

Dr. Kees den Biesen

Independent scholar of literature, philosophy and theology

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Italy

Professional Experience

2021 - present **Pontificio Istituto Orientale**

Rome, Italy

Associated professor in Syriac patristic theology and Syriac liturgy at the [Facoltà di Scienze ecclesiastiche orientali](#), with the following courses:

Anno propedeutico

- Dove nacque il cristianesimo orientale: introduzione al mondo antico;
- Dialogare con i Padri: introduzione alla teologia patristica.

Sezione teologico-patristica

- Ermeneutica siriana: poesia - simbolo - liturgia;
- Ascetismo e misticismo siriano;
- L'esegesi siriana.

Sezione liturgica

- Eucaristie orientali: esplorazioni comparative di alcune anafore greche e siriane;
- La teologia liturgica siriana;
- La liturgia siriano-occidentale: siriano-ortodossa.

2018 - 2021 **Syrisches Institut. Verein zur Unterstützung von Orientalistik, Ökumene und Syrischer Kirchenstudien und Pastore**

Salzburg, Austria

Research assistant in charge of preparing bi-lingual study editions of the Syriac Orthodox sacraments.

See ܠܚܝܬܐ ܩܕܝܫܐ; ܡܬܐ. *Aan de Tafel van Leven. De Syrisch Orthodoxe Eucharistieviering* on p. 13 and ܠܚܝܬܐ ܩܕܝܫܐ; ܡܬܐ. *At the Table of Life. The Syriac Orthodox Eucharist* on p. 13.

2016 - 2021

Katholisch-Theologische Fakultät, Universität Salzburg

Salzburg, Austria

Lecturer at the Master of Arts in Syriac Theology Program at the *Fachbereich Bibelwissenschaft und Kirchengeschichte* (www.uni-salzburg.at), with the following courses:

- History and theology of Syriac asceticism, monasticism and mysticism;
- Syriac biblical exegesis - Old Testament commentaries;
- Syriac biblical exegesis - Advanced Seminar;
- Syriac liturgical theology and theology of liturgy.

2016 - 2019

Scivias-Institut für Kunst und Spiritualität

Bad Kreuznach, Germany

Board member, accredited teacher (see www.scivias-institut.de).

2015 - present

Syriac Orthodox Diocese of the Netherlands

St. Efreem de Syriër Klooster, Glane-Losser, the Netherlands

Editor of the [Syrisch Orthodox Jongeren Platform](#) translation team, see ܠܚܝܬܐ ܩܕܝܫܐ; ܡܬܐ. *Hemels Brood en Geestelijke Drank*, ܠܚܝܬܐ ܩܕܝܫܐ; ܡܬܐ. *Op de Bruiloft van de geestelijke Bruidegom* on pp. 16-17.

2014 - present

Poetic Places: Exploring Italy through art, literature & spirit

www.poeticplaces.org

Guided tours, seminars and workshops:

- In het voetspoor van Dante: een tocht door het Casentino-dal (Florence, Romena, Camaldoli, La Verna, Arezzo & Lucignano) [Following Dante's footsteps: journey through the Casentino Valley];
- Beatrice in Dante's poëzie: van liefdesgedicht naar Paradijservaring (Centro Francese di Studi Danteschi, Ravenna) [Beatrice in Dante's poetry: from writing love poetry to experiencing Paradise];

- Dante en Umbria Sacra: over natuur, poëzie en een wijs leven (Perugia, Assisi, Fonte Avellana & Fabriano) [Dante and Sacred Umbria: on nature, poetry and living wisely];
- International St. Francis & St. Clair Pilgrimage (Assisi, La Verna & Greccio);
- Places of the Higher Self. Five day journey through the green heart of Italy (Florence, Camaldoli, La Verna, La Vialla, Badia di Valrasina & Fonte Avellana);
- Met Dante onderweg in ruimte en tijd. Studiereis naar Verona, de Colli Euganei en Padua (Verona, Arquà Petrarca & Padua) [Journeying through space and time with Dante];
- De geboorte van de Italiaanse literatuur en cultuur. Toscaanse leesweek in het gezelschap van Dante, Petrarca en Boccaccio (Lucca & Pistoia) [The birth of Italian literature and culture. A week of readings in Tuscany, in the company of Dante, Petrarc and Boccaccio].

2012 - 2016 **Department of Ancient and Modern Languages, University of Pretoria**

Pretoria, Zuid-Afrika

Research Associate.

2010 - 2017 **Lecture Dantesche**

Società Dante Alighieri Amsterdam (2010-2011); *StudioLingua, Amsterdam* (2012 - 2018)

Group-readings of selections from Dante Alighieri's *Inferno*, *Purgatorio* and *Paradiso*, twenty workshops per year, see pp. 20-27.

Series of five all-day seminars on Dante's works, see pp. 22-29:

- Op weg met Dante: over de poëzie van het mens-zijn [Journeying with Dante: the poetry of being human];
- Van tragedie naar komedie: Dante en Vergilius in de Hel [From tragedy to comedy: Dante and Vergil in Hell];
- Poëzie, filosofie en wetenschap bij Dante Alighieri: een ontdekkingsstocht door Dante's werken [Poetry, philosophy and science in Dante: an exploration of Dante's works];
- Dante, Beatrice en Vrouwe Filosofie: hoe Plato en Aristoteles elkaar vonden in Italiaanse liefdespoëzie [Dante, Beatrice and Lady Philosophy, or: How Plato and Aristotle met in Italian love poetry];

- Zes Toscaanse dichters en de geboorte van de Italiaanse literatuur en cultuur [Six Tuscan poetries and the birth of Italian literature and culture].

2010 - 2012

Syriac Orthodox Parish of Gronau*Kinder- und Jugendzentrum Turo d-Izlo, Gronau, Germany*

Youth pastor and teacher.

2009 - 2015

Syriac Orthodox Diocese of the Netherlands*St. Efreem de Syriër Klooster, Glane-Losser, the Netherlands*

Director of the Board of the Syrisch Orthodox Jongeren Platform.

2009 - 2012

Dominicaans Studiecentrum voor Theologie en Samenleving*Radboud University, Nijmegen, the Netherlands*Free-lance researcher and author for *Het Nieuwe W!f* project:

- 2009-2010: publications of two research articles about the Syriac Orthodox community in the Netherlands, see 'De Suryoye-gemeenschap in Nederland: impressies van een kennismaking' and 'Bruggen tussen werelden. Verhalen over diaspora en identiteit bij Syrisch-orthodoxe christenen' on p. 10.
- 2011-2012: publication of a research article about Christian addiction centre Dorp De Hoop in Dordrecht and the relationship between architecture, personal and social problems, and Christian faith, see 'Bouwen voor en geloven in een nieuw wij: verslavingszorg in Dorp De Hoop' on p. 11.

2008 - 2015

Hoger Onderwijs voor Ouderen*HOVO Nijmegen - Radboud University, Nijmegen; HOVO Brabant - University of Tilburg; HOVO Amsterdam - Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam; HOVO Den Haag - Haagse Hogeschool, The Hague; HOVO Overijssel/U3f - Zwolle & Zutphen*

Free-lance lecturer with the following courses:

- Op weg met Dante: de poëzie van menswording [Journeying with Dante: the poetry of becoming human];
- Spiritualiteit van de christelijke Oriënt [Spirituality of the Christian Orient];

- Symbolisch denken, geloven en leven: verbeelding en poëzie bij Efreem de Syriër (ca. 300-373);
- Isaac de Syriër: de actuele waarde van oriëntaalse mystiek [Isaac the Syrian: the contemporary value of oriental mysticism];
- De gespannen boog: over kunst, denkkunst en levenskunst [The arched bow: about art, the art of thought, and the art of life];
- Letture dantesche: capita selecta uit Dante's Inferno [Dante readings: selected canto's from Dante's Inferno];
- Dante's sterren: astronomie en astrologie in de Divina Commedia [Dante's stars: astronomy and astrology in the Divine Comedy];
- Letture dantesche: capita selecta uit Dante's Purgatorio [Dante readings: selected canto's from Dante's Purgatory];
- Hemelse poëzie voor aardse mensen: het Paradijs, verloren én hervonden [Heavenly poetry for earthy people: Paradise, lost and found];
- Letture dantesche: capita selecta uit Dante's Paradiso [Dante readings: selected canto's from Dante's Paradise];

2008 - present **Leerhuis van de Kerkvaders**

Gent, Belgium

Teacher in Syriac patristics.

2000 - present **Purshana**

Galway, Ireland; Nazlet el-Seman, Giza, Egypt; Giove, Italy; Gronau, Germany; Pieve di Compreseto, Italy

Free-lance author, editor and translator in the fields of spirituality, patristics, liturgy and architectural theory.

2001-2004 **Institute for Eastern Christian Studies & Faculty of Divinity**

Radboud University, Nijmegen, the Netherlands

Part-time lecturer to international groups of students in the Eastern Christian Studies Program of the Graduate School of Theology

- the spirituality of the Christian East, 4th to 8th centuries;
- the symbolical theology of Ephrem the Syrian.

- 2003, May-June **Lviv Theological Academy & Greek Catholic Seminary**
Lviv, Ukraine
Courses on the symbolical theology of Ephrem the Syrian.
- 2001-2003 **Institute for Eastern Christian Studies**
Radboud University, Nijmegen, the Netherlands
Part-time researcher and lecturer;
Part-time lecturer at HOVO Nijmegen and HOVO Brabant.
- 2000-2001 **Franciscan Center for Eastern Christian Studies**
Mousky, Cairo, Egypt
Research in Ephrem the Syrian
- 1999-2000 **Western Theological Institute**
Galway, Ireland
Lecturer to students graduating with a Diploma in Religious Studies at the GMIT, Department of Humanities; tutor and student advisor.
- 1997-1999 **Institute for Eastern Christian Studies & Faculty of Divinity**
Radboud University, Nijmegen, the Netherlands
Researcher in the field of early Syriac literature;
Lecturer to students graduating with a MA in Theology or Religious Studies;
Lecturer in the Prospect 2002 Program;
Lecturer at the Nijmegen Open University.
- 1993-1996 **Abbey School Vaals & Monastic Theological Formation**
Vaals & Tilburg, the Netherlands
Lecturer in early Christian history (Gnosticism, Coptic monasticism, Cappadocians, Trinitarian and Christological controversies);
Librarian and organizer of a digitalization network of 15 monastic libraries in the Netherlands and Belgium.

Education & Training

Summer 2010 **Mor Gabriel Manastiri**

Midyat, Turkey

Courses in neo-Aramaic Surayt, with a grant of the Grundtvig Life Long Learning Program of the European Union.

2006 **Institute for Eastern Christian Studies & Faculty of Divinity**

Radboud University, Nijmegen, the Netherlands

Doctorate in Divinity with the dissertation *Simple and Bold: Ephrem's Art of Symbolic Thought*.

1989-1993 **Patristic Institute 'Augustinianum'**

Pontifical Lateran University, Rome

M.A. in Theology and Early Christian Literature.

1984-1987 **Diocesan School of Theology**

Kerkrade, the Netherlands

B.A. in Theology.

1981-1984 **Abbey School**

Abdij St. Benedictusberg, Vaals, the Netherlands

B.A. in Philosophy.

Language Skills

Fluency in Dutch, English, French, German, and Italian; reading proficiency in Spanish.

Knowledge of Latin, Greek, Syriac, Hebrew, Armenian and Sahidic Coptic.

Publications

See <https://independent.academia.edu/KeesDenBiesen> for links to most publications

- 1992** 'La teologia poetica di Sant'Efrem Siro', in *La Scala. Rivista mensile di spiritualità e liturgia* 46 (1992) 123-138.
- 1994** 'Lode al Dio fatto uomo. Inno di Efrem il Siro', in *La Scala. Rivista mensile di spiritualità e liturgia* 48 (1994) 9-24.
- 'Efrem de Syriër. Lofzang op de geboorte des Heren. Ingeleid, vertaald en becommentarieerd', in *Benedictijns Tijdschrift* 55 (1994) 138-153.
- 'Inno sulla Natività di Efrem il Siro', in *La Scala. Rivista mensile di spiritualità e liturgia* 48 (1994) 373-383.
- 1995** 'Spreeken over God bij Efrem de Syriër', in *Het Christelijk Oosten. Tijdschrift van het Instituut voor Oosters Christendom* 47 (1995) 7-27.
- 1996** 'Jacob van Sarug: Homilie over het Geboortefeest. Uit het Syrisch vertaald en ingeleid', in *Het Christelijk Oosten. Tijdschrift van het Instituut voor Oosters Christendom* 48 (1996) 183-194.
- 'Giacomo di Sarug: Omelia sul Natale', in *La Scala. Rivista mensile di spiritualità e liturgia* 50 (1996) 331-342.
- 'Een Kersthymne van Efrem de Syriër', in *Vereniging voor Latijnse Liturgie. Bulletin* 60 (1996) 16-23.
- 1998** 'Een Kersthymne van Efrem de Syriër, vertaald en ingeleid', in *Tijdschrift voor Liturgie* 82 (1998) 330-340.
- 'Jacob van Sarug: Homilie op het Feest van de Verschijning. Uit het Syrisch vertaald en ingeleid', in *Het Christelijk Oosten. Tijdschrift van het Instituut voor Oosters Christendom* 50 (1998) 167-183.
- 2000** 'Nota del traduttore', in H. van der Laan, *La forma: natura, cultura e liturgia nella vita umana* (L'architettura e l'ideale 4), Milano : Sinai Edizioni, 2000, pp. 9-12; ISBN 88-86679-10-6.
- 2002** *Bibliography of Ephrem the Syrian*, Giove in Umbria, 2002, pp. 383.
- 'Introduzione', in H. van der Laan, *Lo spazio architettonico* (L'architettura e l'ideale 6), Milano : Sinai Edizioni, 2002, pp. 13-22; ISBN 88-86679-12-8.
- 'Armeense lofzang op de Moeder Gods', in *Pokrof. Oosterse christenen, kerken en culturen* 49:3 (2002) 8.

- 2005** 'Preface', in H. van der Laan, *The Play of Forms: Nature, Culture and Liturgy. Translated by Richard Padovan. With a Preface by Kees den Biesen*, Leiden : Brill, 2005, pp. VII-XIII; ISBN 90-04-07618-2.
- 2006** 'Voorwoord bij de Engelse vertaling van *Het vormenspel der liturgie*', in *Thematismos* 5 (2006), pp. 17-20 [Dutch version of the foregoing title].
- Simple and Bold: Ephrem's Art of Symbolic Thought* (Gorgias Dissertations 26, Early Christian Studies 6), Piscataway NJ : Gorgias Press, 2006, pp. XXII + 435; ISBN 1-59333-397-8; paperback edition 2014, ISBN 978-1-4632-0388-7 [reviews by T. Koonammakkal in *The Harp* 23 (2008) 405-412; J.W: Childers in *Journal of Early Christian Studies* 18:1 (2010) 141-143].
- 'Efrem de Syrië en het symbolisch denken. Kees den Biesen put inspiratie uit vierde-eeuwse dichter', in *Pokrof. Oosterse christenen, kerken en culturen* 53:4 (2006) 4-6 [Interview by Leo van Leijssen concerning *Simple and Bold: Ephrem's Art of Symbolic Thought*].
- 2007** 'Efrem il Siro', in A. di Berardino, G. Fedalto & M. Simonetti (eds.), *Letteratura patristica* (Dizionario San Paolo), Cinisello Balsamo : Edizioni San Paolo, 2007, pp. 469-474; ISBN 978-88-215-5671-5.
- 'Giacomo di Sarug predicatore', in E. Vergani & S. Chialà (eds.), *La tradizione cristiana Siro-occidentale (V-VII secolo). Atti del 4° Incontro sull'Oriente Cristiano di tradizione siriana, Milano, Biblioteca Ambrosiana, 13 maggio 2005*, Milano : Centro Ambrosiano, 2007, pp. 109-127; ISBN 978-88-8025-594-9.
- Fifty-five new entries for the 2nd edition of the *Dizionario Patristico e di Antichità Cristiane*, 3 volumes, Roma : Istituto Patristico Augustinianum, 2007-2008:
- Abramo bar Dāšandād, Abramo bar Līpeh, Anania di Širak, Anfiochio di Side, Anonimo Romano, Babai di Gbiltā, Barsabbas di Gerusalemme, Baršaumā di Karkā d-Bēt Slōk, Ciro di Tiana, Cronaca di Edessa, Cronaca detta di Giosuè lo Stilita, Dādīšō' d-Bēt Qaṭrāyē, Daniele bar Maryam, Daniele di Salah, Ereckzio di Antiochia, Esichio di Castabala, Eunomio di Berea, Evagrio polemista, Gabriele Qaṭrāyā, Giovanni di Apamea (il Solitario), Giovanni bar Penkāyē, Giovanni Egeate, Giuseppe Ḥazzāyā, Gregorio di Cipro, Inno della Perla, Ireneo di Harpasso, Išai, Išō' bar Nūn, Išō'dnaḥ di Basrā, Išō'yahb I, Išō'yahb II, Išō'yahb III 'il Grande', Marone di Edessa, Mārūtā di Tagrit, Michele Badōqā, Nestorio di Bēth Nuhadrā, Paolo di Edessa, Paolo di Tella, Pešittā, Procopio di Cesarea, Proterio Alessandrino, Rabban Šābūr, Scuola di Nisibi, Scuola di Seleucia-Ctesifonte, Serapione di Antiochia, Sergio Amfilatore, Sergio di Cipro, Sergio lo Stilita, Simeone di Bēt Aršam, Simeone di Edessa, Simeone di Taybūteh, Šubḥalmāran, Tommaso di Ḥarqel, Tommaso di Margā.
- 'Ephrem the theologian: Perceptions and perspectives', in *Saint Éphrem, poète pour notre temps* (Patrimoine Syriaque : Actes du colloque XI, Alep 2006), Antélias, Lebanon, 2007, pp. 155-172; ISBN 9953-0-0800-0.

- 2008** 'Ephrem the Syrian (ca. 306-373)', in *The Literary Encyclopedia* [www.litencyc.com], 2008.
- The Colors of Charity*, Amsterdam : Stichting Porticus, published by Lipa srl., Roma, 2008 [Syriac poetry translated by Sebastian P. Brock and Kees den Biesen, with illustrations taken from paintings and mosaics by Fr. Marko I. Rupnik and the Centro Aletti Atelier; concluding reflection by Kees den Biesen: 'The Artist and the artists', as seen by Ephrem the Syrian].
- 2010** 'De kracht van de verbeelding: in de leer bij Efrem de Syriër, Dante Alighieri en William Blake', in Leo Mock, Oscar & Robbert Schrover (eds.), *Zelem: Religieuze reflecties over theologische posities, filosofie, kunst & spiritualiteit, 2010 | I*, Amsterdam : KetHer Press, 2010, pp. 51-64; ISBN 978-90-808408-9-8.
- 'De Suryoye-gemeenschap in Nederland: impressies van een kennismaking', in Jonneke Bekkenkamp & Joris Verheijen (eds.), *Als ik W!f word. Nieuwe vormen van verbondenheid*, Almere : Parthenon, 2010, pp. 81-95; ISBN: 978-90-79578-15-3.
- 2011** 'De verbeelde levensbeschouwing: Efrem de Syriër over Schepper en schepping', in *De Kovel. Monastiek tijdschrift voor Vlaanderen en Nederland*, nr. 17, 4 (2011) 53-60.
- 'Bruggen tussen werelden. Verhalen over diaspora en identiteit bij Syrisch-orthodoxe christenen', in Joris Verheijen & Jonneke Bekkenkamp (eds.), *Onszelf voorbij. Over de grenzen van verbondenheid*, Almere : Parthenon, 2011; pp. 122-148 (notes on pp. 250-254); ISBN 978-90-79578-276.
- Annotated Bibliography of Ephrem the Syrian: Student Edition*, www.lulu.com, 2011, 478 pp.; cf. review article by Paul S. Russell in *Hugoye: Journal of Syriac Studies* 15 (2012) 419-422.
- 'Efrem de Syriër (ca. 300-373)', in *LUCEpedia: Theologie voor iedereen* [www.lucepedia.nl], 2011.
- 2012** *Annotated Bibliography of Ephrem the Syrian: Electronic Edition*, www.lulu.com, 2012, 448 pp.
- Dank aan het Verborgen Licht: de vroegchristelijke poëzie van Efrem de Syriër*, Glane-Losser : Bar Ebroyo Press, 2012; 214 pp.; ISBN 978-90-5047035-3; cf. review articles by Leo van Leijsen, 'Verborgen licht: Efrems theologie wederom ontdekt als inspiratie voor nu', in *Pokrof* 59:4 (2012) 19-21; cf. also *De Kovel. Monastiek tijdschrift voor Vlaanderen en Nederland* nr. 23, 5 (2012) 106-107.
- 'Theodoretus van Cyrillus', in *LUCEpedia: Theologie voor iedereen* [lucepedia.nl], 2012.

‘Johannes van Apamea’, in *LUCEpedia: Theologie voor iedereen* [lucepedia.nl], 2012.

‘Isaak de Syriër’, in *LUCEpedia: Theologie voor iedereen* [lucepedia.nl], 2012.

- 2013** ‘Bouwen voor en geloven in een nieuw wij: verslavingszorg in Dorp De Hoop’, in Manuela Kalski (ed.), *Alsof ik thuis ben. Samenleven in een land vol verschillen*, Almere : Parthenon, 2013, pp. 183-200; ISBN 978-90-79578-580 (ePub 978-90-79578-641).

- 2014** Fifty-five entries in A. Di Berardino (ed.), *Encyclopedia of Ancient Christianity*, Downers Grove, IL : InterVarsity Press, 2014, translation of *Dizionario Patristico e di Antichità Cristiane*, see above, 2007:

Abrahar bar Dashandad, Abraham bar Lipeh, Amphilochius of Side, Ananias of Shirak or Anania Shirakatsi, Anonymus Sicilian, Babai of Gbilita, Barsabas of Jerusalem, Barsaumā of Karka of Beth Slok, Chronicle of Edessa, Cyrus of Tyana, Dadisho’ of Beth Qatraya, Daniel bar Maryam, Daniel of Salah, Erechthius of Antioch, Eunomius of Berea, Gabriel Qatraya, Gregory of Cyprus, Hesychius of Castabala, Hymn of the Pearl, Irenaeus of Harpassus, Ishai, Isho’bar Nun, Isho’dnah of Basra, Isho’yahb I, catholicos, Isho’yahb II, catholicos Isho’yahb III the Great, catholicos, John bar Penkaya, John of Egeates, John of Apamea, ‘the Solitary’, Joseph Ḥazzāyā, Joshua the Stylite, Chronicle of, Maro of Edessa, Maruta of Tagrit, Michael Badoqa, the researcher, Nestorius of Bet Nuhadra, Nisibis, School of, Paul of Edessa, Paol of Tella, Peshitta, Procopius, Proterius the Alessandrinian, Rabban Shabur, Seleucia-Ctesifonte, School of, Serapion of Antioch, Sergius Amfiator (the Sacristan), Sergius of Cyprus, Sergius the Stylite, Simeon of Beth Arsham, Simeon of Edessa (Emesa), Simon (Simeon) of Taybutteh, Šubḥalmaran, Thomas of Heraclea, Thomas of Marga.

‘Reading the Divine Comedy from a psychosynthesis perspective: the beginning of a spiritual journey’, with Catherine Ann Lombard M.A., in *Psychosynthesis Quarterly. The Digital Magazine of the Association for the Advancement of Psychosynthesis* 3:2 (2014) 5-11 [www.aap-psychosynthesis.org].

De zingende vrouwen van St. Efreem de Syriër. Mimro van Mor Jacob van Sarug over de gelukzalige Mor Efreem. Vertaald en ingeleid door Kees den Biesen (Partute: Schatten van de Syrische Vaders 2), Losser : Bar Ebroyo Press, 2014; 76 pp.; ISBN 978-90-5047-044-5.

‘De Schepper en de dichter: Efreem de Syriër over goddelijke en menselijke creativiteit’, in *De Kovel. Monastiek tijdschrift voor Vlaanderen en Nederland*, nr. 35, 7 (2014) 22-31.

- 2015** ‘«Into the hidden things he led my way».’ A psychosynthesis view of Dante’s *Inferno*, with Catherine Ann Lombard M.A., in *Psychosynthesis Quarterly. The Digital Magazine of the Association for the Advancement of Psychosynthesis* 4:1 (2015) 15-20 [www.aap-psychosynthesis.org].

‘Reconnecting the personal Self with the Higher Self: Journeying with Dante - Part I: Facing our shadows’, with Catherine Ann Lombard M.A., in *Psychosynthesis Quaterly. The Digital Magazine of the Association for the Advancement of Psychosynthesis* 4:3 (2015) 15-21 [www.aap-psychosynthesis.org].

‘De onweerstaanbare liefde van God: twee Syrische kerkvaders over de universele verlossing in Christus’, in *De Kovel. Monastiek tijdschrift voor Vlaanderen en Nederland*, nr. 40, 8 (2015) 22-35.

‘Van liefdespoëzie naar Paradijservaring: op weg met Dante en Beatrice’, in *De Kovel. Monastiek tijdschrift voor Vlaanderen en Nederland*, nr. 40, 8 (2015) 44-53.

2016 ‘De Syrisch-orthodoxe Kerk’ in *Oosterse Kerken. Uitgave bij gelegenheid van de Zondag Oosterse Kerken 2016*, Katholieke Vereniging voor Oecumene, pp. 8-9.

2017 ‘“A drop of salvation” : Ephrem the Syrian on the Eucharist’, in David Hellholm & Dieter Sänger (eds.), *The Eucharist - Its Origins and Contexts: Sacred Meal, Communal Meal, Table Fellowship in Late Antiquity, Early Judaism, and Early Christianity* (Wissenschaftliche Untersuchungen zum Neuen Testament 376, 3 volumes), Tübingen : Mohr Siebeck, 2017, *Volume II. Patristic Traditions, Iconography*, pp. 1121-1142; ISBN 978-3-16-153918-3.

2018 Entries ‘Cave of Treasures’, ‘Madrasha’, ‘Memra’, ‘Metre, poetic, Syriac’ and ‘Testament of Adam’ in *The Oxford Dictionary of Late Antiquity*, Oxford : Oxford University Press, 2018; ISBN 978-0198662778.

‘Auf der Such nach Ephräm dem Syrer: Für eine neue wissenschaftliche Interpretationsmethode seiner theologischen Werke’, in Dorothea Weltecke (ed.), *Neue Aramäische Studien. Geschichte und Gegenwart. Herausgegeben unter Mitarbeit von Ralph Barcyok, Yeki Bilgic und Dominik Giesen* (Schola Nisibina. Beṭ Sefro da Nṣibīn. Herausgegeben von der Forschungsstelle für Aramäische Studien. Band I), Frankfurt am Main : Peter Lang, 2018, pp. 111-131; ISBN 978-3-631-73131-4.

‘The irresistible love of God: two Syriac Church Fathers about universal salvation in Christ’, in Željko Paša, S.J. (ed.), *Between the Cross and the Crescent. Studies in Honor of Samir Khalil Samir, S.J. on the Occasion of his Eightieth Birthday* (Orientalia Christiana Analecta 304), Rome, 2018, pp. 437-448; ISBN 978-88-7211-398-2.

2020 *Hans van der Laan OSB. Trattati di architettura e liturgia. Il numero plastico. Lo spazio Architettonico. Gioco di forme. A cura di Kees den Biesen e Tiziana Proietti* (Mosaico), Casa editrice Libria : Melfi, 2020, 550 pp.; ISBN 978-88-6764-186-4 [5-57: introductory essay ‘Ima summis’, with Tiziana Proietti; 219-228: introduction to *Lo Spazio Architettonico*; 449-464: intro-

duction to *Gioco di Forme: Natura, Cultura e Liturgia nella Vita Umana*; 541-547: *Glossario. Due strumenti di studio*, see also below under ‘translations’ (2020)].

2021

‘The tremendous power of language: Ephrem the Syrian on the art of symbolic thought’, in *Parole de l’Orient* 47 (2021) 379-401.

‘Dichter, denker en mysticus. De mens in het Syrisch christendom’, in *Perspectief 2021-55: Menselijke waardigheid in de oosters-christelijke theologie* 33-42 [<https://www.oecumene.nl/publicaties/perspectief/1752-perspectief-55>]; edited text of a webinar, see below, p. 31; see also Myrthe Lubbers, ‘Geborgen in de kunst van God (Syrische traditie) - een interview met Kees den Biesen’ [<https://www.oecumene.nl/nieuws-blogs/nieuws/1732-geborgen-in-de-kunst-van-god-syrische-traditie>].

ܐܢܬܐ ܕܥܝܢܐ. *Aan de Tafel van Leven. De Syrisch Orthodoxe Eucharistieviering. Historische inleiding, theologisch commentaar, Syrische tekst en vertaling, verklarende noten en bibliografie*, Bar Ebroyo Press : Losser, 2021, 638 pp.; ISBN /EAN 978-90-5047-100-8 [Syriac-Dutch edition of the Syriac Orthodox Eucharist with historical introduction, spiritual-theological commentary, extensive notes and bibliography, see also below under ‘translations’ (2018)].

Forthcoming**2024**

‘Symbol, sacrament, sanctity: Syriac anthropology for a Christian future’, Bethany Vedavijnana Peeth - Institute of Oriental Theology, Pune.

Hans van der Laan’s Instruments of Thought: Proportion, Architectonic Theory, Analogy, by Tiziana Proietti and Kees den Biesen, Routledge, 2024.

‘*Bnay wa-bnāt Qyāma*’, in İlhami Tekin Cinemre & Ceren Pilevneli (eds.), *Institutions and Concepts in Late Antiquity (224-651)*,

‘The power of images and imagination: learning from Efreem the Syrian and Dante Alighieri’, in ܐܬܝܢܐ. *Shaphyūṭa. Paurastya Vidyāpīṭham Annual*, Vadavathoor, 2023-2024.

In preparation

ܐܢܬܐ ܕܥܝܢܐ. *At the Table of Life. The Syriac Orthodox Eucharist. Historical Introduction, Theological Commentary, Syriac Text with Translation, Notes and Bibliography*, St. Ephrem Ecumenical Research Institute : Kottayam.

Translations & Editing Work

- 1992** Hans van der Laan, *De architectonische ruimte. Vijftien lessen over de dispositie van het menselijk verblijf*, Leiden : E.J. Brill, 1992, pp. 226; ISBN 90-04-096388 [third, revised edition by Kees den Biesen of *De architectonische ruimte. Vijftien lessen over de dispositie van het menselijk verblijf*, Leiden : E.J. Brill, 1977].
- Hans van der Laan, *Der architektonische Raum. Fünfzehn Lektionen über die Disposition der menschlichen Behausung*, Leiden : E.J. Brill, 1992, pp. 227; ISBN 90-04-09639-6 [translation and foreword by Kees den Biesen; original title: *De architectonische ruimte. Vijftien lessen over de dispositie van het menselijk verblijf*, Leiden : E.J. Brill, 1977, ³1992].
- 2000** Hans van der Laan, *La forma: natura, cultura e liturgia nella vita umana* (L'architettura e l'ideale 4), Milano : Sinai Edizioni, 2000, pp. 107; ISBN 8886679-10-6 [translation and introduction by Kees den Biesen; original title: *Het vormenspel der liturgie*, Leiden : E.J. Brill, 1985].
- 2002** E. Beldarrain, J. Lévêque, J. McCaffrey & B. Moriconi, *Bidden op bijbelse bodem*, Gent : Carmelitana [2001], pp. 360; ISBN 90-76671-20-6 [original title: *Preghiera e Terra Santa: Tappe Bibliche*, Monte Carmelo, Edizioni OCD, 1999; translation of the chapters by B. Moriconi; parts of this translation are also to be found in *Stem geven aan de Geest*, Gent : Carmelitana (2002), pp. 143].
- Daniel Chowning, *Wie zal mij genezen? Jan van het Kruis antwoordt...*, Gent : Carmelitana [2002], pp. 113; ISBN 90-76671-24-9 [original title: *El camino de la sanación en San Juan de la Cruz*].
- Hans van der Laan, *Lo spazio architettonico* (L'architettura e l'ideale 6), Milano : Sinai Edizioni, 2002, pp. 281; ISBN 88-86679-12-8 [translation of *Der architektonische Raum. Fünfzehn Lektionen über die Disposition der menschlichen Behausung*, Leiden : E.J. Brill, 1992, edited and introduced by Kees den Biesen].
- 2003** Simone Pacot, *Tot in onze diepste diepten. Het evangelie ter harte nemen*, Gent : Carmelitana, 2003, pp. 251; ISBN 90-76671-42-7 [original title: *L'évangélisation des profondeurs*, Paris : Le Cerf, 1997].
- 2004** Simone Pacot, *Kom weer tot leven! Tot in onze diepste diepten. Het evangelie ter harte nemen, deel 2*, Gent : Carmelitana, 2004; pp. 264; ISBN 90-76671-53-7 [original title: *Reviens à la vie! L'évangélisation des profondeurs II*, Paris : Le Cerf, 2002].
- Hans van der Laan, *The Play of Forms: Nature, Culture and Liturgy. Translated by Richard Padovan. With a Preface by Kees den Biesen*, Leiden : Brill, 2005; pp.

2022

ܚܒܬܐܢܐ ܕܥܠܡܐ ܕܗܝܘܐ. **ܪܫܐ ܕܟܨܒܐ ܕܩܕܝܫܐ ܕܥܠܡܐ ܕܗܝܘܐ.**

Op de Bruiloft van de Geestelijke Bruidgom. Orde van de zegening van bruidegoms en bruiden volgens de traditie van de Syrisch Orthodoxe Kerk van Antiochië, Bar Ebroyo Press : Losser, 2022, 155 pp.; ISBN 978-90-5047-110-7 [bi-lingual edition of the Syriac Orthodox wedding ritual, with introduction; large format edition for priests, small format edition for the faithful; see also above under ‘publications’ (planned)].

Conference Presentations, Courses, Papers & Workshops

- 1998** *Inzicht in eigen ervaringen: een didactische tentoonstelling over de architectuurtheorie van Dom Hans van der Laan*, Opening address, exhibition about Van der Laan at the Henri van de Velde Instituut, Antwerp, Belgium, 7 May, 1998.
- Naam, vorm en zin: overwegingen bij de architectuurtheorie van Dom Hans van der Laan. Lezing door Kees den Biesen en Lode van den Broeck*, Henri van de Velde Instituut, Antwerp, Belgium, 13 May, 1998.
- La question de la quantité dans l'architecture: Dom Hans van der Laan et le Numéro Plastique*, conference at Salon Marjolaine, Paris, France, 15 November 1998.
- 1999** *Word and Silence in the Discourse on God in Ephrem the Syrian*, communication at the Thirteenth International Patristic Conference, Oxford, UK, August 1999.
- 2000** *Art and Liturgy in the work of Dom Hans van der Laan*, paper delivered at the Stanley Picker Gallery, Kingston University, London, UK, at the occasion of Richard Demarco's exhibition 'On the Road to Meikle Seggie', 5 April, 2000.
- 2004** *Speaking about the Unspeakable: The Symbolical Theology of Ephrem the Syrian*, paper delivered at the Ninth International Conference for Syriac Studies, Kaslik, Lebanon, September 2004.
- 2007** *Ephrem the Syrian: Poetry, the essence of theology*, paper delivered at the XXXVI Incontro di Studiosi dell'Antichità Cristiana: Motivi e forme della poesia cristiana antica tra Scrittura e Tradizione classica, Istituto Patristico Augustinianum, Rome, Italy, 3-5 May 2007.
- 2008** *Van buiten naar binnen, en dan omhoog: een christelijk perspectief op architectuur*, paper delivered at Building the Spirit: Architecture for Religious and Spiritual Functions. Exhibitions, lectures and design competition on various locations in Dordrecht, the Netherlands, March 2008.
- The Poetry of Affirmation: Imagination in Ephrem the Syrian, Dante Alighieri and William Blake*, paper delivered at the Tenth Conference of Syriac Studies, Granada, Spain, September 2008.
- De symbolische theologie van Efreem de Syrië*, paper at Bēth Drāšā, Oosters christelijk leerhuis, Den Bosch, the Netherlands, November 2008.
- Kunst, intellect en godsdienst: lezing over Dom Hans van der Laan osb (1904-1991)*, paper delivered at Wederzijds – Kunst in context, Den Bosch, the Netherlands, 22 November 2008.

2009

Kunst: sleutel tot volwaardig denken en geloven: lezing over Efreem de Syriër, paper delivered at Wederzijds – Kunst in context, Den Bosch, the Netherlands, 22 November 2008.

Op weg met Dante: de poëzie van menswording, course on Dante's Divina Commedia at HOVO Amsterdam, February-May 2009.

Op weg met Dante: de poëzie van menswording, course on Dante's Divina Commedia HOVO Haagse Hogeschool (The Hague), the Netherlands, February-May 2009.

Op weg met Dante: de poëzie van menswording, course on Dante's Divina Commedia HOVO Brabant (Tilburg), the Netherlands, February-May 2009.

Schepping en Schrift, schatten van Christussymbolen, bij Efreem de Syriër, course at Leerhuis van de Kerkvaders, Gent, Belgium, 28 February 2009.

Symbolisch spreken, denken en leven: de mistagogie van Efreem de Syriër, paper at St. Adelbertabdij, Egmond, the Netherlands, March 2009.

Mor Aphrem, Harfe des heiligen Geistes, paper at Mor Eša'yo Syriac Orthodox parish, Gronau, Germany, March 2009.

Just another view. Suryoye in Twente: een apart soort ondernemerschap, paper delivered at Connect 2009: Reünie SWOT MBA, TSM Business School, Ootmarsum, the Netherlands, 3 September 2009.

Ephrem the Syrian, Teaching Song on the Church 9, paper delivered at Ancient Ornamentalism. Sacred Poetry and the Aesthetics of Late Antiquity. A Workshop at The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, USA, 19-21 October, 2009.

Der hl. Ephräm der Syrer, workshop at Syrisch Orthodoxer Kirchenkreis NRW, Paderborn, Germany, 6-7 November 2009.

Efreem de Syriër (ca. 305-373), Dante Alighieri (1265-1321) en William Blake (1757-1827): drie grote dichters over verbeelding en geloof, paper delivered at Dr. J.H. Bavinck College, Groningen, the Netherlands, 12 November 2009.

Veel zeggen met weinig woorden: een poëtisch perspectief of zaken en zingeving, paper delivered at Rotary Club Delden-Oldenzaal, the Netherlands, 26 November 2009.

De kracht van de verbeelding: in de leer bij Efreem de Syriër, Dante Alighieri en William Blake, paper delivered at De Macht van de Verbeelding. Symposium, Weesp, the Netherlands, 29 November 2009.

Efrem de Syriër: God komt naar ons toe in schepping, Woord, liturgie en sacramenten, course at Leerhuis van de Kerkvaders, Gent, Belgium, 19 December 2009.

2010

Goede keuzes maken: enkele adviezen van St. Efrem de Syriër, paper delivered at *Een nieuw jaar! Wat nu? Lezingen over vrijheid en het maken van een nieuw begin*, Syrian-orthodox Youth Platform, St. Efrem de Syriër Klooster, Glane-Losser, the Netherlands, 3 January 2010.

De Bijbel lezen met de Syrische Vaders, paper delivered at Mor Kyriakos Syriac Orthodox parish, Enschede, the Netherlands, 10 January 2010.

Spiritualiteit uit de christelijke Oriënt, course on the spiritual literature of the Late Antique Middle East at HOVO Amsterdam, February-April 2010.

Spiritualiteit uit de christelijke Oriënt, course on the spiritual literature of the Late Antique Middle East at HOVO Haagse Hogeschool (The Hague), the Netherlands, February-April 2010.

Een nieuwe visie uit oude bronnen: inspiratie vinden bij Efrem de Syriër, paper at Platform Aram, Enschede, the Netherlands, 20 February 2010.

„Sonntag der kanaanitischen Frau“ – über den großen Glauben der kanaanitischen Frau, paper at Mor Eša'yo Syrian-orthodox parish, Gronau, Germany, 6 March 2010.

Lopen op het scherp van het mes, contribution to research-blog *NieuwWij*, 21 May 2010 (<https://www.nieuwwij.nl/onderzoek/lopen-op-het-scherp-van-het-mes/>)

Denken in drie Dimensionen, all-day workshop for the Syrisch Orthodoxer Kirchenkreis NRW, St. Efrem de Syriër Klooster, Glane-Losser, the Netherlands, 11 June 2010.

Symbolic vision, thought and life, paper for the Fundatio Nisibinensis, St. Efrem de Syriër Klooster, Glane-Losser, the Netherlands, 19 June 2010.

‘Julie zijn het licht van de wereld’. Over christen-zijn in de 21e eeuw, workshop for the Syrisch Orthodox Jongerenplatform, St. Efrem de Syriër Klooster, Glane-Losser, the Netherlands, 4 July 2010.

What's in the name, contribution to research-blog *NieuwWij*, 13 July 2010 (<https://www.nieuwwij.nl/onderzoek/whats-name/>)

Dante Alighieri, Inferno I-X, course on Dante's *Divina Commedia*, Società Dante Alighieri Amsterdam, Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam, October-December 2010 (ten reading sessions on *Inferno* 1-10).

“De meest onzichtbare is de meest zichtbare geworden”: Efreem de Syriër over het zien van God, two conferences at Norbertijnenklooster Tongerlo, Belgium, 11 November 2010.

Kerstmis: het feest van Gods en van onze menswording, meditation at the Syrisch Orthodox Youth Christmas Celebration, St. Efreem de Syriër Klooster, Glane-Losser, the Netherlands, 18 December 2010.

Vrouwenstemmen in de kerk, contribution to research-blog *NieuwWij*, 21 December 2010 (<https://www.nieuwwij.nl/onderzoek/vrouwenstemmen-de-kerk/>)

2011

Symbolisch denken, geloven en leven: verbeelding en poëzie bij Efreem de Syriër (ca. 300-373), course about Ephrem the Syrian at HOVO Amsterdam, February-April 2011.

Dante Alighieri, Inferno XI-XX, course on Dante's *Divina Commedia*, Società Dante Alighieri Amsterdam, Amsterdam, February-April 2011 (ten reading sessions on *Inferno* 11-20).

Symbolisch denken, geloven en leven: verbeelding en poëzie bij Efreem de Syriër (ca. 300-373), course about Ephrem the Syrian at HOVO Brabant (Tilburg), the Netherlands, February-April 2011.

Symbolisch denken, geloven en leven: verbeelding en poëzie bij Efreem de Syriër (ca. 300-373), course about Ephrem the Syrian at HOVO Nijmegen, the Netherlands, February-April 2011.

„Sonntag des Blinden“ – Die Kühnheit des blinden Bar Timäus, paper at the Syriac Orthodox parish of Gronau, Germany, 9 April 2011.

“De meest onzichtbare is de meest zichtbare geworden”: Efreem de Syriër over *Schepper en schepping*, conference and workshop at Abdij Roosenberg, Waasmunster, Belgium, 7 May 2011.

The Power of Imagination according to Ephrem the Syrian – with a side-glance at Dante Alighieri, congress paper at *The Mystagogy of the Church Fathers*, Centre for Patristic Research, Utrecht, the Netherlands, 19 May 2011.

Het Syrisch Christendom: een wereld van poëzie en mystiek, paper at Sion Drieluik, Geert Groote University, Deventer, the Netherlands, 5 June 2011.

“De secularisiten overheersen ons!”, contribution to research-blog *NieuwWij*, 5 September 2011 (see <https://www.nieuwwij.nl/opinie/de-secularisiten-overheersen-ons/>)

Geloven in je dagelijks leven, workshop for the Syrisch Orthodox Jongeren Platform, St. Efreem de Syriër Klooster, Glane-Losser, the Netherlands, 18 September 2011.

Theologie als conceptuele afgoderij: Efreem de Syriër over de oorzaken van dogmatisch geweld, conference paper at Geweld in het oude christendom: slachtoffers en daders [Violence in early Christianity: victims and perpetrators], Lustrumcongres 2011 van de Stichting Oudchristelijke Studiën, 8 October 2011.

Op weg met Dante: de poëzie van menswording, course on Dante's Divina Commedia at HOVO Amsterdam, the Netherlands, September-December 2011.

Symbolisch denken, geloven en leven: verbeelding en poëzie bij Efreem de Syriër (ca. 300-373), course about Ephrem the Syrian at HOVO Overijssel - Zwolle, the Netherlands, October-December 2011.

Op weg met Dante: de poëzie van menswording, course on Dante's Divina Commedia at HOVO Overijssel - Zutphen, the Netherlands, September-December 2011.

Land van middelmatigheid, contribution to research-blog *NieuwWij*, 7 November 2011 (see <https://www.nieuwwij.nl/opinie/de-secularisten-overheersen-ons/>)

The Most Invisible has become the Most Visible (John 14:6-14), sermon and meditation at International Christian Fellowship, ITC-Institute, Enschede, the Netherlands, 27 November 2011.

Kerstmis vieren met Efreem de Syriër, weekend conference and workshop at Abdij Roosenberg, Waasmunster, Belgium, 2-4 December 2011.

2012

'They will be like angels in heaven' (Mc 12:25), sermon and meditation at International Christian Fellowship, ITC-Institute, Enschede, the Netherlands, 22 January 2012.

Isaak de Syriër: de actuele waarde van oriëntaalse mystiek, course on Isaac the Syrian at HOVO Amsterdam, January-April 2012.

Capita selecta uit Dante's Inferno, lecture dantesche at StudioLingua, Amsterdam, February-April 2012 (ten reading sessions on *Inferno* 1, 2, 3, 5, 9, 11, 17, 19, 26 and 34).

Op weg met Dante: vijf lezingen over de poëzie van het mens-zijn, five public lectures about Dante's Divina Commedia at Geert Grote Universiteit, Deventer, the Netherlands, February-March 2012.

De exegetische methodologie van Efreem de Syriër, guest lecture at Faculty of Theology, Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam, 23 March 2012.

'God schiep de mens naar zijn beeld en gelijkenis - man en vrouw schiep Hij hen' (Genesis 1:26), workshop for the Syrisch Orthodox Jongerenplatform, St. Efreem de Syrier Klooster, Glane-Losser, the Netherlands, 8 April 2012.

Je thuis voelen, contribution to research-blog *NieuwWij*, 19 April 2012 (<https://www.nieuwwij.nl/opinie/je-thuis-voelen/>)

De heilige Efrem de Syriër, parel van de kerk van het oosten, conference at Orthodoxe Parochie H. Apostel Andreas, Gent, Belgium, 29 April 2012.

De verrijkende inbreng van de kerk van het oosten: de Syrische Vaders, course at Leerhuis van de Kerkvaders, Gent, Belgium, 12 May 2012.

Op weg met Dante: de poëzie van menswording, weekend course and workshop at St. Adelbertabdij, Egmond Binnen, the Netherlands, 26-27 May 2012.

'No one is good except God alone' (Luke 18:19), sermon and meditation at the International Christian Fellowship, ITC-Institute, Enschede, the Netherlands, 12 August 2012.

De gespannen boog: kunst, denkkunst en levenskunst, course at HOVO Amsterdam, July-August 2012.

'Gods Word came to dwell among us' (John 1:14), sermon and meditation at International Christian Fellowship, ITC-Institute, Enschede, the Netherlands, 14 October 2012.

Capita selecta uit Dante's Inferno, lecture dantesche at HOVO Overijssel, Zutphen, the Netherlands, September-November 2012 (six reading sessions on *Inferno* 1, 9, 11, 19, 26 and 34).

Op weg met Dante: de poëzie van menswording, course on Dante's *Divina Commedia* at HOVO Amsterdam, September-December 2012.

Capita selecta uit Dante's Purgatorio, lecture dantesche at StudioLingua, Amsterdam, September-December 2012 (ten reading sessions on *Purgatorio* 1, 9, 11, 17, 28, 29, 30, 31 and 33).

Op weg met Dante: vijf lezingen over de poëzie van het mens-zijn, five public lectures about Dante's *Divina Commedia* at StudioLingua, Amsterdam, November 2012.

Efrem de Syriër: van het zichtbare naar het onzichtbare, lecture at the Russian Orthodox Church, Amsterdam, 8 December 2012.

The Most Invisible has become the Most Visible (John 14:6-14), sermon and meditation at International Christian Fellowship, ITC-Institute, Enschede, the Netherlands, 22 December 2012.

Kerstvertelling, geïnspireerd door Mor Efrem, Christmas play for the Syrisch Orthodox Jongerenplatform, St. Efrem de Syrier Klooster, Glane-Losser, the Netherlands, 22 December 2012.

2013

Epiphany, or the appearance of God in space and time (Mt 2:1-12), sermon and meditation at International Christian Fellowship, ITC-Institute, Enschede, the Netherlands, 6 January 2013.

De gespannen boog: kunst, denkkunst en levenskunst, course at HOVO Overijssel, Zutphen & Zwolle, the Netherlands, January-March 2013.

Dante's sterren: astronomie en astrologie in de Divina Commedia, course at HOVO Amsterdam, February-April 2013.

Capita selecta uit Dante's Paradiso, lecture dantesche at StudioLingua, Amsterdam, February-April 2013 (ten reading sessions on *Paradiso* 1, 2, 8, 11, 19, 25, 28, 31, 32 and 33).

'*Worden als kinderen*', Sunday meditation at Ekklesia Twente, Hengelo, 17 March 2013.

Dante's Divina Commedia: een kennismaking, paper at Adelbert-Vereniging Zwolle en omstreken, Zwolle, the Netherlands, 21 maart 2013.

Suryoyo-sein im globalen Zeitalter: einige Denkansätze aus den Werken Mor Ephrems des Syrers, paper at VI. Symposium Suryoye I-Suryoye, Fachbereich Geschichte und Soziologie, Schwerpunkt für Aramäische Studien, Universität Konstanz, Germany, 28-30 June, 2013.

Sacred stories (Luke 1:1-4 & Acts 1:1-3), sermon and meditation at International Christian Fellowship, ITC-Institute, Enschede, the Netherlands, 14 July 2013.

'*Man and woman God created them*' (*Genesis 1:27*), sermon and meditation at International Christian Fellowship, ITC-Institute, Enschede, the Netherlands, 18 August 2013.

'*"A drop of salvation" - Ephrem the Syrian on the Eucharist*', workshop presentation at *Sacred Meal, Communal Meal, Table Fellowship, and the Eucharist. Late Antiquity, Early Judaism, and Early Christianity*, Symposium at University of Agder's Study Center at Metochi, Lesbos, Greece, 15th-20th September 2013.

Hemelse poëzie voor aardse mensen: het Paradijs – verloren én hervonden, course at HOVO Amsterdam, September-December 2013.

Hemelse poëzie voor aardse mensen: het Paradijs – verloren én hervonden, course at HOVO Overijssel, Zutphen, the Netherlands, September-December 2013.

Capita selecta uit Dante's Inferno, lecture dantesche at StudioLingua, Amsterdam, September-December 2013 (ten reading sessions on *Inferno* 12-16 and 21-25).

Capita selecta dell'Inferno di Dante Alighieri, lecture dantesche in Italian language at StudioLingua, Amsterdam, September-December 2013 (ten reading sessions on *Inferno* 1-10).

Capita selecta uit Dante's Purgatorio, lecture dantesche at HOVO Overijssel, September-December 2013, Zutphen, the Netherlands (eight sessions dealing with *Purgatorio* 1, 9, 11, 17, 27, 29, 30 and 33).

'*Wie heeft dit alles geschapen...*', Sunday meditation at Ekklesia Twente, Hengelo, the Netherlands, 17 November 2013.

Waar zijn mijn Syrisch-orthodoxe broeders, contribution to research-blog *NieuwWij*, 18 November 2013 (<https://www.nieuwwij.nl/opinie/waar-zijn-mijn-Syrisch-orthodoxe-broeders/>)

The strength and weakness of God (Colossians 1:15-23), sermon and meditation at International Christian Fellowship, ITC-Institute, Enschede, the Netherlands, 22 December 2013.

2014

'*Know the hope to which God has called you*' (*Ephesians 1:18*), sermon and meditation at International Christian Fellowship, ITC-Institute, Enschede, the Netherlands, 5 January 2014.

Siehe das Unsichtbare im Sichtbaren: Ephrem der Syrer über Kunst, Denken und Glauben, paper at the Kreis Aramäisch Studierenden Heidelberg and Universität Heidelberg, Heidelberg, Germany, 14 January 2014.

Capita selecta uit Dante's Purgatorio, lecture dantesche at StudioLingua, Amsterdam, January-April 2014 (ten reading sessions on *Purgatorio* 15-24).

Capita selecta del Purgatorio di Dante Alighieri, lecture dantesche in Italian language at StudioLingua, Amsterdam, January-April 2014 (ten reading sessions on *Purgatorio* 15-24).

De Schrift lezen met Theodoretus van Cyrrhus en Efreem de Syrië, course at Leerhuis van de Kerkvaders, Gent, Belgium, 14-15 February 2014.

Het Paradijsverhaal in de ogen van een vroegchristelijke dichter en denker, course at Ekklesia Twente Leerhuis, Enschede-Hengelo, the Netherlands, February-April 2014.

Verborgene Perle: Schätze des syrischen Christentums, paper at Katholischer Studentenverein Germania Münster, Münster, Germany, 24 April 2014.

Het werk van dom Hans van der Laan en de Benedictijnse way of life, paper for the Van der Laan Stichting – Studiegroep Amsterdam, Amsterdam Architecture Centre, 10 May 2014.

In het voetspoor van Dante: een reis door het Casentino-dal, guided tour and lecture dantesche in Florence and the Casentino valley, Italy, 20-27 May 2014.

Mor Efreem en zijn zingende vrouwen, workshop at Mor Ephrem's Day, Syrisch Orthodox Jongerenplatform, St. Efreem de Syriërklooster, Glane-Losser, the Netherlands, 9 June 2014.

De Schepper en de dichter: Efreem de Syriër over de plaats van de mens in Gods schepping, paper at *De mens in Gods schepping: perspectieven vanuit de kerkvaders*, Leerhuis van de Kerkvaders en Centrum voor Christelijke Vorming in het bisdom Gent, Colloquium Oude Abdij van Drongen, Gent, Belgium, 13-14 June 2014 (cf. Dirk Hanssen, 'Naar een vernieuwende kennis over en omgang met de schepping. Verfrissende inzichten van kerkvaders uit Oost en West in colloquium', *De Kovel* nr. 34, 7 (2014) 73-74).

Op weg met Dante: studiedagen over de poëzie van het mens-zijn, StudioLingua, Amsterdam, 17 & 18 July 2014.

De almachtige zwakheid van God, menselijk leed en christelijke actie, meditation at a silent march in protest against the atrocities against Christians in Iraq and Syria, Enschede, the Netherlands, 3 August 2014.

'To know the love of Christ' (*Ephesians 3:19*), sermon and meditation at International Christian Fellowship, ITC-Institute, Enschede, the Netherlands, 24 August 2014.

Capita selecta uit Dante's Paradiso, lecture dantesche at StudioLingua, Amsterdam, October-December 2014 (ten sessies on *Paradiso* 14-18 and 29-33).

De gespannen boog: over kunst, denkkunst en levenskunst, course at HOVO Nijmegen, Nijmegen, the Netherlands, October-December 2014.

Capita selecta uit Dante's Paradiso, lecture dantesche at U3L, Zutphen, the Netherlands, October-December 2014 (eight sessions on *Paradiso* 1, 2, 10, 22, 28, 30, 32 and 33).

Het dal van Dante: de Casentino, paper at Vereniging Dante Alighieri Amsterdam, Het Amsterdams Lyceum, Amsterdam, 17 November 2014.

'Who sees me, sees the Father' (*John 14:9*), sermon and meditation at International Christian Fellowship, ITC-Institute, Enschede, the Netherlands, 30 November 2014.

2015

Kijken, denken en bidden: Dom van der Laan over "de drie bezigheden van onze geest," paper at the *Van der Laan Dag*, Sint Lucas Boxtel, the Netherlands, 23 January 2015.

Capita selecta uit Dante's Inferno, lecture dantesche at U3L, Zutphen, the Netherlands, February-April 2015 (eight reading sessions on *Inferno* 4-8 & 9-14).

Ktohonoyo in het Nederlands: drie vertaal-workshops, three workshops about translating classical Syriac into Dutch, St. Ephrem the Syrian Monastery, Losser, the Netherlands, March 2015.

Het verhaal achter 'The Passion': historische en religieuze achtergronden van de Passieverhalen, public lecture at *BiepEvent*, Bibliotheek Enschede, Enschede, the Netherlands, 12 March 2015.

Van tragedie naar komedie: Dante en Vergilius in de Hel, lecture dantesche at StudioLingua, Amsterdam, April 2015 (six all-day seminars on the presence of Vergils *Aeneis* in Dante's *Inferno*).

Concetti aperti nel pensiero di Hans van der Laan, paper at *Ordine e proporzione: Dom Hans van der Laan e l'espressività dello spazio architettonico*, Casa dell'Architettura, Rome, Italy, 30 April 2015.

Beatrice in Dante's poëzie: van liefdesgedicht naar Paradijservaring. Studiereis naar Ravenna, five all-day seminars on Dante Alighieri's *Rime* and *Vita Nuova*, with guided tours in Ravenna, San Marino and San Leo, Centro Francese di Studi Danteschi, Ravenna, Italy, 17-24 May 2015.

'Do not judge' (Matthew 7:1-5 and Ephesians 3:8-21), sermon and meditation at International Christian Fellowship, ITC-Institute, Enschede, the Netherlands, 21 June 2015.

Van tragedie naar komedie: Dante en Vergilius in de Hel, lecture dantesche at StudioLingua, Amsterdam, June-July 2015 (six all-day seminars on the presence of Vergils *Aeneis* in Dante's *Inferno*).

'Born to be children of God' (Marc 10:13-16 and Romans 8:14-17), sermon and meditation at the International Christian Fellowship, ITC-Institute, Enschede, the Netherlands, 19 July 2015.

De oudste reis ter wereld - terug naar het Paradijs. Lezing over Dante Alighieri's Paradiso, paper at Dat Bolwerck, Zutphen, the Netherlands, 2 August 2015.

Symbolism in early and medieval Christianity: some reflections on the cognitive value of symbols, paper at the *International Hildegard Pilgrimage* of the Scivias-Institut für Kunst und Spiritualität, at Dietrich Bonhoeffer Hause, Bad Kreuznach, Germany, 28 July - 8 August 2015.

'Oud Father who art in heaven' (Matthew 6:7-15 & 21:18-22), sermon and meditation at International Christian Fellowship, ITC-Institute, Enschede, the Netherlands 16 August 2015.

Poëzie, filosofie en wetenschap bij Dante Alighieri: een ontdekkingsstocht door Dante's werken, five all-day seminars at StudioLingua, Amsterdam, September-October 2015.

Charisma, Institution und Dienstbarkeit, all-day vision development and team-building seminar at the Scivias Institut für Kunst und Spiritualität, Bad Kreuznach, Germany, 10 October 2015.

Da fioretti vermigli e gialli a una candida rosa – Il giardino come spazio interiore nella Divina Commedia, paper at *Gardinity: dall'Hortus Floridus al garden show*, Villa Pisani Bolognesi Scalabrin, Vescovana, Italy, 25 October 2015.

2016

Dante, Beatrice en Vrouwe Filosofie: hoe Plato en Aristoteles elkaar vonden in Italiaanse liefdespoëzie, five all-day seminars at StudioLingua, Amsterdam, February-March 2016.

Viriditas und 'Laudato si' von Papst Franziskus and Viriditas and 'Laudato si' by Pope Francis, at Viriditas - Green Power of Life. International Conference, Scivias Institut für Kunst und Spiritualität, Bingen-Disibodenberg-Eibingen, Germany, 26-29 May 2016.

Sources of Christian Leadership: Reflections on past, present and future, paper at Leadership workshop, Syriac Youth Global Gathering, Stadskanaal, the Netherlands, 21 July 2016.

Dante en Umbria Sacra: over natuur, poëzie en een wijs leven, seven all-day seminars about Dante and his Franciscan and Benedictine sources, with guided tours in Perugia, Assisi, Fonte Avellana and Fabriano, Italy, 9-16 October 2016.

Development and theology of Syriac asceticism, monasticism and mysticism, course at the Master of Arts in Syriac Theology Program, Fachbereich Bibelwissenschaft und Kirchengeschichte, Katholisch-Theologische Fakultät, Universität Salzburg, Austria, 21 November - 1 December 2016.

Syriac biblical exegesis - advanced seminar, course at the Master of Arts in Syriac Theology Program, Fachbereich Bibelwissenschaft und Kirchengeschichte, Katholisch-Theologische Fakultät, Universität Salzburg, Austria, 21 November - 2 December 2016.

Das Gebet bei Ephräm dem Syrer. Vom liturgischen zum inneren Gebet, public lecture at *Tag der Begegnung 2016: "Vor Deinem Kreuz fallen wir nieder": das Gebet und das Überleben der Christen in Syrien*, Syrisches Institut, Byzantinische Gebetszentrum & Pro Oriente Salzburg, Salzburg, Austria, 26 November 2016.

2017

Syriac biblical exegesis - Old Testament Commentaries, course at the Master of Arts in Syriac Theology Program, Fachbereich Bibelwissenschaft und

Kirchengeschichte, Katholisch-Theologische Fakultät, Universität Salzburg, Austria, 8-17 March 2017.

Dante onderweg in ruimte en tijd. Studiereis naar Verona, de Colli Euganei en Padua, seven all-day seminars, with guided tours and *letture dantesche* in Verona, Arquà Petrarca and Padua, Italy, 5-13 May 2017.

Places of the Higher Self. Five-day Journey Through the Green Heart of Italy, Gualdo Tadino, Fonte Avellana, Assisi, Campello sul Clitunno & Fabriano (Umbria-Le Marche), 18-23 September 2017.

Žes Toscaanse dichters en de geboorte van de Italiaanse literatuur en cultuur, four all-day seminars at StudioLingua, Amsterdam, 9-16 October 2017.

Dante en Beatrice: hoe het begon en hoe het eindigde, paper at Dante Alighieri Amsterdam, 17 October 2017.

Development and theology of Syriac asceticism, monasticism and mysticism, course at the Master of Arts in Syriac Theology Program, Fachbereich Bibelwissenschaft und Kirchengeschichte, Katholisch-Theologische Fakultät, Universität Salzburg, Austria, 23 November - 7 December 2017.

Syriac biblical exegesis - advanced seminar, course at the Master of Arts in Syriac Theology Program, Fachbereich Bibelwissenschaft und Kirchengeschichte, Katholisch-Theologische Fakultät, Universität Salzburg, Austria, 23 November - 5 December 2017.

2018

Syriac biblical exegesis - Old Testament Commentaries, course at the Master of Arts in Syriac Theology Program, Fachbereich Bibelwissenschaft und Kirchengeschichte, Katholisch-Theologische Fakultät, Universität Salzburg, Austria, 12-20 April 2018.

De geboorte van de Italiaanse literatuur en cultuur. Toscaanse leesweek in het gezelschap van Dante, Petrarca en Boccaccio, eight all-day seminars, with *letture dantesche* and guided tours, Lucca & Pistoia (Tuscany), 20-28 May 2018.

Places of the Higher Self. Five-day Journey Through the Green Heart of Italy, 17-23 September 2018.

Syriac asceticism, monasticism and mysticism: their history and theology, course at the Master of Arts in Syriac Theology Program, Fachbereich Bibelwissenschaft und Kirchengeschichte, Katholisch-Theologische Fakultät, Universität Salzburg, Austria, 15-28 November 2018.

Syriac biblical exegesis - advanced seminar, course at the Master of Arts in Syriac Theology Program, Fachbereich Bibelwissenschaft und Kirchengeschichte, Katholisch-Theologische Fakultät, Universität Salzburg, Austria, 23-29 November 2018.

2019

Perle nascoste: tesori del cristianesimo siriano, series of lectures at Monache Benedettine, Monastero di San Luca, Fabriano (AN), Italy, 7 January - 18 March 2019.

De Schrift lezen met Theodoretus van Cyrrhus en Efreem de Syrië, course at Leerhuis van de Kerkvaders, Gent, Belgium, 18-19 January 2019.

Incontri biblici, series of fortnightly lectures at Confraternita del beato Marzio, Pieve di Compreseto, Gualdo Tadino, 3 March - 24 July 2019.

Syriac biblical exegesis - Old Testament Commentaries, course at the Master of Arts in Syriac Theology Program, Fachbereich Bibelwissenschaft und Kirchengeschichte, Katholisch-Theologische Fakultät, Universität Salzburg, Austria, 6-11 May 2019.

'EMpowerment: la crescita individuale attraverso l'utilizzo degli Effective Microorganisms', paper at *Meeting EM*, Associazione Puliti senza Chimica, Villa Poggiolo, Pilonico Materno (PG), 2 June 2019.

'Pensare in tre dimensioni: cosa ci insegnano gli EM (Effective Microorganisms) sul potenziamento personale e collettivo', conference at *Verso l'Autoguarigione. Corso formativo teorico-pratico, interdisciplinare e interprofessionale*, Accademia degli EM, Villa Poggiolo, Pilonico Materno (PG), 30 August 2019.

'I misteri della Madonna e del suo Bimbo. Dagli Inni sulla Festa della Natività di Sant'Efreem il Siro (ca. 300 - 9 giugno 373)', conference at Centro di Volontariato Sociale - Caritas diocesana, Gualdo Tadino, 6 December 2019.

2020

Sacramental Theology (rāze) and Eucharistic Prayers (Anaphoras) of the Syriac Tradition in an Ecumenical Perspective, course at the Master of Arts in Syriac Theology Program, Fachbereich Bibelwissenschaft und Kirchengeschichte, Katholisch-Theologische Fakultät, Universität Salzburg, Austria, 13-21 January 2020.

"Con gli occhi e con la mente abbiamo visto Dio" - Vita liturgica e teologia simbolica nella poesia di Efreem il Siro, series of lectures at Monache Benedettine, Monastero di San Luca, Fabriano (AN), Italy, January - March 2020.

Syriac asceticism, monasticism and mysticism: their history and theology, on-line course at the Master of Arts in Syriac Theology Program, Fachbereich Bibelwissenschaft und Kirchengeschichte, Katholisch-Theologische Fakultät, Universität Salzburg, Austria, on-line teaching, 3-26 June 2020.

Syriac biblical exegesis - Old Testament Commentaries, on-line course at the Master of Arts in Syriac Theology Program, Fachbereich Bibelwissenschaft und Kirchengeschichte, Katholisch-Theologische Fakultät,

Universität Salzburg, Austria, on-line teaching, 26 November - 22 December 2020.

2021 *Syriac biblical exegesis - advanced seminar*, on-line course at the Master of Arts in Syriac Theology Program, Fachbereich Bibelwissenschaft und Kirchengeschichte, Katholisch-Theologische Fakultät, Universität Salzburg, Austria, on-line teaching, 1-5 February 2021.

Rifondare la liturgia: Hans van der Laan sull'origine della forma liturgica, on-line course at Dies Domini: Centro Studi per l'architettura sacra e la città, Fondazione Cardinale Giacomo Lercara, Bologna, in collaboration with Tiziana Proietti, 4 May 2021.

Dichter, denker, mysticus - de mens in het oriëntaals christendom, webinar in the series 'Menselijke waardigheid in de oosters-christelijke theologie', Instituut voor Oosters Christendom, Nijmegen & Katholieke Vereniging voor Oecumene, 's Hertogenbosch, 24 June 2021; edited text published in *Perspectief 2021 - 55 Menselijke waardigheid in de oosters-christelijke theologie*, see above, p. 13.

2022 *Eucaristie orientali: esplorazioni comparative di alcune anafore greche e siriane*, online course at the Pontificio Istituto Orientale, Roma, January - February 2022.

La teologia liturgica siriana, course at the Pontificio Istituto Orientale, Roma, October - December 2022.

Entering Paradise with Ephrem the Syrian: Scripture and Symbolic Thought, paper at the online International Symposium of Biblical Exegesis, third edition (ISBE 2022, November 10-12), Faculty of Letters, History and Theology, University of the West, Timișoara, Romania.

2023 *Symbol, sacrament, sanctity: Syriac anthropology for a Christian future*, conference at *Sainthood in the Oriental Tradition. VI BVP Theological Colloquium*, Bethany Vedavijnana Peeth - Institute of Oriental Theology, Pune, 6-8 January 2023.

Dialogare con i Padri: introduzione alla teologia patristica, course at the Pontificio Istituto Orientale, Roma, February - May 2023.

Dove nacque il cristianesimo orientale: introduzione al mondo antico, course at the Pontificio Istituto Orientale, Roma, October 2023 - January 2024.

Ascetismo e misticismo siriano, course at the Pontificio Istituto Orientale, Roma, October 2023 - January 2024.

2024 *Dialogare con i Padri: introduzione alla teologia patristica*, course at the Pontificio Istituto Orientale, Roma, February - May 2024.

L'esegesi siriana, course at the Pontificio Istituto Orientale, Roma, February
- May 2024.