

RELEASE

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CELEBRATE THE SEASON: CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S SERVICES AND CONCERTS AT THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE

(Date) The Cathedral of St. John the Divine celebrates the season with festive holiday services and beloved concerts on **Saturday, December 14; Tuesday, December 24; Wednesday, December 25; Tuesday, December 31; and, Wednesday, January 1 at The Cathedral of St. John the Divine, located at 1047 Amsterdam Avenue (at 112th Street), Manhattan.**

This year's cherished holiday festivities at the Cathedral will kick off on **Saturday, December 14 at 7:00 PM with Fantasias and Carols: A Cathedral Christmas.** The Cathedral's annual Christmas concert will feature music by Ralph Vaughan Williams, George Frideric Handel, and Giovanni Gabrieli performed by the combined Cathedral Choirs, Orchestra, and Soloists all under the direction of Kent Tritle and Bryan Zaros. The whole audience is warmly invited to join in singing favorite Christmas carols, led by the choirs and orchestra.

Program

Ralph Vaughan Williams
Fantasia on Christmas Carols

George Frideric Handel
Concerto in G minor, Op. 4, No. 1

Giovanni Gabrieli
Hodie Christus Natus est a 8
Angelus ad Pastores a 12

In addition to the Morning Prayer, on **Tuesday, December 24, the Cathedral will offer two special services: Christmas Eve Lessons and Carols at 4:00 PM, and the Christmas Eve Festal Eucharist from 10:30 PM to 11:55 PM.**

Christmas Eve Lessons and Carols is a family-focused offering, featuring larger-than-life puppets, carols, and the lilting voices of the Cathedral Choristers. At the later Festal Eucharist that evening, more bonhomie and beautiful music is the order of the hour, with the Dean and

Bishop welcoming in the best of the season. The Cathedral Choirs and Orchestra will perform a festive mass setting and anthems, as well as classic Christmas carols. Special guests Paul Winter and Susanna Phillips will join to celebrate the Christmas spirit.

The Christmas Day Choral Eucharist will be held on Wednesday, December 25 from 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM. The Dean will preach and be joined by the Cathedral Choir.

The New Year's Eve Concert for Peace will be held on Tuesday, December 31 from 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM with performances by the Cathedral Choir and Orchestra led by Director of Music Kent Tritle. This annual event will be hosted by Harry Smith and will feature special guests Paul Winter, Jamet Pittman, Jason Robert Brown, and David Briggs.

The New Year's Day Eucharist will be held on Wednesday, January 1, 2020 from 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM. Please note, this Eucharist will be the only service on New Year's Day.

For more information, please visit: <https://www.stjohndivine.org/spiritual/celebrating-the-season-christmas-new-years-eve/>

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. People from many faiths and communities worship together in services held more than 30 times a week; the soup kitchen serves roughly 25,000 meals annually; social service outreach has an increasingly varied roster of programs; the distinguished Cathedral School prepares young students to be future leaders; Adults and Children in Trust, 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.

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