

Masarap!

The first Filipino cookbook in the Netherlands

Dear Ambassador,

It is a big honor for us that we can present to you the first Filipino cookbook in the Netherlands. Especially because you are also an author of many books by yourself.

As a family we lived in the Philippines for seven years and now, while we are back in the Netherlands, we miss some typical Filipino dishes. For me the Bulalo, the Beef Caldereta and the Pancit Canton are all-time favorites.

It is really a shame that these wonderful dishes were not available for our Dutch people. That is the reason why we made Masarap! The first Filipino cookbook in the Netherlands. But I have to be honest not all Filipino recipes made it into the cookbook. Balut was one step too far for us.

We hope that by selling this book we can raise the finance for our second study house in Mindoro. As Sparrow Foundation we believe that every child has the right to education. And while in the Philippines there is good public schooling provided, some people still have a social distance. As Sparrow Foundation we give tailor made study guidance with a team of Filipino teachers and social workers to help every child with a poor and rough background to a college degree.

This cookbook is made with the help of these people. They told us the recipes, they cooked it as an example and they told us their stories.

Food and sharing meals goes through all social classes, eating together connects people. Genemin, mother of one of our sponsor students, tells in the cookbook that she loves to cook because *"I can put a smile on my children's faces every day"*. We hope that with this cookbook we can put a smile on many faces. And we hope that by this cookbook we can connect with the Filipino people and with the wonderful Philippine culture.

It is a real honor for us that we can present this book to your excellency. The first Filipino cookbook in the Netherlands!

