

Who are we?



PAREL is the Platform of Antwerpian Religions and Life-philosophies (Platform van Antwerpse Religies En Levensbeschouwingen). The core group of PAREL consists of a broad group of people with diverse religious and philosophic backgrounds. PAREL can build on many years of interreligious and interphilosophical dialogue in Antwerp while the city of Antwerp has always offered support and additional insight to PAREL's working.



This platform developed and is carried out with the help of ORBIT Antwerp. As a socio-cultural movement, ORBIT wants to help develop the capabilities and conditions that allow people from all diversities to continuously engage in dialogue. This includes the issues of racism, migration, and cooperation amongst different religions and life-philosophies. ORBIT operates in all regions of Flanders as well as in Brussels.

You can find more information over PAREL and ORBIT on the respective websites: www.parelantwerpen.be and www.orbitvzw.be

Are you interested in the working of PAREL; do you think that your community can be represent in the core group; feel free to contact us via antwerpen@orbitvzw.be or via **03 541 14 98**. Our address, **Rolwagenstraat 73, 2018 Antwerp**, is where you received this package. At this place, you are always welcome for remarks, questions, or ideas on building dialogue with all communities in Antwerp.



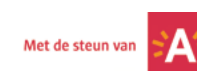
Corona Prevention Packages

Coming together safely during Corona-times



The city of Antwerp is concerned about you

In these months of taking care of each other, we offer you a package with articles that help to keep our meeting places virus-free, also the places of those organizations that are not (yet) nationally recognized. the city of Antwerp makes it possible that these packages can be distributed, PAREL and ORBIT Antwerp are happy to realize this project. From January 15, 2021 onwards, we will contact you to come and pick up the package for your community at **Rolwagenstraat 73, 2018 Antwerp** (secretariat of ORBIT Antwerp, where also PAREL is located).





What's inside the packages?

- Hand disinfection (small bottles and a refill unit)
- Disinfection for hard surfaces (door handles, benches, etc.) as well as paper rolls
- Sticky tape and barrier tape for your meeting rooms
- Face masks



What if you received too much material?

In case that we gave you too much material, we would kindly ask you to give the excess articles to another organization or to your neighbors who could use them, or to give the material back to us.

The Covid-19 virus – general advice to limit the spread of the virus:



- Keep distance at all times.
- Do not shake hands. Greet each other best by waving.
- Wash your hands regularly and thoroughly (40-60 sec.) with water and soap.
- Disinfect surfaces such as door handles and taps regularly.
- If you have to cough, use a paper sheet or cough in your elbow.
- Use paper sheets if you have to sneeze and throw them in a closed garbage bin afterwards.
- If you are sick, stay at home. Do not go to your work! Consult a doctor via phone.
- Avoid close contact with sick people.
- Touch your face as little as possible with your hands.
- Keep your prayer or meeting rooms ventilated.



Vaccination

During the next months, the Belgian population will receive a vaccine against Covid-19. The government is currently busy with this campaign and will contact everybody personally for a gratis vaccine. A lot will depend on its effects, but if a big part of society receives the vaccine, we can hopefully come back together, go back to our places of prayer, and hold family celebrations together. The first results indicate that the vaccines offer a good protection against Covid-19.

In the first place, we receive a vaccine to protect ourselves. When the virus is circulating a lot, our care industry collapses, many people die, and stronger prevention measurements have to be invoked, limiting our personal freedoms. Through receiving the vaccine, we therefore do not only take responsibility for ourselves, but for the whole community.



It is of course understandable that we want to be well-informed about the vaccines first. Many of us are doubting about receiving the vaccine due to fear and mistrust. What is important, is that we inform ourselves well.

Those who listen to the Belgian virologists, infectiologists, and epidemiologists can see that all of the scientific requirements are met to bring safe vaccines to market.

Of course, some questions remain: how long will the vaccines work? Will there be side-effects? Do vaccinated people stay infectious?

These open question should not hold us back from receiving the vaccine. After all, there is a danger of side-effects with any vaccine that exists. For more information on the vaccines, you can contact the webpage of www.vrt.be/vrtnws/en.

If you have more questions about Covid-19 vaccinations or would like to have a talk about this topic, you can also contact us!

