

**FROM:** The Cathedral of St. John the Divine

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*Request for Coverage*

**THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE TO RESUME  
IN-PERSON SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES STARTING  
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12**

*Vaccinations and masks required for entry  
Cathedral regathering will include public events, services, and programs*



Worshippers will be welcomed back for in-person Sunday worship services, the first since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, beginning **Sunday, September 12, 2021 at 10:30 am at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, located at 1047 Amsterdam Avenue (at 112<sup>th</sup> Street), Manhattan.**

Like many churches in New York City and across the country, the Cathedral transitioned its worship services to online platforms in March 2020. Since then, the Cathedral clergy has been at work determining how to safely bring congregants back into the spacious interior of the world's largest Gothic cathedral. Now, eighteen months since the Cathedral made its services virtual, Clergy will welcome congregants and visitors to gather together for Sunday worship services. In accordance with the Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese's guidelines, the Eucharist will be offered in the form of Bread only.

The Cathedral has put in place updated COVID protocols to continue safeguarding in-person worshippers, visitors, and staff:

- Upon entry to the Cathedral, all visitors will be required to show a hard copy or photo of their vaccination card or the NYS Excelsior Pass and a Photo ID.
- Masks are required for all visitors, staff, and clergy while in the Cathedral and in any Cathedral buildings. Children between the ages of 2 and 12 are also required to wear masks and must be accompanied by a fully vaccinated guardian.
- Seating will be physically distanced, according to city, state, and federal guidelines.

The Sunday service will coincide with a weekend of remembrance of the victims and survivors of September 11, 2001, including a life-saving blood drive in partnership with the New York Blood Center on September 8. The NYBC will be distributing a commemorative pin to all donors. On Saturday, September 11, the bells will toll at 8:46 AM, the time the first of the two planes hurtled into the World Trade Center. The service on September 12, which will include prayers for all affected by 9/11, will be officiated by the dean of the Cathedral, the Right Reverend Clifton Daniel III.

Along with the Cathedral's resumption of its in-person Sunday worship services, more signature programs and events, many of which were put on hiatus in 2020, will continue to return on site. Vertical tours, which moved online early in the pandemic, return to the Cathedral's indoor spaces on September 10. Visitors will once again enjoy climbing more than 124 feet through spiral staircases to the top of the Cathedral, while learning about the Cathedral's stained glass, sculptures and grand architecture. The Cathedral's beloved annual services, including the Feast of St. Francis in early October, are currently being planned, with the Cathedral closely following updates to state and city COVID regulations to continue ensure the safety of all.

For more information and COVID guidance, please visit the Cathedral's website at [stjohndivine.org](http://stjohndivine.org).

**WHAT: In-person Sunday Worship Services**

**DATE: Beginning Sunday, September 12, 2021**

**TIME: 10:30 AM Holy Eucharist Service**

**PLACE: The Cathedral of St. John the Divine  
1047 Amsterdam Avenue (at 112<sup>th</sup> Street)**

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