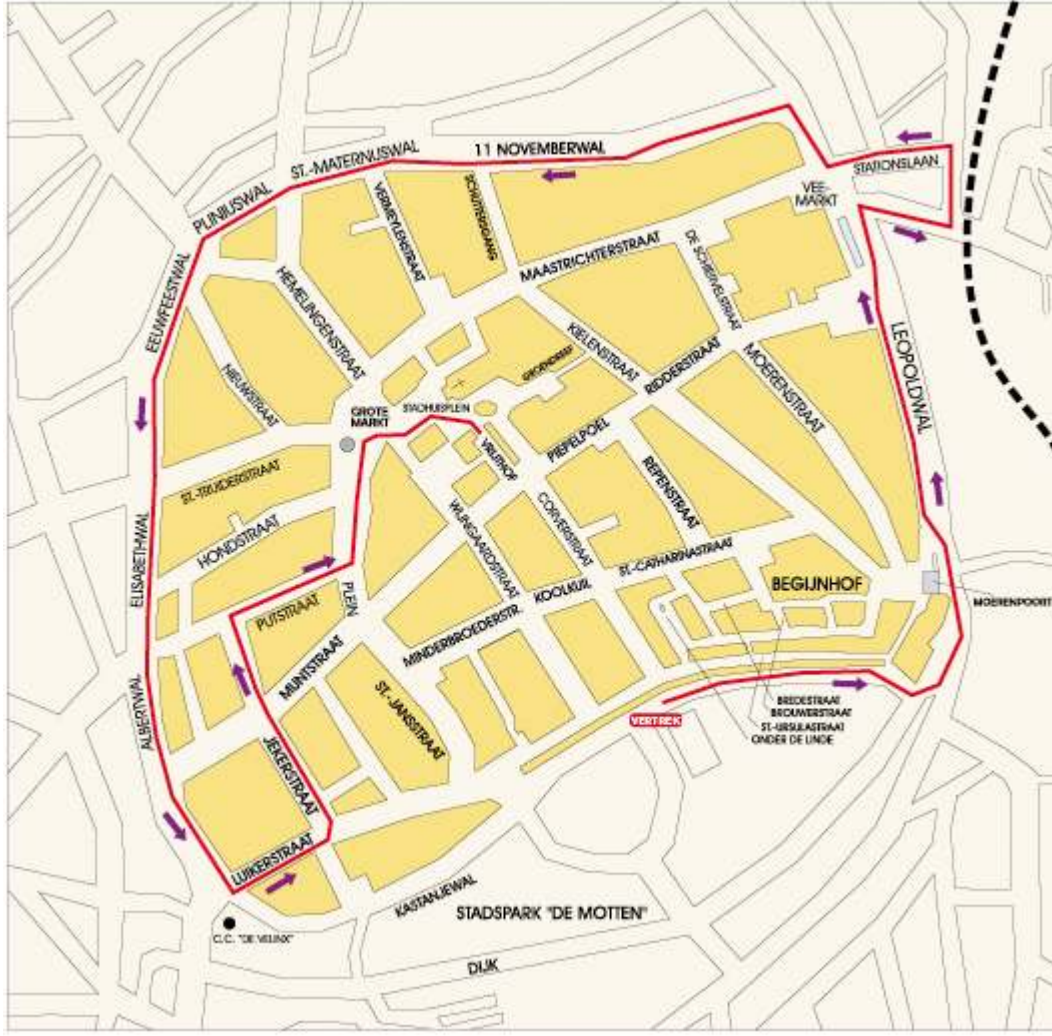
Friday 10 th july 2009

Leopoldwal, Maastrichterstraat, De Schiervelstraat, Predikherenstraat, Kielenstraat, Sint-Catharinastraat, Koolkuil, Minderbroederstraat, Sint-Jansstraat, Looierstraat, Jekerstraat, Putstraat, Plein, Momberstraat, Piepelpoel, Vrijthof, Basiliek



Sunday 12th July 2009

Leopoldwal, Edmond Jaminéstraat, Stationsplein, Stationslaan, 18^{de} Oogstwal, 11^{de} Novemberwal, Sint-Maternuswal, Pliniuswal, Eeuwfeestwal, Elisabethwal, Albertwal, Luikerstraat, Jekerstraat, Putstraat, Plein, Grote Markt, Graanmarkt, Basiliek



Coronation Celebrations Program

Saturday 4th july 2009

- * **7.00 pm: Carillon Concert**
 - Mr Mathieu Lenaerts
 - Venue: the town market place
- * **8.30 pm: The Crucible**
 - American drama
 - Performers: TNT
 - Venue: the Church of the Beguinage
- * **the decorated streets are festively lighted at night.**

Sunday 5th july 2009

- * **10.00 am: Pontifical mass**
 - celebrated by Monseigneur Patrick Hoogmartens, Bishop of Hasselt.
 - Creation of the Missa Festis Coronaminis B.M.V. from Mr. Kurt Bikkembergs. Sung by the "Choral society of Coronation" and " De Kleine Cantorij " conducted by Mr. Jan Peeters
 - Orgue: Luc Ponet
 - Venue: The Basilica of Our Lady
 - retransmitted on line by the Belgian and Dutch television
- * **11.00 am: Showing of the relics**
 - Blessing with the large relic of the Holy Cross
 - Sung by the "Choral society of Coronation" conducted by Mr. Jan Peeters
 - Venue: The Basilica of Our Lady
- * **12.00 am: Pilgrims' mass**
 - Venue: The Basilica of Our Lady
- * **3.00 pm: Procession of the Virgin Mary**
 - Will take part in this procession:
 - Monseigneur Patrick Hoogmartens, Bishop of Hasselt
 - Monseigneur Heinrich Mussinghoff , Bishop of Aken (germany)
 - Monseigneur Aloys Jousten, Bishop of Liège
 - Monseigneur Philip Dickmans, Bishop of Miracema do Tocantins (Brazil)
 - Monseigneur Johan Bonny, Bishop of Antwerpen
 - Monseigneur Everard De Jong, Assistant Bishop of (Netherlands)
 - Monseigneur Jozef De Kesel, Assistant Bishop of Mechelen and Brussels
 - Monseigneur Paul Lanneau, Honorary Assistant Bishop of Mechelen and Brussels
 - Monseigneur Luc De Hovre, Honorary Assistant Bishop of Mechelen and Brussels
 - Monseigneur Jan De Bie, Honorary Assistant Bishop of Mechelen and Brussels
 - Abbot Gerard Van Malderen, Benedictijnen Dendermonde
 - Abbot Rik De Wit, of Affligem
 - Abbot Jeroen De Cuyper, of Tongerlo
 - Brother Erik-Godfried Feys, of Steenbrugge
 - Sister Trees Goetghebuer, of Lozen
 - Sister Roos Peeters, of Leopoldsburg
 - Canon Jaak Janssen, General Vicar of the diocese of Hasselt
 - Canon Karel D'Huys, episcopal Vicar of the diocese of Hasselt

- Canon Marcel Vermeulen, Honorary General Vicar of the diocese of Hasselt
 - Canon Lambert Vanherk, Honorary General Vicar of the diocese of Hasselt
 - Canon Rik Palmans, Honorary Vicar of the diocese of Hasselt
 - Canon Piet Vanormelingen, Honorary Vicar of the diocese of Hasselt
 - Canon Felix Rijcken
 - Canon Adelin Vanmarsenille
 - Canon Herman Moors
 - Canon Guido Honnay
 - Mr Kris Buckinx, episcopal delegate of the diocese of Hasselt
 - Committee Virga-Jessefeesten of Hasselt
 - Foundation "Het Graf van Sint-Servaas of Maastricht"
 - Foundation "Heiligdomsvaart of Susteren"
 - Trade Guild Sint-Servaas of Maastricht
- * **5.30 pm: Carillon Concert**
 - Mr. Mathieu Lenaerts
 - Venue: the town market place
- * **6.00 pm: Pilgrims' mass**
 - Venue: The Basilica of Our Lady
- * **8.00 pm: Fioretti**
 - **Religious play performed in open air.**
 - Venue: in the open air "Onder de Linde" in the Beguinage
 - Free access
- * **10.30pm: Open-air play of the Virgin Mary**
 - Venue: in the open air on the town market place
- * **the decorated streets are festively lighted at night.**

Monday 6th July 2009

- * **2.30 pm: Pilgrims' mass**
 - Venue: The Basilica of Our Lady
- * **7.00 pm: Carillon Concert**
 - Mr. Mathieu Lenaerts
 - Venue: the town market place
- * **8.00 pm: Organ Recital**
 - Venue: The Basilica of Our Lady
- * **8.00 pm: Fioretti**
 - **Religious play performed in open air.**
 - Venue: in the open air "Onder de Linde" in the Beguinage
 - Free access
- * **8.30 pm: The Crucible**
 - American drama
 - Performers: TNT
 - Venue: the Church of the Beguinage
- * **the decorated streets are festively lighted at night.**

Tuesday 7th July 2009

Day of the third age

- * **2.30 pm: Pontifical mass**
 - celebrated by Monseigneur Philip Dickmans, Bishop of Miracema do Tocantins (Brazil)
 - Sung by the "Choral society of Coronation", conducted by Mr. Jan Peeters
 - Orgue: Luc Ponet
 - Venue: The Basilica of Our Lady
- * **4.30 pm: Showing of the relics**
 - Blessing with the large relic of the Holy Cross

- Sung by the "Choral society of Coronation", conducted by Mr. Jan Peeters
- Venue: The Basilica of Our Lady
- * **7.00 pm: Procession of the Virgin Mary**
Will take part in this procession:
 - Monseigneur Patrick Hoogmartens, Bishop of Hasselt
 - Monseigneur Philip Dickmans, Bishop of Miracema do Tocantins (Brazil)
 - Abbot Erik De Sutter, of Grimbergen
 - Canon Augustin Champagne, Episcopal Vicar of the diocese of Hasselt
 - Canon Karel D’Huys, Episcopal Vicar of the diocese of Hasselt
 - Canon Rik Palmans, Honorary Vicar of the diocese of Hasselt
 - Canon Guido Plessers
 - Canon Bart Coenegrachts
 - Mr Kris Buckinx, episcopal delegate of the diocese of Hasselt
- * **10.30 pm: Open-air play of the Virgin Mary**
- Venue: in the open air on the town market place
- * **the decorated streets are festively lighted at night**

Wednesday 8th July 2009

- Day of the sick and the disabled
- * **2.00 pm: Pontifical mass**
- celebrated by Monseigneur Patrick Hoogmartens, Bishop of Hasselt
- Sung by the "Zingende Maagden"
- Orgue: Luc Ponet
- Venue: The Basilica of Our Lady
 - * **3.30 pm: Get-together**
- for sick and disabled persons
- Venue: Concordia
 - * **7.00 pm: Carillon Concert**
- Mr. Mathieu Lenaerts
- Venue: the town market place
 - * **7.00 pm: World Wide Passion :**
- campfire evening for young people
- Venue: VIO Humaniora Sint- Truidersteenweg
 - * **8.00 pm: The story of God, from Eve to Mary**
- performers : Tevona Band conducted by Mrs Ingrid Wijnen
- Texts : Mr. Tinus Moors
- Venue: The Basilica of Our Lady
 - * **8.00 pm: Fioretti**
- Religious play performed in open air.
- Venue: in the open air "Onder de Linde" in the Beguinage
- Free access
 - * **8.30 pm: The Crucible**
- American drama
- Performers: TNT
- Venue: the Church of the Beguinage
 - * **the decorated streets are festively lighted at night.**

Thursday 9th July 2009

- * **11.00 am: multicultural play without limits**
- * **02.00 pm: The World market**
- Venue: in the open air on the market town
- * **5.00 am: apotheosis multicultural play without limits**
- Venue: in the open air on the market town

- * **5.30 pm: youth celebration**
 - celebrated by Monseigneur Philip Dickmans, Bishop of Miracema do Tocantins (Brazil)
 - Venue: The Basilica of Our Lady
- * **8.00 pm: Clochard**
 - Folk music
 - Venue: in the open air on the market town
- * **8.00 pm: Fioretti**
 - Religious play performed in open air.
 - Place in the open air “Onder de Linde” in the Beguinage
 - Free access
- * **8.30 pm: The Crucible**
 - American drama
 - Performers: TNT
 - Venue: the Church of the Beguinage
- * **9.30 pm: Scala – Paper Plane**
 - Performers : Scala conducted by the Kolacny Brothers
 - Venue: in the open air on the market town
- * **the decorated streets are festively lighted at night.**

Friday 10th July 2009

- * **2.30 pm: Pilgrims’ mass**
 - Venue: The Basilica of Our Lady
- * **7.00 pm: Procession of the Virgin Mary**
 - Will take part in this procession:
 - Prince Filip en Prinscess Mathilde
 - Monseigneur Patrick Hoogmartens, Bishop of Hasselt
 - Monseigneur André-Mutien Léonard, Bishop of Namen
 - Monseigneur Frans Wiertz, Bishop of Roermond (Netherlands)
 - Monseigneur Philip Dickmans, Bishop of Miracema do Tocantins (Brazil)
 - Monseigneur Pierre Warin, Assistant Bishop of Namen
 - Canon Karel D’Huys, Episcopal Vicar of the diocese of Hasselt
 - Canon Rik Palmans, Honorary Vicar of the diocese of Hasselt
 - Canon Lambert Vanherk, Honorary General Vicar of the diocese of Hasselt
 - Canon Bart Coenegrachts
 - Marcel Jans, Honorary vice Vicar of the diocese of Hasselt
 - Mr Kris Buckinx, episcopal delegate of the diocese of Hasselt
- * **10.30pm: Open-air play of the Virgin Mary**
 - Venue: in the open air on the town market place
- * **the decorated streets are festively lighted at night.**

Saturday 11th July 2009

- * **6.30 pm: Pilgrims’ mass**
 - Venue: The Basilica of Our Lady
- * **7.00 pm: Carillon Concert**
 - Mr Mathieu Lenaerts
 - Venue: the town market place
- * **8.00 pm: Fioretti**
 - Religious play performed in open air.
 - Place: in the open air “Onder de Linde” in the Beguinage
 - Free access
- * **8.30 pm: The Crucible**
 - American drama
 - Performers: TNT
 - Venue: the Church of the Beguinage

* the decorated streets are festively lighted at night.

Sunday 12th July 2009

* **10.00 am: Pontifical mass**

- celebrated by Monseigneur Patrick Hoogmartens, Bishop of Hasselt
- Creation of the Missa Festis Coronaminis B.M.V. from Mr. Kurt Bikkembergs. Sung by the "Choral society of Coronation" and "De Kleine Cantorij " conducted by Mr Jan Peeters
- Orgue: Luc Ponet
- Venue: The Basilica of Our Lady
- retransmitted on line by the Belgian radio

* **11.00 am: Showing of the relics**

- Blessing with the large relic of the Holy Cross
- Sung by the "Choral society of Coronation" conducted by Mr Jan Peeters
- Venue: The Basilica of Our Lady

* **12.00 am: Pilgrims' mass**

- Venue: The Basilica of Our Lady

* **3.00 pm: Procession of the Virgin Mary**

Will take part in this procession:

- Monseigneur Patrick Hoogmartens, Bishop of Hasselt
- Kardinaal Godfried Danneels, Archbishop of Mechelen and Brussels
- Monseigneur Fernand Franck, Archbishop of Luxemburg
- Monseigneur Roger Vangheluwe, Bishop of Bruges
- Monseigneur Luc Van Looy, Bishop of Ghent
- Monseigneur Philip Dickmans, Bishop of Miracema do Tocantins (Brazil)
- Monseigneur Johannes Bündgens, Assistant Bishop of Aken (Germany)
- Abbot Frédéric Testaert, of Postel
- Canon Jaak Janssen, General Vicar of the diocese of Hasselt
- Canon Karel D'Huys, Episcopal Vicar of the diocese of Hasselt
- Canon Augustin Champagne, Episcopal Vicar of the diocese of Hasselt
- Canon Marcel Vermeulen, Honorary General Vicar of the diocese of Hasselt
- Canon Jan Boonen, Honorary General Vicar of the diocese of Hasselt
- Canon Rik Palmans, Honorary Vicar of the diocese of Hasselt
- Canon Piet Vanormelingen, Honorary Vicar of the diocese of Hasselt
- Canon Felix Rijcken
- Canon Hans Tercic
- Canon Bart Coenegrachts
- Mr Kris Buckinx, episcopal delegate of the diocese of Hasselt

* **5.30 pm: Carillon Concert**

- Mr Mathieu Lenaerts
- Venue: the town market place

* **6.00 pm: Pilgrims' mass**

- Venue: The Basilica of Our Lady

* **8.00 pm: Fioretti**

- Religious play performed in open air.
- Place: in the open air "Onder de Linde" in the Beguinage
- Free access

* **10.30 pm: Open-air play of the Virgin Mary**

Venue: in the open air on the town market place

* the decorated streets are festively lighted at night.

Saturday 26st September 2009

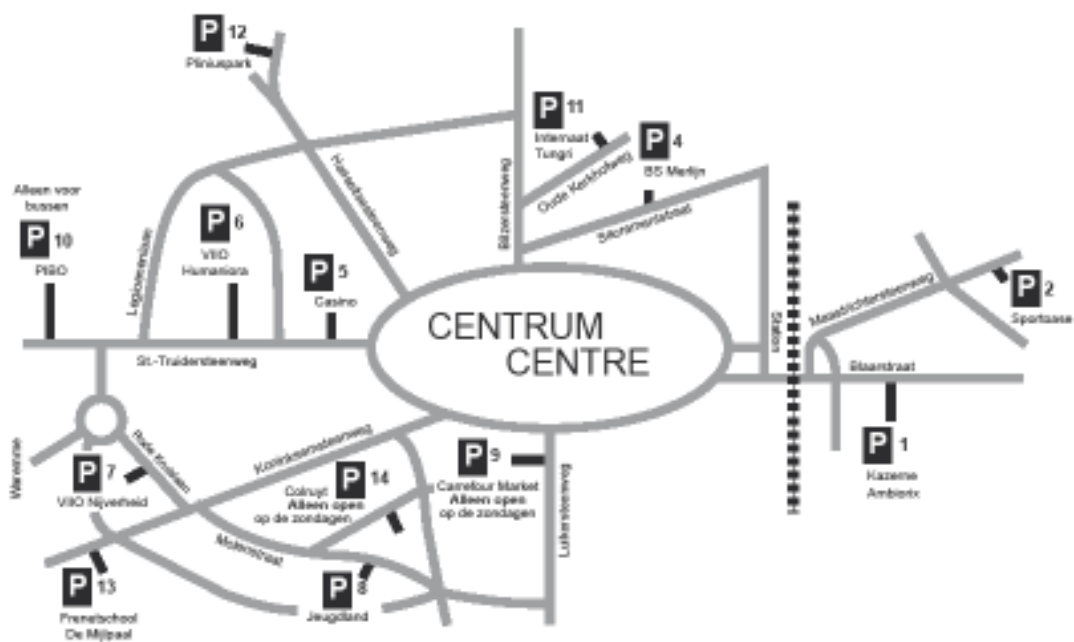
* **9.00 pm: the coronation light procession**

- The closure of the Coronation Celebrations 2009

PARKINGS

There are 14 parkings. Admission is 5 euro.

1	KAZERNE AMBIORIX	Blaarstraat
2	SPORTOASE	Maastrichtersteenweg
4	BASISSCHOL Merlijn	Sacramentstraat
5	CASINO	St-Truidersteenweg
6	VIIO Humaniora	St-Truidersteenweg
7	VIIO Nijverheid	Rode Kruislaan
8	Jeugdland	Molenstraat
9	CARREFOUR MARKET	Luikersteenweg
10	PIBO	St-Truidersteenweg
11	AUTONOOM INTERNAAT	Oude Kerkhofweg
12	PLINIUSPARK	Fonteindreef
13	DE MIJLPAAL	Koninksemsteenweg
14	COLRUYT (enkel zondagen)	Molenstraat
	BEEMDSTRAAT	Beemdstraat



Info

For more information about the Coronation Celebrations, please contact

Kroningssecretariaat

Stadhuisplein 9 – 3700 Tongeren

Tel : + 32 (0)12 39 01 43

Tel : + 32(0)471 20 56 33

E_mail : info@Kroningsfeesten.be

www.Kroningsfeesten.be

SEATS IN THE STANDS FOR THE PROCESSION AND SEATS FOR THE EVENING PERFORMANCE

Seats Procession

* Reserved and numbered seats

* Advance booking:

10 euro

8 euro (parties of 30 persons and more)

* by remittance

(total price + 1 euro for postage) to

743 - 0481257-54 of the V.Z.W. Kroningsfeesten Tribune

IBAN : BE42 7430 4812 5754

BIC: KREDBEBB

ATTENTION: mention “procession” and the date

Seats for the open – air play

* Reserved seats

* Advance booking :

12,5 euro

* by remittance

(total price + 1 euro for postage) to

743 – 0481259 - 56 of the V.Z.W. Kroningsfeesten Avondspel

IBAN : BE20 7430 4812 5956

BIC: KREDBEBB

ATTENTION: mention “Open – air play” and the date

	<h1>The Procession</h1>
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1. Drumband kempenbloei Achel en Harmonie Sint Cecilia Susteren

The Drumband Kempenbloei , 24 musicians, was founded in 1955 and has always been a forerunner in Belgium. Gradually a combination of rhythmic and melodic percussion instruments became more accentuated. This is why it is often called a percussion or drum ensemble.

On Sunday July 12th 2009 the procession is fronted by the Harmonie St. Cecilia from Susteren. This brassband, 65 musicians, was founded in 1920.

2. Vlaggenroep

The people from Tongeren honour “Mary, Cause-of-Our-Joy”

This group of young people symbolises devoted, but still feastly character of the procession, with their clothing and flags.

Number of participants : 46

3. Maria Onbevekt Ontvangen

This group refers to Mary's birth and to the dogma of the immaculate conception in the womb of her mother Anne. Right from the start, God gave the Virgin Mary extraordinary freedom and susceptibility.

Number of participants : 155

4. De Boodschap

The angel Gabriel announced to the Virgin Mary that she was to become the mother of the Son of God.

Number of participants : 126

5. Het Bezoek

The Virgin Mary paid a visit to her cousin Elisabeth, who had also conceived in a miraculous way.

In the group “the visit” the relatives and friends of the Virgin Mary join in this joyful encounter.

Number of participants : 282

6. De Geboorte

The biggest group of the procession represents the birth of Jesus. The angels and shepherds honour the little child..

Number of participants : 551

7. De Opdracht

Mary and Joseph bring their newborn to the temple to offer him to God, as prescribed by the Jewish law. They meet Simeon and Hanna.

Number of participants : 125

8. De Vinding

During their pilgrimage to Jerusalem Mary and Joseph lost their son. They find Jesus among the scribes in “the House of his Father”.

Number of participants : 132

9. Het Afscheid

Jesus starts his public life. He leaves his mother Mary and chooses his disciples from the fishermen, who have accompanied Him.

Number of participants : 270

10. De Bruiloft

During the wedding - party Jesus changes water into wine on request of his mother Mary. The miracle of the wine in Kana symbolises the life of Jesus: He brings the wine of the New Covenant where the Old Covenant has become watery.

Number of participants : 260

11. Kruiswegontmoeting

Through a mass of soldiers and hostile people, Mary and her friends accompany Jesus to Calvary mountain. She supports Him in his most painful moments.

Number of participants : 214

12. De Verrijzenis

An angel announces the resurrection of Jesus to Mary and her companions. Afterwards Jesus' disciples and the people also receive the joyful message.

Number of participants : 220

13. Pinksteren

After Jesus' resurrection and ascension, the Virgin Mary and the Apostles are anxiously waiting. On Whitsun they are inspired by the Holy Ghost. The Virgin Mary and the Apostles are the first Christians. Enthusiastically and without fear they spread Jesus' message of brotherhood and love all over the world.

- -Pentecote flame: light and fire, warmth and power, be present
- - broken bars: word that delivers, that brings us home to ourselves, with each other and with God, be present
- - the hand: Lovetie of God unite us one with each other, one with Maria
- - the dove: Make us enthusiastic, rejuvenate everything

Number of participants : 180

14. De Verheerlijking

After a life in the service of God and the people, the Virgin Mary is glorified and assumed in heaven. As a heavenly Mother, she intercedes for us with God.

Number of participants : 164

15. Het Biddend Volk

Relics refer to the Saints who were here before us. The origin of the septennial celebrations in Tongeren lies in the display of relics.

There are four groups :

- the first Bishops and Martyrs (white)
- the Holy Women and Martyrs (yellow)
- the characters of the Holy Gospel (blue)
- the relics of the Holy Cross (red)

The Praying People follow. The religious communities of then (relics) and now (people praying) are united around Our Lady Mary "Cause of Our Joy".

16. Zingende Maagden

The group of "Singing Virgins" was founded in 1911 by Edmond Jaminé. He also composed the beautiful religious songs, which are still sung today. Singing and waving, we pay homage to the Virgin Mary, Cause of Our Joy.

Number of participants : 191

17. Edelknappen

This processiongroup is the oldest, thanks to its first attendance in 1904. These noble boys carry gifts, which are an example of the gifts and treasures, that have been brought to the church of Tongeren ever since the Middle Ages.

Number of participants : 45

18. Het Genadebeeld Maria Oorzaak-Onzer-Blijdschap

In 1479, the brotherhood of Our Lady ordered the statue of Our Lady Cause of Our Joy. It was crowned on August 31, 1890.

The centuries-old statue of Our Lady is surrounded by a guard of honour of priests of Tongeren, the brotherhood, a guard of the KSA youth movement and escorts.

19. Evangelie en Heilig Sacrament

The gospel book will be carried by the deacons. The Holy Sacrament is carried by several bishops, escorted by religious and civil dignitaries. Mary refers us to Jesus, who is present in the Eucharist.

20. Koninklijke Harmonie Ons Verlangen

The Koninklijke harmonie "Ons Verlangen" from Beverst exists 100 years in 2010. During those 100 years this brassband developed into a very popular all-round music band that is appreciated in Belgium and around through its stylish and musical performances. Brassband, drumband, clarionensemble, and bagpipe band fuse together into a wonderful and unique unit.

Number of participants: 80

	Coronation theme: ‘United round Mary’
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Although ever since 1960 the Coronation procession has been telling the story of Mary as we know it from the Bible, a Coronation theme is nevertheless always chosen. This Coronation theme is linked to what people were doing during the Coronation year and the preparation for it. Thus, the Coronation theme for 1988 was then marked by a feeling of despondency ‘*A sign of Hope*’ and when in 1995 the organisers became aware that our society needed more humanity, gentleness and fairness, the Coronation Committee chose ‘*More Humanity with Mary*’.

The latest Coronation festivities in 2002 were the first Coronation festivals of the 21st century and so were a moment of reflection for the Coronation Committee. Therefore the title ‘*Mary rejoices our hearts*’ was chosen as the theme, the title of the gracious image of Our Lady of Tongeren.

For the 17th edition of the Coronation festivities in 2009, the Coronation Committee chose the theme ‘*United round Mary*’. Where did this theme come from? It is clear to the Coronation Committee that our society needs unity and respect for everyone. Our community should form a single whole, since every culture and religious community... should respect the individuality and the diversity of others cultures and religions. Mary remains familiar as a figure which gathers many people round itself and points out to them the way to her Son, Jesus, respects everyone’s individuality, unity and coexistence. Not without good reason ‘*Mary the Counsellor*’ is one her titles. The simple witness of the figure of Mary, which the citizens of Groot Tongeren show every seven years during the Coronation festivities, can contribute to a better coexistence in our contemporary society.

The Coronation Committee is convinced that the theme ‘*United round Mary*’ can be present at various places in the Coronation events. We are thinking about the numerous preparatory activities, about carrying the procession image through the villages and parishes, about the Pontifical High Mass during the Coronation Week, but of course also about the Coronation procession and the evening play. We can learn a great deal from both participation and the content of the Coronation procession and the evening play.

From the content, we become acquainted with Mary’s various attributes, namely, with Mary the Humble Servant (see procession groups’ message and visit), Mary the Mother (Nativity, Assumption, Ascension), Mary the Mediator for her Son and the Consoler (Calvary encounter). Pilgrims and visitors will make their own assumption and form their own feelings about Mary who points the way to Jesus to us, but also on the level of participation we can achieve particular unity. Our Coronation procession is a succession of various groups. Every group has its own individuality, but all have the same object, namely to make the general public familiar with the life of Mary. The participants in the groups are all different in terms of age, gender, education, character, interests,... but we will all meet at these Coronation festivities, ‘*United round Mary*’ can stimulate participants and visitors to make our own world into a more ‘habitable’ one.

	<h2>The Official Coronation double DVD</h2>
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Visitors to the Coronation Celebrations like to take home a souvenir of their visit to the Coronation. This year, a double DVD will be made about the procession and the evening play. In order to really do justice to the Coronation Procession, comments will be based on an interview with a member of the Coronation Committee. The complete Coronation evening play will be included. The videos show the Coronation Procession and the evening play of Sunday July 5, 2009. In collaboration with TV – Limburg, the videotapes of the evening play and the Coronation procession can be bought as of Tuesday, July 7 for 30 euro. Undoubtedly, these videos will make a beautiful and lasting souvenir of the seventeenth edition of the septennial Coronation Celebrations.

Advance booking : 28 Euro

* by remittance : (total price + 1,5 euro for postage) to

743-0534924-80 of Kroningsfeesten DVD

IBAN : BE47 7430 5349 2480 - BIC : KREDBEBB

	<h2>Coronation music</h2>
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Double CD

The Coronation Celebrations in Tongeren, in honour of Our Lady Mary “Cause of Our Joy”, would never have had such a response without the songs that lift the procession to a higher level. For every Coronation Year, new songs are composed. Hence, Tongeren has a true treasure of Coronation songs. Several of these songs are used for various occasions in our country as well as abroad. Over the years, these songs have contributed to a true Treasure of Coronation Songs, which led to an increasing demand for a CD or a tape. Since 1967, for every celebration a Coronation album or tape has been released.

During the Coronation Celebrations of 2009, a double CD will be offered to the public. The double CD of “United round Mary - Coronation 2009” will cost 25 euro. It can be obtained from the Coronation Office as well as at the Stand on the Market Place. By remittance : (total price + 2 euro for postage) to 735-3390880-39 of Kroningsfeesten mention “double CD” . IBAN : BE13 7353 39080 8039 - BIC : KREDBEBB.

In addition, several packages of CDs of different Coronation Years will be available at interesting prices.

Coronation Songbook “Cause of Our Joy”

For the first time after 112 years of Coronation history, this year a Coronation songbook will be published. It will contain 40 well-known Coronation songs with their scores, so the Coronation songs can be used for many different occasions. In addition, the Coronation songbook is a wonderful souvenir of the rich collection of songs that the Coronation celebrations have contributed to over the years. The Coronation songbook “Cause of Our Joy” costs 12 euro. When purchased in combination with the CD “United round Mary - Coronation 2009”, the price is only 10 euro. The Coronation songbook “Cause of Our Joy” can be purchased from the Coronation Office as well as at the Coronation stand on the Market Place.

	Tevona band on Wednesday 8 July at 8 p.m.
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The Tevona band grew from the non-profit branch of Tevona and made a cautious start in 1984. Within a short time, the band grew in terms of both quality and quantity and gained a reputation throughout Flanders and beyond.

On Day of the Sick during the Coronation festivities on Wednesday 8 July 2009 the Tevona band conducted by Ingrid Wijnen will give a performance in the Basilica of Our Lady at 8 p.m. Under the title 'The story of God, from Eve to Mary' the Tevona band will present well-known and less well-known songs of Mary. These are framed by texts related by Tinus Moors. One of the songs will undoubtedly be the Our Lady of Tongeren song. The Tevona band also recorded this song for the Coronation CD 'United round Mary – Coronation festivities 2009'.

Tickets are available in advance at € 6 (+ 1 euro postage) from the Coronation Secretariat, 9 Stadshuisplein, Tongeren, by telephone +32 12 39 01 43 or +32 471 20 56 33, via info@kroningsfeesten.be or by remittance to account 735-3390880-39 Kroningsfeesten. Mention "Tevona". IBAN : BE13 7353 39080 8039 - BIC : KREDBEBB.

Admission on the evening itself is € 7.5.

	Day of Youth: Worldwide Passion
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Wednesday evening on 8 July a campfire evening will be organised at the football ground of the VIO Humaniora in the Sint-Truidersteenweg. Persons over 16 are expected at 7 p.m. Philip Dickmans, a Limburg priest and now a Bishop in Brazil, will participate.

Thursday 9 July will begin at 11 a.m. with a multicultural play without limits. This is a procession in and around Tongeren during which the participants have to carry out several assignments.

At 2 p.m. the World Market will open and until 11 p.m. the Tongeren Grote Markt will be transformed into a melting pot of stalls with music, food, workshops and knickknacks from the whole world.

At 5.30 p.m. the youth celebration will take place in the Basilica of Our Lady .

At 8.00 p.m. the CLOCHARD folk group's final spectacle will begin. At 9.30 p.m. the Grote Markt will come under the spell of the heavenly voices of SCALA conducted by the Kolacny Brothers. Perhaps you already know Scala from TV and have seen a clip of this successful girls' choir, or perhaps you heard Scala's version of 'With or without you' (U2) on your favourite radio station? Seat tickets are available at € 12 from the Coronation secretariat (Town Hall) or via a remittance to account 743-0529767-64 (IBAN : BE29 7430 5297 6764 - BIC : KREDBEBB) mentioning your name, address and number of tickets required.

	Popular Theatre Fioretti
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"Onder de Linde", the people of the "Begijnhof" will perform in a popular play, "The Fioretti". This open-air spectacle relates the story of brother Juniperus, a disciple of Francis of Assisi. It is based on a number of scenes from the famous book of legends "the Fioretti", that gives a clear picture of medieval popular beliefs. The play is directly related to the presence of the monastery and the Friar Minor group. Earlier, the "Paterkeskerk" was the sanctuary par excellence of the commoners from the surrounding villages. The Fioretti is a joyful play in which the religious element was preserved.

The Fioretti is played on the following days: Sunday July 5, Monday 6, Wednesday 8, Thursday 9, Saturday 11 and Sunday July 12 2009 at 8 pm "Onder de Linde" in the Beguinage.

	<h1>The Crucible</h1>
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The Crucible by Arthur Miller is a play based on the actual events that, in 1692, led to the Salem Witch Trials, a series of hearings before local magistrates to prosecute over 150 people accused of witchcraft in colonial Massachusetts between February 1692 and May 1693.

The play was written in the early 1950's as a response to McCarthyism, when the US government blacklisted accused communists. It was first performed at the Martin Beck Theater on Broadway on January 22, 1953. Today it is studied in high schools and universities, because of its status as a revolutionary work of theater and for its allegorical relationship to testimony given before the House Committee On Un-American Activities during the 1950's. It is a central work in the canon of American drama.

The Crucible is a production of TNT (Tongers Nieuw Theater). Performances are scheduled on Saturday 27, Sunday June 28 2009, Thursday 2, Friday 3, Saturday 4, Monday 6, Wednesday 8, Thursday 9 and Saturday July 11 2009 at 8.30 pm in the Begijnhofkerk.

Reservation: 0485/51.89.02 or [www. Tongersnieuwtheater.be](http://www.Tongersnieuwtheater.be)

	<h2>Open - air play of the Virgin Mary The Procession on Stage</h2>
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Already a long time ago people felt that the fine things of the procession's tour could only be shown partially to the spectators. The cause was known by everyone. It is characteristic for each procession. The speaking, dancing groups form a whole, which proceed and pass by a standing public. The greatest part of texts and lyrics, especially written for this procession, are lost and the extensive scenes have not been seen.

With this objection in mind, people tried to create a kind of "play" during the preparations of the Coronation Celebrations in 1960. The different scenes, represented by the procession groups should be "played" on a large stage, so that everyone could understand and hear the lyrics. The clothes could then be shown to full advantage.

Location of the play was the "Grote Markt", the town market place. The scenery was formed by the static tower of the basilica at the back, the beautiful city hall at the right and the proud and sturdy Ambiorix in front. The reaction of the press in 1960 was really favourable.

In view of this success, people foresaw an evening performance for the next celebrations. The stage was better constructed, but also light and sound were renovated.

The latest procession on stage was performed on Sunday, 14 July 2002. The concourse for the procession and the evening performance were really overwhelming. Although the performance only started at 10.30 p.m., a lot of pilgrims and tourists were already present at 7 p.m. searching for a good spot.

Nowadays the evening performance is inseparably linked to the Coronation Celebrations. If you are able to stay in town during the whole evening, we will offer you a unique spectacle free of charge. Seats can be reserved on payment of 12,50 euro.

One, even two hours, before the beginning of the play, thousands of people will come together on the market place. There will be performances on Sunday 5, Tuesday 7, Friday 10 and Sunday 12 July, each time from 10.30 p.m. till 11.45 p.m.. More than 3000 participants will show you the revival of Mary in a fantastic world of sound and light.

So, this play brings you Mary, Mother of Jesus and our Mother and it develops into an unforgettable apotheosis when the merciful statue will be carried out of the basilica. Hundreds of players and thousands of spectators will chant honouring Mary.

	Coronation prayer
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Beloved Mary

Thou that appears as the ‘Cause of joy’ to so many,
We come to Thee to obtain consolation and strength.

Let us be united with and around Thee.

Let us bring peace where there is discord.

Love where there is hatred.

Grant to us a warm heart which beats for others.

Remove the loneliness of all who are sad.

Gather us, the people, around Yourself and around Jesus, your divine
Son.

Our Beloved Lady of Tongeren, pray for us.