



The Cathedral
Church of **Saint John**
the Divine

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RELEASE

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**“COME AND SEE”:
THE COMMUNITY AT THE CROSSING HOSTS
DAYLONG SPIRITUAL RETREAT AND DISCUSSION
AT THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE**



In-person day of meditation and gatherings with members of religious community at the Cathedral

New York (February 18, 2023) The **Community at the Crossing**, a transformational, year-long residential program that aims to reignite international ecumenical dialogue among young people, will host a day of meditation, reflection, and spiritual discussion on Saturday, February 18, 2023 at **The Cathedral of St. John the Divine, located at 1047 Amsterdam Avenue (at 112th Street)**.

This daylong retreat will offer both an in-person experience of spiritual togetherness and introspective prayer, led by members of the Community at the Crossing team. The morning will include opportunities for private and group meditation in the Cathedral and on its spacious grounds. Later in the afternoon, participants are welcome to learn more about the Community at the Crossing from members and from The Very Reverend Patrick Malloy, Dean of the Cathedral.

The Community at the Crossing builds upon the model of intentional contemplative communities across the globe, drawing inspiration from the Anglican Community of St. Anselm in the United Kingdom and the international Chemin Neuf Community (a Roman Catholic community with an ecumenical vocation). The program launched with a service of dedication at the Cathedral in September 2022. His Holiness Pope Francis joined The Most Reverend Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury, The Most Reverend Michael Curry, and His All-Holiness Bartholomew, Archbishop of Constantinople-New Rome and Ecumenical Patriarch in sending messages of support for the new endeavor. “My hope is the community will offer an opportunity to revive the desire for unity of Christians and of society in New York and even the United States,” Pope Francis said in his video message, broadcast during the service.

Applications to the program are now open, and the Community will accept submissions through May 2023. The program offers two modes of membership: Local members integrate the community rhythms of study, prayer, and service into their current professional activity or study. Residential members study, prayer, service and reside onsite at the Cathedral.

Whether Episcopalian, Roman Catholic, or members of another Christian denomination, the intentional community members will participate in acts of service for New Yorkers and build a space where individuals of different backgrounds can reignite ecumenical dialogues around theology, sociology and leadership, as well as social issues. At the end of their year of prayer and service, these leaders will return to their secular occupations, or religious work, bringing with them a new ethical perspective that will guide their impact in the world.

More in-person gatherings for the public and prospective Community at the Crossing applicants will be held throughout the spring. For more information on the Community at the Crossing and the February 18 retreat, visit <https://www.stjohndivine.org/calendar/44720/community-at-the-crossing-come-and-see>.

About The Cathedral

The Cathedral of St. John the Divine is the Cathedral of the Episcopal Diocese of New York. It is chartered as a house of prayer for all people and a unifying center of intellectual light and leadership.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Cathedral has responded to changing needs in the local community and across the city and state. People from many faiths and communities worship together in daily services held online and in person; the

soup kitchen serves roughly 50,000 meals annually; social service outreach has an increasingly varied roster of programs to safely provide resources and aid to the hardest-hit New Yorkers; the distinguished Cathedral School prepares young students to be future leaders; Advancing the Community of Tomorrow, the renowned preschool, afterschool and summer program, offers diverse educational and nurturing experiences; the outstanding Textile Conservation Lab preserves world treasures; concerts, exhibitions, performances and civic gatherings allow conversation, celebration, reflection and remembrance—such is the joyfully busy life of this beloved and venerated Cathedral.