

Winter 2015 –16 at the Cathedral

Enter the Conversation

Five years ago, the Cathedral initiated a regular feature in the newsletter: “The Cathedral Invites You to Take a Pause to Consider Climate Change.” (SEE BOX) We were then gearing up for 2011–2012 exhibition *The Value of Water*, the first of what we expect to be a series of art exhibitions and related programming focused on the intersection of society and the natural world. By invoking the words of many of the world’s great political and cultural thinkers—many of whom have spoken at the Cathedral—we hoped to contextualize these exhibitions within the frame of the Cathedral’s 100-year history of environmental action. A selection of these musings, some urgent, others more pensive, are printed below. *The Value of Food* is currently on view at the Cathedral, and, as this newsletter goes to print, the United Nations Climate Change Conference is still set to take place in Paris in early December. On December 9, to add our voice to this crucial discussion, the Cathedral and Food & Water Watch will host a climate vigil (SEE BOX).

The success of the Paris conference will be gauged not only by what commitments are made, but by whether the talks set the stage for continued formal discussions that extend and deepen commitments, that seize political and technological opportunities, and make progress on issues of social justice. Aside from the panicked urgency of those who claim we have only two, five or fifteen years to save the world, beyond the laissez-faire of deniers and cynics, and beyond the dangerous belief in the perfect wisdom of markets and the miracles of technology lies a middle path. This is the path that admits despair and cherishes hope; that acknowledges failure and celebrates success; that doesn’t expect human nature to transform but notes that history does more than simply repeat itself. To travel that path requires both compromise and clarity. Food issues are one aspect of climate change—and social systems in general—that most directly affect security and justice. They affect individuals on a visceral, daily level; and the most affected are, of course, the poor, the near poor, students—anyone who has to stretch every dollar.

Zora Neale Hurston (1891–1960), inducted into the American Poets Corner this year, wrote, “It is hard to apply oneself to



Sculptures by Christy Rupp mingle with Cathedral treasures.
PHOTO: Keetu Winter

study where there is no money to pay for food and lodging. I almost never explain these things when folks are asking me why I don’t do this or that.”

One thing that we have learned putting together this exhibition is that rumors of food scarcity have been vastly exaggerated. Our planet produces enough food for all who go to bed hungry today—the problems are in how that food is distributed, priced, speculated on and hoarded. Those are long-term systemic issues that all of us should be aware of as we make consumer, social and political choices.

“No society has fulfilled its democratic promise if people go hungry... If some go without food they have surely been deprived of all power. The existence of hunger belies the existence of democracy.”

Frances Moore Lappé, author of *Diet For a Small Planet*

“The local food movement is uplifting and inspiring and represents positive steps in the right direction. But now it’s time for us to marshal our forces and do more than vote with our forks. Changing our food system is a political act.”

Wenonah Hauter, Director, Food & Water Watch, author of *Foodopoly*

But the knowledge that scarcity is not the issue is also something to celebrate: there is enough to eat and it’s not likely we’ll run out of food soon. The festive, creative and life-affirming

aspect of food culture does not have to belong only to some; in fact, the natural reaction of the cook who doesn’t fear scarcity is to be happy when someone new comes to the table, when another belly can be filled with the fruits of his or her labor.

In his sermon at this year’s Feast of St. Francis on October 4, Dean Kowalski said, “I’m a Christian, I believe in what Jesus did, but even if you’re not, if you see what he did as a sign—the image, the dream of a banquet where all people would be invited...all of us in this common quest to be fed so that we can live this gift called a life.... when you experience it that way, as Jesus kept doing... it changes the power structure.”

This is the crux of the matter: political change, which depends on emotional and spiritual change.

“The generation that destroys the environment is not the generation that pays the price. That is the problem.”

Wangari Maathai (1940–2011), founder, the Green Belt Movement, and Nobel Peace Prize Honoree

The Cathedral created an exhibition around food because we know that art reaches people in ways other communication doesn’t. While there is a need for voices of warning and anger, those must be balanced by an exploration of the human connections that encourage compassion and solidarity.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 7)

WHAT’S INSIDE

[Enter the Conversation](#)

[Looking Back](#)

[Cathedral Christmas](#)

[Dean’s Meditation: Open Arms](#)

[The American Poets Corner: Marianne Moore](#)

[Insurgo Project](#)

[Take a Pause to Consider Climate Change](#)

[Looking Ahead](#)

[How Your Giving Matters to the Cathedral](#)

[Gift Box](#)

[Join Us](#)

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of Saint John the Divine

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Schedule of Daily Liturgical Services

Sunday

8 am
Morning Prayer
& Holy Eucharist
9 am
Holy Eucharist
11 am
Choral Eucharist
4 pm
Choral Evensong

Monday through Saturday

8 am
Morning Prayer
8:30 am
Holy Eucharist
(Tuesday & Thursday)
12:15 pm
Holy Eucharist
5 pm
Evening Prayer

Cathedral Information

The Cathedral is open daily
from 7:30 am–6 pm
For information:
(212) 316-7540
stjohndivine.org

Reaching the Cathedral

The Cathedral is located at
1047 Amsterdam Avenue,
at 112th Street.

By Subway:
#1 Train to 110th Street

By Bus:
#M4 to Amsterdam
& 110th Street
#M11 to Amsterdam
& 112th Street
#M104 to Broadway
& 112th Street

Looking Back



Getting into the spirit at the Feast of St. Francis.
PHOTO: Helena Kubicka de Bragança

The Cathedral was a hive of activity this fall, and that doesn't even include the actual beehive in the Chapel of St. Ambrose, though that did receive a lot of attention. The season started, as it usually does, on the weekend of September 11–12 with Artist in Residence Ralph Lee's **Mettawee River Company** presenting **Out of the Past: Celebrating 40 Years of the Mettawee Journey**, songs and scenes from four decades of productions. The disparate characters mingled happily on the Pulpit Green as preparations for **The Value of Food** took place around them. On September 26—still as warm as summer—a cheerful crowd gathered to plant seven young apple trees, a project by the Los Angeles-based art collective **Fallen Fruit**. The trees, which had arrived at the Cathedral a few days earlier, are thriving in their new home, surrounded by the wildlife of the Close and admired by visitors. October 4th was **The Feast of St. Francis**, where animals large and small, the Cathedral Choir, **The Paul Winter Consort**, the **Forces of Nature Dance Troupe** and Cathedral clergy came together to celebrate and bless the animal kingdom. The afternoon fair brought animal, environmental and social justice educators, the Mettawee River Company puppets, face-painting, and snacks.

On October 6th, **The Value of Food: Sustaining a Green Planet** opened. This multimedia art exhibition, guest curated by Robin Kahn and Kirby Gookin, explores food security, policy, nutrition, and the environment. Food is one of the most basic aspects of life and one of the most complex. It means survival or not; it also means family, ethnicity, religion. The exhibition fuses visual and performance art with public programs and events that continue the Cathedral's long tradition of social justice activism and belief in the necessity of art. It will be up through April 3, and is buttressed by partnerships with **Magnum Foundation**, **Mother Jones**, and **GRACE Communications Foundation**.



Delving into *The Value of Food*.
PHOTO: Valeria Jara

The opening evening offered **Enter the Conversation: The Food Bargain**. The Cathedral and Mother Jones presented food and agricultural correspondent **Tom Philpott** in conversation with urban farmer and community activist **Karen Washington** and award-winning restaurateur, author, and head judge of Top Chef **Tom Colicchio**: an in-depth discussion of the contemporary food movement and what needs to be done now. The speakers were passionate, the crowd committed and the food and drink catered by **Jacob's Pickles** delicious.

On October 10, **Early Music New York (EMNY)** presented the keynote event of the fifth citywide **New York Early Music Celebration 2015: El Nuevo Mundo**, offering an Ibero-American and American classical orchestra program. Guest singers **Elaine Lachia**, **Jorge Prego**, **Jose Petri-Coimbre** and **Rachel Rosales** joined the orchestra, conducted by **Frederick Renz**.

On October 14, **Great Choir: Four Quarters of Jerusalem** celebrated the vibrant cultures that make up the four quarters of Jerusalem—Jewish, Muslim, Armenian and Christian—with a revised reprise of the 2013 collaboration between the Cathedral Choir and world music ensemble **Rose of the Compass**. This

concert also celebrated the release of a CD of this repertoire on the Pro Organo label.

On October 21, Kent Tritle, Director of Music, conducted **Musica Sacra: A Cappella**, a program of choral music including **Thomas Tallis's** 40-part motet **Spem in Alium** and **Richard Strauss's Deutsche Motette**.

October 23 brought a rollicking dance party featuring Brooklyn trio **Moon Hooch**. Band members **James Muschler**, **Mike Wilbur** and **Wenzl McGowen** share a commitment to healthy food and sustainable agriculture, as well as great music. The band's second album, **This is Cave Music**, was released in 2014 by Palmetto Records and Hornblow recordings. The opening act **TOO MANY ZOOZ**, a New York-based trio comprised of **Matt Doe**, **Leo P.** and **David "King of Sludge" Parks**, brought their unique horn-heavy sound (best described as "brasshouse") to make the Cathedral rock.



Moon Hooch drummer James Muschler demonstrating how the band cooks on the road.
PHOTO: Courtesy The Waster.com



Cave music in a great space.
PHOTO: Courtesy The Waster.com



Kent Tritle conducts music of a different sort—but no less scintillating.
PHOTO: Isadora Wilkenfeld

October 25, **U.N. Sunday**, the President of the 70th session of the United Nations General Assembly, **Mogens Lykkesoft**, offered a sermon at the 11 am service.

On October 26, **Enter the Conversation: Hunger** featured **Frances Moore Lappé** and **David Rieff** in conversation with Dean Kowalski. Lappé is the author of 18 books, including the three-million-copies-sold *Diet for a Small Planet*, and, most recently, *World Hunger: 10 Myths* co-authored with Joseph Collins. She is cofounder of three national organizations, including Food First: the Institute for Food and Development Policy (1975) and the Small Planet Institute (2002). David Rieff, policy analyst, writer and journalist, is the author of *The Reproach of Hunger: Food, Justice, and Money in the 21st Century* (Simon & Schuster, 2015).



David Rieff and Frances Moore Lappé in conversation.
PHOTO: Isadora Wilkenfeld

On October 27, **Peggy Shepard** visited the Cathedral School to speak about issues surrounding food access and the environment in a program titled **Environmental Justice with Peggy Shepard**. Shepard is the Executive Director and cofounder of West Harlem Environmental Action, Inc. (WE ACT), New York's first environmental justice organization. An author and former journalist, she has published many articles chronicling environmental impacts on urban health.

On October 28, organ virtuoso **Frederick Hohman**, in a program of symphonic transcriptions for organ, played Bach and Tchaikovsky.

On November 5, **Enter the Conversation: Food, Art and Poetry** brought author Carol-Ann Hoyte, editor of *Dear Tomato: An International Crop of Food Poems* (CreateSpace Independent Publishing, 2015), and urban farmer **Karen Washington** to the Cathedral to join Dean Kowalski for an evening of talk about food as inspiration.

On November 8, at Evensong, The American Poets Corner inducted **Zora Neale Hurston**, essayist and novelist, who famously wrote, "I have been in Sorrow's kitchen and licked out all the pots. Then I have stood on the peaky mountain wrapped in rainbows, with a harp and sword in my hands." The service ended with guests and congregants processing to the Poets Corner in the Arts Bay where the stone honoring the writer was unveiled. The following day, Cathedral Poet in Residence **Marilyn Nelson**, along with fellow authors, actors, critics, scholars and members of the Hurston family celebrated the life and works of the groundbreaking novelist who has had a profound influence on so many contemporary writers. **Alice Walker**, who did so much to revive awareness of Hurston's work, sent a special audio message. **Valerie Boyd**, Hurston biographer, spoke and provided invaluable input to the program.

On November 12, filmmaker **Deborah Koons Garcia** and urban farmer **Karen Washington** joined the Dean in conversation about our relationship with dirt: **Enter the Conversation: For the Love of Dirt**. Both Koons Garcia and Washington have a personal history with issues surrounding soil and land use—Washington through her work with urban farming in the Bronx and the Hudson Valley, and Koons Garcia through her 2012 documentary *Symphony of the Soil*.

November 18, Kent Tritle, Director of Cathedral Music and Organist, presented a program including pieces by **Johann Sebastian Bach**, **Dietrich Buxtehude**, **Daniel Pinkham**, and a trio of French works: **Maurice Duruflé's** heartfelt tribute to his friend **Jean Alain**, **César Franck's** serene **Cantabile**, and selections from **Charles-Marie Widor's Symphony No. 6**.

November 19, *The Value of Food* artist **Alison Knowles** visited the Cathedral to share **Red Beans All Day**, a performance piece. Knowles was active in the Fluxus movement of the 1960s, working alongside artists such as Marcel Duchamp and John Cage. A graduate of New York's Pratt Art Institute, her work incorporates performance, sound, papermaking, and printmaking.

On November 21, **Food, Water, and Art: Connections and Advocacy** brought together artists, art writers, and activists to explore the linkages between food, water and art, and to consider how aesthetic responses can counter current threats to water and food production. This conversation was organized by **Fredericka Foster**, painter, water activist, and guest curator of the 2011–2012 Cathedral exhibition *The Value of Water*.

On November 22, **Dr. Pamela Koch**, Executive Director at the Laurie M. Tisch Center for Food, Education & Policy Program in Nutrition at Columbia University's Teachers College and member of the Cathedral's Congregation of Saint Saviour, presented a lunchtime talk about food and faith, **Theological Thinking Round the Table**.

The season ended on a musical high note, with the November 23 presentation of the **Great Organ: The Music of Jean Sibelius**. In tribute to the 150th birthday of Jean Sibelius, Finnish organist and pianist **Kalle Toivio** joined forces with New York soprano **Sharon Harms** to celebrate the legacy of Finland's most famous composer.

Dean's Meditation: Open Arms

“Appreciation is a wonderful thing:
It makes what is excellent in others
belong to us as well.”

Voltaire

“My experiences at Princeton have made
me far more aware of my 'blackness'
than ever before. I have found that
at Princeton, no matter how liberal and
open-minded some of my white
professors and classmates try to be
toward me, I sometimes feel like a visitor
on campus; as if I really don't belong.”

Michelle Obama

“In 1934, the American Jewish charities
offered to find homes for 300 German
refugee children. We were on the
SS Washington, bound for New York,
Christmas 1934.”

Jack Steinberger

*German-born American physicist and Columbia
professor, awarded the Nobel Prize in 1988*

Recently I had the privilege of hosting another guided tour and traveling with fellow pilgrims, this time to Germany. We left the familiar and entered cross-cultural and international discovery. We were guided by Matthias Kort, a “Cold War” baby, who like Germany’s Chancellor Angela Merkel, grew up in the divided Germany and lived in Eastern Germany. They are both now in their mid-fifties. I wanted our group to explore some of the history of the World Wars, Buchenwald, and the Reformation through the lens of Luther 500 years ago in 1517. The trip certainly exceeded my expectations. Those adventures became marvelously woven together with current events and the real people we encountered. We learned a lot—about Germany and about ourselves.

While we were there, we became directly aware of reports that German Chancellor Angela Merkel is facing an escalating political revolt because of her position on the Syrian refugee crisis. For the first time since the beginning of her current term, her ratings have slipped below other parliamentary leaders. Refugee migration has caught all of Europe off guard. Germany has emerged with a special leadership role in relationship to other European Union challenges. But this crisis and the sheer numbers of refugees and

their needs have stressed various political, ethnic, religious and economic differences. Threats of a constitutional challenge—described as “the nuclear option of German politics”—would raise the political stakes in this fast-moving conflict. Germans living in eastern states were much more skeptical about Merkel's welcoming policy on refugees, with only 41 percent of Germans overall supporting Merkel's position.

As Germany prepared to respond, Berlin instructed immigration authorities to process all asylum applications from Syrians, even if Germany had not been their point of entry to the European Union. Germany's embrace is in response to their Nazi past, as present-day German asylum rules are among the most liberal in the world. Merkel also keeps reminding Germans that it was because of asylum granted to opponents of the Nazi regime that their own people survived. But as the number of asylum-seekers arriving in Germany has surged to about 200,000 this year, four times the number in 2012, with net immigration hitting a two-decade high, the cultural and political stress is extreme.

The Chancellor has called upon Germany to view the refugees with “optimism,” and to welcome those fleeing war and oppression with open arms:

We are an attractive country for refugees and that is a good thing. We want to help those in need of protection. As important as welcoming these people will be integrating them into our country, our set of values, and our society. It's a challenging task, we know that.

Merkel gave a strongly worded New Year address last December, urging Germans to spurn anti-Muslim protesters—describing them as hatred-filled racists. She challenged her nation, Europe's biggest economy, to welcome people fleeing conflict and war, saying it was essential for Germany to help the children of persecuted people to grow up without fear. But worry about as many as a million asylum-seekers pouring into the country, many from Syria, gave birth to the “Patriotic Europeans Against the Islamization of the West (PEGIDA)”, which held weekly rallies in Dresden.

As temperatures fell to freezing in October—an even harsher German winter approaching—and with many of the 42,000 refugees living in tents, Justin Huggler and Peter Foster wrote in the *Telegraph*:

... [The] challenge is not financial ... the €15 billion needed to deal with the refugee influx is well within Germany's fiscal comfort zone—but logistical, as the country seeks the houses and hospitals, schools and teachers needed to assimilate such vast numbers...[and] as many as 40 per cent of the 800,000 refugees the country expects to host this year ... [are] children of school age—and most speak little or no German. Schools across the country are advertising more than 3,000 new jobs for teachers, and the state of Bavaria alone says it needs to find spaces for 50,000 more children by the end of this year.

Travel always heightens my awareness of my own worldview. Initially it is easier—at times—to see in another land more clearly the challenges others face, the resistances and prejudices. At our best, however, we return more able to see things in our own backyards as they are, and to re-imagine how they could be. America is a country built on immigration. I am directly linked to that heritage.

Tim Kane, Ph.D. and Kirk A. Johnson, Ph.D. wrote a background paper for the Heritage Foundation addressing the fact that there are more than 10 million undocumented aliens currently residing in the U.S. and another 700,000 being added each year. They argue that the real problem of illegal immigration in America is security, not any real threat to the economy: if three out of every 100 people in America are undocumented or documented with forged papers, such migrants “distort the law, distract resources, and effectively create cover for terrorists and criminals.” They argue that worker migration is an economic plus, and crafting “a guest worker program intelligently” is the only solution.

Lynette M. Parker, a staff attorney at Santa Clara University Law School, wrote “The Ethics of Migration and Immigration: Key Questions for Policy Makers,” for the Markkula Center at the University, in which she stated that:

...[m]igration is fundamentally the story of the human race from its origins to the present. Migration is an integral aspect of life on this planet. People move to survive. They move in search of food. They move away from danger and death. They move towards opportunities for life. Migration is tied to the human spirit, which seeks adventure, pursues dreams, and finds reasons to hope even in the most adverse circumstances. Such movement affects the communities migrants leave and the communities that receive these migrants.

I got to thinking about that long-ago First Christmas: after the Birth in Bethlehem, the Holy Family became refugees. To escape the ravages of Herod, who sought to kill the new King by exterminating all boys two years old or younger, Mary and Joseph fled with Jesus to Egypt. How strange that two Jews would return to the land of slavery to save their son's life. Maybe that was also on Christina Georgina Rossetti's mind when she wrote the hymn text for *Love Came Down at Christmas*, proclaiming that “Love was born at Christmas” as “star and angels gave the sign” and concluding that:

Love shall be our token;
love be yours and love be mine;
love to God and others,
love for plea and gift and sign.

Christmas comes again whenever we embrace the other and respect their dignity, inviting all of us into the abundant life God intends for all.

Cathedral Christmas

Christmas at the Cathedral during *The Value of Food* exhibition reminds us that the joys of feasting with loved ones, baking with our children, or surprising a friend with a gift of artisan chocolate must be seasoned with an awareness of the provenance and consequences of our food choices. It must also be balanced by compassion for and contributions to the hungry. Christmas means many things to people—including those who are not of this or any faith—but the constant is joy. The joy of giving, of connecting with those we haven't seen lately or have seen only when we're in a hurry, the joy of being human on this abundant planet, blessed with the ability to love, to help others and to create something new.

Food expresses all these aspects of Christmas and is rightly a dominant theme in celebrations. This year, the Cathedral, through art, education and programming, is exploring just what food is in today's world—how it has changed from the experience of previous generations, and how it might or should change in response to rising world population, emigration and immigration, and climate change.

All the testimonies of world literature, art and archeological sites tell us that hunger has always been with us. The consensus of the great faiths and philosophies is that, insofar as it is within our power to ameliorate this, we must try. Much depends on the compassion of ordinary people, who make donations, volunteer at soup kitchens, and advocate for government policies that build a strong safety net, preserve the environment and encourage healthy industry. To feed a hungry person—whether it be a loved one or a stranger—is deeply satisfying to the spirit.



PHOTO: Tenzin Dharlo

This year, Christmas at the Cathedral includes the familiar pleasures—Crafts at the Cathedral, the Christmas Concert, the Christmas Eve Mass and New Year's Eve Concert for Peace—made new every year by the hard work and imagination of many people. The crafts fair, held on the first weekend in December, features beautiful handmade jewelry, textiles, wood and glasswork, as well as other surprises that make unique gifts and honor the tradition of handcrafts, which

is an integral part of the Cathedral. For those who prefer to give a special experience, a Vertical Tour of the Cathedral is an unforgettable gift, as is Knightwatch's sleepover at the Cathedral—Knightwatch Medieval—for children ages 6-12 and their adult companions. Holiday concerts are a time of community and spiritual openness: rousing, solemn, exhilarating and joyous. The Cathedral is always crowded with happy faces and glad hearts at these events. Consider a ticket to the New Year's Eve concert—or one of our many winter and spring concerts—as a stocking stuffer.

This year, Public Education and Visitor Services offer “Made with Love: A Children's Holiday Market Workshop,” which makes use of *The Value of Food* to help children think about how we access food in our city while learning about in-season foods throughout the year. Using the artwork from the exhibition as their inspiration, children will create seasonal food calendars, make colorful collages with food packaging, design jar labels, and more. The tradition of making special foods as gifts for friends and family—as classic as Christmas cookies or as contemporary as pickled hot peppers or vegan treats—is well worth passing on to the next generation. In only the last decade, we have seen NYC become a mecca for quirky and delicious homemade food startups (we have our own: Divine Honey, soon to be available at the Pop-up Shop). We expect this trend to continue. “Made with Love” will whet the appetites of young celebrants to the ongoing pleasure of the homemade food gift—and the next best thing, the locally-made food gift.

Winter events 2015–16

SERVICE TIMES

Sunday Services

8 am Morning Prayer & Holy Eucharist
9 am Holy Eucharist
11 am Choral Eucharist
4 pm Choral Evensong

Daily Services

Monday–Saturday
8 am Morning Prayer
8:30 am Holy Eucharist (Tuesday & Thursday only)
12:15 pm Holy Eucharist
5 pm Evening Prayer

TICKETS AND RESERVATIONS

Tickets for all performances other than free or “suggested contribution” events may be purchased directly from the Cathedral’s website, stjohndivine.org, or by calling (866) 811-4111.

Your contributions make it possible for the Cathedral to offer the many programs listed below. Please fill out the enclosed envelope.

Don’t forget to follow the Cathedral on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram!

ONGOING PROGRAMS, TOURS, WORKSHOPS

The Great Organ: Midday Monday

Cathedral organists provide a 30-minute break for mind, body and spirit at 1:00 pm with an entertaining and informative demonstration of the Cathedral’s unparalleled Great Organ.

The Great Organ: It’s Sunday

The Great Organ: It’s Sunday invites established and emerging organists from across the U.S. and around the world to take their turn at the Great Organ and present a free 5 pm concert.

PUBLIC EDUCATION & VISITOR SERVICES TOURS AND CHILDREN’S WORKSHOP

Public Education & Visitor Services offers Cathedral Highlights, Vertical, and Spotlight Tours. All tours meet for registration at the Visitor Center inside the Cathedral entrance, at 112th Street and Amsterdam Avenue. Highlights Tours: \$12 per person, \$10 per student/senior. Vertical Tours: \$20 per person, \$18 per student/senior. Spotlight Tours: \$15 per person, \$12 per student/senior.

Highlights Tours

Mondays, 11 am–Noon & 2–3 pm
Tuesdays–Saturdays, 11 am–Noon & 1 pm–2 pm
Select Sundays 1 pm–2 pm

Explore the many highlights of the Cathedral’s history, architecture, and artwork, from the Great Bronze Doors to the seven Chapels of the Tongues. \$12 per person, \$10 per student/senior. No prior reservation necessary. Meet at Visitor Center.

Vertical Tours

Wednesdays and Fridays, Noon–1 pm
Saturdays, Noon–1 pm & 2 pm–3 pm

On this adventurous, “behind-the-scenes” tour, climb more than 124 feet through spiral staircases to the top of the world’s largest cathedral. The tour culminates on the roof with a wonderful view of Manhattan. \$20 per person, \$18 per student/senior. All participants must be 12 years of age and older and reservations are recommended. Bring a flashlight and bottle of water. Meet at Visitor Center.

Spotlight Tours

Select Saturdays and Sundays

Spotlight Tours are specially created by Cathedral Guides to give visitors a closer look at unique aspects of the Cathedral’s extraordinary architecture, artwork, and history. \$15 per person, \$12 per student/senior, unless otherwise noted. Space is limited and reservations are recommended. Meet at Visitor Center.

Textile Treasures

Select Fridays, 2 pm–3 pm

Explore the Cathedral’s magnificent art collection with a special focus on textiles! \$20 per person, \$15 per student/senior. Space is limited to 20 people 12 years of age and older. Meet at Visitor Center.

Medieval Birthday Parties

Saturdays & Sundays, by availability

Celebrate your child’s birthday with a two-hour party in the Medieval Arts Workshop, where children sculpt gargoyles, weave, make brass rubbings, carve a block of limestone, and much more! For children ages 5 & up. Call the Public Education & Visitor Services Department at (212) 932-7347 for more information and reservations.

NIGHTWATCH

The Nightwatch Crossroads series offers two exciting and innovative programs, a Christian-themed and Interspiritual overnight for youths exploring their spirituality. For more information visit stjohndivine.org or contact: nightwatch@stjohndivine.org.

ADULTS AND CHILDREN IN TRUST (A.C.T.)

To learn about the many nurturing year-round programs for young people offered by A.C.T., please call (212) 316-7530 or visit www.actprograms.org.

Children’s Quest Fund

Help us to invite children from many countries, religions and economic levels under the shadow of the beloved Cathedral. While any amount will help, \$1,000 enables a child from a low-income family to participate in a premiere summer camp experience. Please send donations to the Cathedral, designated “A.C.T.’s Children’s Quest Fund.”

Divine Saturday Celebrations

Celebrate good times with ACT’s new and improved Divine Saturday Celebrations, with a variety of birthday activities for kids to enjoy! It’s a great time for parents and children alike. Speak to a party manager for details at (212) 316-7530.

CATHEDRAL COMMUNITY CARES (CCC)

All programs meet in the CCC office, the Sunday Soup Kitchen or the Cathedral A.C.T gym unless otherwise specified. Please visit stjohndivine.org for more information on CCC programs.

Nutrition, Health and Clothing Center

The Center hosts monthly HIV testing (in partnership with Care for the Homeless), as well as blood pressure, heart health, diabetes, and other screenings throughout the course of the year. Please visit our website for upcoming screening dates. Contact: Lauren Phillips, Director, (212) 316-7581.

Clothing Closet

Gently used men’s, women’s, and children’s clothing can be donated to the CCC office Monday through Friday 10am–5pm. Tax receipts available upon request. Contact: Lauren Phillips, Director, (212) 316-7581.

Sunday Soup Kitchen

Every Sunday in the A.C.T. gym. Breakfast, 10 am; Lunch, 12:30 pm
Contact: Thomas Perry, Food Program Manager, (212) 316-7579 (T/W/Th after 12 noon)

SNAP/Food Stamps Program

(in partnership with the Human Resources Administration, The Food Bank for New York City, New York City Coalition Against Hunger, and Columbia University-SHOUT)
Tuesdays and Wednesdays (by appointment only)
Pre-screening and, if eligible, help with online applications and recertification is available. Contact: Lauren Phillips, Director, (212) 316-7581.

December

SELECTED PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Crafts at the Cathedral

Friday–Sunday, December 4–6

Crafts at the Cathedral celebrates its 20th annual fair with excellence in arts and crafts! Over 60 artisans will be exhibiting their finest work. For times and more information, visit craftsatthecathedral.org.

Made With Love: A Children’s Holiday Market Workshop

Saturday, December 5, 10 am

Building on concepts from *The Value of Food*, children are invited to think about ways we access food in our city while learning about in-season foods throughout the year. Using the artwork from the exhibition as their inspiration, children will create seasonal food calendars and colorful collages, design jar labels for gift-giving, and more! Recommended for children ages 4–8 years old. \$10 per child with accompanying adult.

Adults and Children in Trust Tour and Open House

Saturday, December 5, 10 and 11 am

What kind of school environment are you looking for? Is the Early Childhood Program at Adults and Children in Trust the best fit for your family? ACT invites you to attend our open house and tour as a way to familiarize yourself with our facilities, programs, and philosophy.

Cathedral Explorers: Table Talk

Saturday, December 5, 2 pm

Observe the interactions and message of Tom Otterness’s sculpture *The Tables*, as a part of *The Value of Food*. Children will get a new vantage point of the artwork by climbing up inside Cathedral walls for a bird’s eye view. Open to participants ages 7–12, with an accompanying adult. No children under age 7 will be allowed in restricted areas of the tour. \$10 per child with accompanying adult.

Food for Thought: Spotlight on Value of Food

Saturday, December 5, 3 pm and select Saturdays through March
The Value of Food: Sustaining a Green Planet engages the greater Cathedral community in exploring one of the most important aspects of life. Visitors will explore topics such as food security, traditions, and sustainability. \$15 per person, \$12 per student/senior.

Early Music New York: A New World Christmas

Saturday, December 5, 7:30 pm

Sunday, December 6, 2 pm

Sunday, December 20, 2 pm

Friday, December 25, 2 and 6 pm

EMNY brings Old World harmony to the Cathedral in their annual Christmas-season concert series, peppered with Iberian rhythms and a plethora of plucked strings. For tickets and more information, visit earlymusicny.org.

The Laymen’s Club Saint Nicholas Celebration

Monday, December 7, 6 pm,

Cathedral House Conference and Dining Rooms

Each year, the Laymen’s Club donates toys which benefit the children of clients of Cathedral Community Cares. Enjoy an evening of fellowship, holiday cheer and the singing of Christmas Carols! For more information on joining the Laymen’s Club, visit thelaymensclub.org.

The Value of Food: Matt Black and Nina Berman

Monday, December 7, 7 pm

Matt Black, whose “Geography of Poverty” portraits are displayed on the Cathedral’s exterior fence, will be joined by Nina Berman, associate professor at Columbia Journalism School, for an in-depth discussion of the role photojournalism plays in the contemporary political and food movements. For more information and to RSVP, visit stjohndivine.org.

From Paris to New York: A People’s Vigil for Preventing Climate Change

Wednesday, December 9, 7 pm

The United Nations Climate Change Conference COP21 will take place in Paris from November 30 through December 11. The Conference will, for the first time in over 20 years of UN negotiations, aim to achieve a legally binding and universal agreement on climate from all 195 participating nations with the aim of keeping global warming below 2°C. Food & Water Watch will lead an evening of speakers at the Cathedral, including scientists, activists, and artists.

With Angels and Archangels: Spotlight on Angelic Images

Saturday December 12, 10:30 am

Discover images of angels in the Cathedral’s glass and stone. The tour concludes with an ascent to the triforium for a birds-eye view of the breathtaking Archangels Window. Led by Senior Cathedral Guide Tom Fedorek. \$15 per person, \$12 per senior/student.

A Season of Lights: A Winter Workshop

Saturday, December 12, 10 am

After exploring the Cathedral’s stained glass windows and other sources of light in the Cathedral, a multitude of hands-on crafts introduce winter festivities from around the world. Recommended for children 4–8 years old. Space is limited, so purchasing tickets in advance is recommended. \$10 per child, with accompanying adult.

Cathedral Christmas Concert

Saturday, December 12, 7 pm

The annual Cathedral Christmas Concert, which ushers in the holiday season, features the combined Cathedral Choirs, Orchestra and soloists. Don’t miss this joyous occasion when friends, family and neighbors come together to celebrate the Christmas story. For tickets and more information, visit stjohndivine.org.

January

I Love NY: Spotlight on the City

Sunday, December 13, 10:30 am

Celebrate New York City and its indomitable spirit with a special tour of the Cathedral. Learn how the Cathedral and City serve as places of diversity, tolerance, and human achievement. Led by Senior Cathedral Guide John Simko. \$15 per person, \$12 per senior/student.

Paul Winter's 36th Annual Winter Solstice Celebration

Thursday, December 17, 8 pm

Friday, December 18, 8 pm

Saturday, December 19, 2 and 7:30 pm

Paul Winter presents his 36th annual Winter Solstice Celebration, featuring the Paul Winter Consort, vocalist Theresa Thomason, Forces of Nature Dance Theater and special guest Renato Braz. For tickets and more information, visit stjohndivine.org.

Textile Treasures

Friday, December 18, 2 pm

Explore the Cathedral's magnificent art collection with a special focus on textiles! This unique opportunity includes a behind-the-scenes visit to the Cathedral's world-renowned Textile Conservation Lab. Particular attention will be paid to the Barberini collection of the Life of Christ tapestries, given before there was even a cathedral to display them in, and the Acts of the Apostles tapestries, based on cartoons by Raphael. \$20 per person, \$15 per student/senior. Space is limited to 20 people 12 years of age and older.

CCC Christmas Dinner

Sunday, December 20, 9 am

Cathedral Community Cares will be serving Christmas dinner to the hungry and the homeless. Donations of fully cooked turkeys, roasted chickens and apple and pecan pies to make this meal nutritious, delicious, and festive. Please bring your contribution to the Undercroft of the Cathedral between 9 and 11 am.

Dzieci Theatre: Fools Mass

Sunday, December 20, 5:15 pm

Dzieci Theatre presents *Fools Mass*, a seminal work that has been Dzieci's signature piece since 1998. Visit dziecitheatre.org for tickets and more information.

Make Music New York Pilgrimage

Monday, December 21, 6:30 pm

Join Malcolm Merriweather, Cathedral Choral Associate, on a musical pilgrimage ending at the Cathedral. Visit makemusicny.org for more information.

CELEBRATING THE SEASON: SERVICES

Christmas Eve Lessons and Carols

Thursday, December 24, 4 pm

The Cathedral Choristers are joined by the sopranos and altos of the Cathedral Choir in this family-friendly service, featuring readings, carols and larger-than-life puppets to tell the Christmas story. No passes are needed for this service.

Christmas Eve Festal Eucharist

Thursday, December 24, 10:30 pm

Prelude music begins at 10 pm with carols sung by the Cathedral Choristers. The Bishop of New York celebrates the Eucharist and preaches. The combined Cathedral Choirs perform classic holiday songs as well. Paul Winter joins as special guest. While passes are not required, a limited number of reserved seating passes are available.

Christmas Day Choral Eucharist

Friday, December 25, 10:30 am

The Dean preaches and the Cathedral Choir sings. This will be the only liturgy of the day.

New Year's Eve Watchnight Service

Wednesday, December 31, 11 pm

New Year's Day

Thursday, January 1, 10:30 am (only service of the day)

New Year's Eve Concert for Peace

Wednesday, December 31, 7 pm

Founded by Leonard Bernstein in 1984, the annual New Year's Eve Concert for Peace is a signature Cathedral event, gathering old friends and new for more than a quarter of a century. While general admission seats remain free and open to the public, ticketed seating and sponsorship packages are also available. For more information on sponsorship, please contact Priscilla Bayley at pbayley@stjohndivine.org or (212) 316-7570.

With Angels and Archangels: Spotlight on Angelic Images

Saturday January 2, 10:30–Noon

Please see listing for December 12.

Nightwatch Crossroads: Christian

Friday, January 8, 6:30 pm

This Christian-oriented evening and overnight retreat for middle and high school age youths will focus primarily on the wisdom teachings of Jesus. Tickets are \$85.00 per person. Maximum capacity for this program is 100. Ask about our discounts for groups of 15 or more!

Camels and Kings: A Gift Giving Workshop

Saturday, January 9, 10 am

Children and their families gather to explore the story surrounding the famous journey of the three wise men, celebrated around the world. The two-hour workshop begins with a story and then children make gift boxes, costumes and sparkling crowns. Recommended for children ages 4–8 years old. \$10 per child, with accompanying adult. Check in at Visitor Center upon arrival.

Medieval 2.0: Spotlight on Traditions Transformed

Saturday, January 9, 10:30 am

Join Senior Cathedral Guide John Simko for a tour of architecture and stained glass that focuses on St. John's unique blend of modern New York and medieval Europe. \$15 per person, \$12 per senior/student.

Food and Culture: Spotlight on Morningside Heights

Saturday, January 9, 11 am

Spend some time inside the Cathedral, focusing on The Value of Food and the Chapels of the Tongues, each dedicated to one of New York City's major immigrant groups at the time of the Cathedral's construction. Then venture into the neighborhood, exploring examples of the different cultural communities that have made Morningside Heights their home. The tour will conclude at a local eatery. \$15 per adult, \$12 per senior/student.

Visual Thinking Strategies Salon

Thursday, January 13, 6 pm

In this evening of deep inquiry and conversation, guests will consider the Visual Thinking Strategies (VTS) model and together explore new ways in which it can be applied. VTS supports open and meaningful group discussions, enabling people to use existing visual and cognitive skills to develop confidence and experience. Light refreshments will be served.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Sunday

Sunday, January 17, 11 am

Water Works Children's Workshop

Saturday, January 23, 10 am

Through stories and close looking at how water is depicted in *The Value of Food*, children will learn about the role water plays in producing the food we eat. In the workshop, children will paint with watercolors, design water cycle books, and create colorful, hanging mobiles. Recommended for children ages 4–8 years old. \$10 per child, with accompanying adult.

The Art of the Pizza Box

Saturday, January 23, 12 pm

It's time to look at the pizza box as more than just a means of transporting that delicious pie from the pizzeria to your table! Scott Wiener, founder and owner of Scott's Pizza Tours and the Guinness Book of World Records record-holder for the largest collection of unique pizza box art in the world, encourages you to look at these boxes in a new way. Then craft your own design for the top of a pizza box. Open to ages 7–12. \$10 per child with accompanying adult.

Diocesan Choral Festival

Saturday, January 23, 5 pm

The Cathedral hosts a special Evensong with choristers from all across the Diocese of New York.

Textile Treasures Tour

Friday, January 29, 2 pm

Please see listing for December 18.

Nightwatch Crossroads: Interspiritual

Friday, January 29, 6:30 pm

The Interspiritual retreat is an inclusive program created for youth of all faiths, exploring the music, spiritual disciplines, stories and wisdom from a variety of the world's religious traditions. Tickets are \$85.00 per person. Maximum capacity for this program is 100.

Secrets of St. John the Divine: Spotlight on Hidden Images

Saturday, January 30, 10:30 am

What are a stripper and the signs of the zodiac doing in our stained glass windows? Find out in this tour that puts the spotlight on images in glass and stone. Led by Senior Cathedral Guide Tom Fedorek. \$15 per person, \$12 per senior/student.

February

Nightwatch Crossroads: Christian

Friday, February 5, 6:30 pm

Please see listing for January 8.

Within the Walls: Exploring Hidden Spaces

Saturday, February 6, 10:30 am & 1 pm

This extended vertical tour features “behind-the-scenes” climbs in the Cathedral. Photography is welcome, though tripod use is prohibited. If you have concerns regarding claustrophobia, vertigo, or a medical condition, please call (212) 932-7347. Must be 12 years of age or older. Flashlight and bottle of water recommended. \$25 per person, \$20 per student/senior.

Waste Not Children's Workshop

Saturday, February 6, 10 am

Learn about ways artists conserve resources! In this workshop, kids will use food related items in new ways to create fun food crafts. Recommended for children ages 4–8 years old. \$10 per child, with accompanying adult.

Cathedral Explorers: A Rainbow of Flavors

Saturday, February 6, 2 pm

Be amazed by the power of healthy, colorful foods while exploring often-missed corners of the Cathedral and *The Value of Food*. Open to participants ages 7–12, with an accompanying adult—no children under age 7 will be allowed in restricted areas of the tour. \$10 per child with accompanying adult.

Ash Wednesday

Wednesday, February 10

7:30 & 8:30 am

Spoken Eucharist and Imposition of Ashes

12:15 & 7 pm

Choral Eucharist and Imposition of Ashes

Absalom Jones Eucharist & Celebration

Saturday, February 13, 10:30 am

Join the Episcopal Diocese of New York for a celebration of the life and work of Blessed Absalom Jones, the first African-American ordained as a priest in the Episcopal Church.

Stories in the Soil Children's Workshop

Saturday, February 20, 10 am

With spring just around the corner, learn about how taking care of the soil can help grow healthy, nutritious food, then head to the workshop for some crafts! Recommended for children ages 4–8 years old. \$10 per child, with accompanying adult. Check in at Visitor Center upon arrival.

Food and Culture: Spotlight on Morningside Heights

Saturday, February 22, 11 am

Please see listing for January 9.

Great Choir: Gustav Mahler's Symphony No. 8

Thursday, February 25, 7:30 pm

Great Music in a Great Space continues the collaboration with the Manhattan School of Music and Oratorio Society of New York in a presentation of Gustav Mahler's 8th Symphony. Visit stjohndivine.org for tickets and more information.

Textile Treasures Tour

Friday, February 26, 2 pm

Please see listing for January 29.

Nightwatch Crossroads: Christian

Friday, February 26, 6:30 pm

Please see listing for January 8.

The Cathedral in Context: Spotlight on Morningside Heights

Sunday, February 28, 1 pm

The Cathedral spurred the growth of Morningside Heights into one of Manhattan's most unique neighborhoods. The tour begins at the Cathedral and ends at Riverside Church. Led by Cathedral Guide Bill Schneberger. \$15 per person, \$12 per student/senior. All participants must be 12 years of age or older. This tour requires extensive outdoor walking and use of stairs.

The American Poets Corner: Marianne Moore

NEVERTHELESS

you've seen a strawberry
that's had a struggle; yet
was, where the fragments met,

a hedgehog or a star-
fish for the multitude
of seeds. What better food

than apple seeds - the fruit
within the fruit - locked in
like counter-curved twin

hazelnuts? Frost that kills
the little rubber-plant -
leaves of kok-saggyz-stalks, can't

harm the roots; they still grow
in frozen ground. Once where
there was a prickley-pear -

leaf clinging to a barbed wire,
a root shot down to grow
in earth two feet below;

as carrots from mandrakes
or a ram's-horn root some-
times. Victory won't come

to me unless I go
to it; a grape tendril
ties a knot in knots till

knotted thirty times - so
the bound twig that's under-
gone and over-gone, can't stir.

The weak overcomes its
menace, the strong over-
comes itself. What is there

like fortitude! What sap
went through that little thread
to make the cherry red!

Marianne Moore (1887–1972),
was inducted into the American Poets Corner in 1991

Marianne Moore was born near St. Louis, Missouri, and raised in the home of her grandfather, a Presbyterian pastor. She received a BA from Bryn Mawr College in 1909. In 1915, Moore began to publish poems professionally and a few years later moved to New York City. She worked at the New York Public Library and began to meet other poets, including Cathedral American Poets Corner inductees as William Carlos Williams and Wallace Stevens. Her first book, *Poems*, was published in 1921. Moore's *Collected Poems* (1951) won the Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Award in 1952 and the Bollingen Prize in 1953. Marianne Moore died in New York City on February 5, 1972.

The Cathedral appreciates the generosity of the Drue Heinz Trust and Mrs. Edward T. Chase, whose support ensures that poetry continues to be an important part of arts at the Cathedral.



PHOTO: Cathedral Archives

Enter the Conversation

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

In the Cathedral now are two large tables: one, The Peace Table, created by woodworker extraordinaire George Nakashima, is in our permanent collection; the other, *The Tables* by Tom Otterness, is part of *The Value of Food*.

“Over decades, my meetings with spiritual leaders, philosophers, psychologists, neuroscientists, economists, and environmentalists have convinced me that altruism is the Ariadne's thread allowing us to connect harmoniously the challenges of the economy in the short term, quality of life in the mean term, and our future environment in the long term.”

Matthieu Ricard, monk, philosopher, author of *Altruism: The Power of Compassion to Change Yourself and the World*

The table, a simple utilitarian object, has been for many thousands of years a symbol of bringing people together, of sharing what we have. It's easy to visualize the family dinner table with an extra leaf in it; harder to imagine the entire country, entire world, at one table, sharing the fruits of our one planet. That is the dream of all the activists, thinkers, writers and clergy who have spoken here. The world has seen sustainable food systems before. Food justice, with every able-bodied member of the community chipping in, and the weak, sick, young or otherwise vulnerable taken care of, has existed in many times and places throughout history, on a small scale. To achieve both of these goals in our world today is a task of a different order. It will not be perfectly done, not in our lifetimes, but that is no reason not to keep at it, listening to the counsel of both the realist and the visionary.

“Pull up a seat and join us at *The Tables*. Food becomes a meal only when it is shared.”

Kirby Gookin and Robin Kahan, artists, educators and guest curators of *The Value of Food*

“The art object allows us to experience the often mysterious connections that are born of contrast and similarity; and if we connect with that art, we may forget our ordinary selves and become aware of our most natural state, that of profound respect.”

Fredericka Foster, painter and guest curator of *The Value of Water*

“There has to be joy, right? People think, “Oh, this is so dire.” It is dire. But there has to be joy. There has to be humor. There has to be friendship. There has to be what I call spiritual and emotional muscularity. ...I love the haiku from Issa: “Insects on a bough, floating downriver, still singing.” I feel like that's me. All of us. Yes, it's serious. It's deadly serious. But we're still alive! And there is so much beauty that surrounds us. We live in a singing world from crickets to whales to yellow-rumped warblers.”

Terry Tempest Williams, author of, most recently, *When Women Were Birds: Fifty-four Variations on Voice*

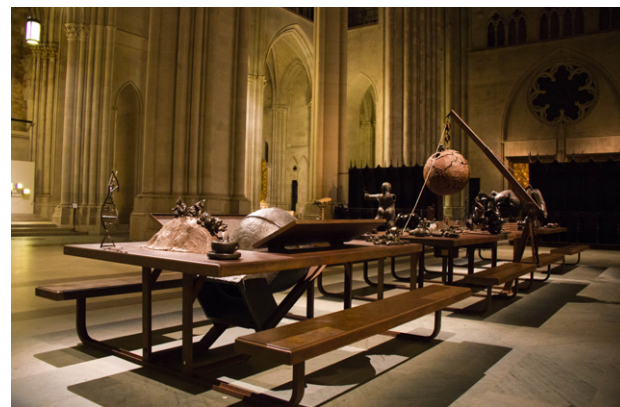


PHOTO: Keetu Winter

Insurgo Project

We hear a lot about startups these days—young minds leveraging computer savvy and imagination as to what might be missing to bring new products to the marketplace. There's also been a wave of startups in the nonprofit world: seeing problems and finding solutions that take a fresh approach and inspire enthusiasm. Cathedral partner Insurgo Project, conceived by chef Harold Villarosa, is an uptown collective—a network of chefs, restaurants, educators, farmers, and community leaders committed to nurturing the farm to table movement in low-income neighborhoods and, in the process, fostering economic growth. Many communities face special hurdles in obtaining and cooking fresh, local food. Markets and restaurants face their own challenges.

Learning to eat properly, learning to cook, and even learning to shop begin in childhood. At the Cathedral, Insurgo will offer a workshop for educators and parents, “School Policy and Immersive Lesson Planning Dinner Workshop,” which will offer suggestions on how to design and implement a curriculum on sustainable foods and horticulture. Led by chefs

and experts in the sustainable food movement, the workshop will focus on practical learning, easily taught skills and lesson plans, ending with a farm-to-table dinner for participants.

Another Insurgo offering, “Building a Community Restaurant Dinner Workshop,” is designed to build alliances between neighborhoods and prospective restaurateurs. New York is a city of restaurants, which sometimes arrive and depart with dizzying speed. We all care what new place opens on our block and want the good ones to flourish. Yet it often feels that we have no control over what happens, nor any way to offer insight into what our particular neighborhood wants and needs. This workshop explains the dynamics of the restaurant business and offers strategies to facilitate communication about food quality, food sourcing, neighborhood demographics and diversity concerns. If you are passionate about food and food culture, come and learn more about how get involved locally.

Insurgo is also working with the Cathedral to conduct a top to bottom evaluation of food services and to develop an action plan that incorporates a conscientious approach to the sustainability of Cathedral food systems.

The Cathedral Invites You to Take a Pause to Consider Climate Change

“The church cannot solve the issues of global warming. We do not get to choose the world we live in. But, as I like to say, we do get to choose what kind of witness we will be in that world. One of the things that we are doing in the diocese of New York is beginning to provide resources and canonical changes in our diocese to support churches in the conversation of their buildings to renewable and sustainable resources. And to look at the way we invest our money in socially and ethically responsible ways on a number of fronts, not the least of which is our support of the fossil fuel industry.”

The Right Reverend Andrew ML Dietsche
16th Bishop of New York

Looking Ahead

The **Episcopal Charities 2015 Tribute Dinner** takes place at the Cathedral on December 2, honoring Jeffrey M. Peek, Executive Vice Chairman, Bank of America, and Anthony J. Walton, Vice Chairman, Americas, for Standard Chartered Bank. Tickets for the gala are available at episcopalcharities-newyork.org.

The weekend of December 4, 5, 6 offers the annual **Crafts at the Cathedral** fair, where you can find beautiful handmade gifts—jewelry, pottery, scarves, carved wood treasures and more—for all the people on your list. There are many new exhibitors this year at this top-quality juried show. Proceeds benefit the Congregation of Saint Saviour. On December 5, Public Education and Visitor Services (PEVS) offers **Made with Love: A Children's Holiday Workshop** (see CATHEDRAL CHRISTMAS article) and **Table Talk**, an opportunity for children to observe **Tom Otterness's** sculpture, **The Tables**—with its collection of weird and wonderful creatures—from a bird's eye view by climbing up inside the walls of the Cathedral. There are many other wonderful food-related children's workshops this winter. Please check the calendar.

On December 7, **Matt Black**, the Magnum photographer whose searing portraits of California's Central Valley farmland and farm laborers are displayed on the Cathedral's exterior fence, will be joined by **Nina Berman**, associate professor at Columbia Journalism School, for an in-depth discussion of the role photojournalism plays in the contemporary political and food movements.

Please join Cathedral friends and concerned citizens for **From Paris to New York: A People's Vigil for Preventing Climate Change**, December 9. The Paris climate talks are crucial to the future of our planet: this may be our last chance to reach a global agreement leading to a temperate, sustainable future.

Early Music New York, with **Frederick Renz**, December 5, 6, 20, and 25, presents **New World Christmas, Navidad en Latinoamérica**. Old world harmony is peppered with provocative Iberian rhythms composed in the New World and performed by EM/NY's vocal ensemble. Religious songs for Spain and Mexico's cathedrals are interspersed with instrumental and vocal

chanzonetas, vilancicos, coloquios and andensaladas, with guitar tablatures of indigenous dances by **Santiago de Murcia**.

The annual **Cathedral Christmas Concert**, December 12, ushers in the holiday season. The combined Cathedral Choirs, Orchestra and soloists **Amy Justman, Jamet Pittman, Michele Kennedy, Katie Geissinger, Kirsten Sollek, Marc Day, and Hans Tashjian** will perform J.S. Bach's beloved *Magnificat* and carols by **Benjamin Britten, John Rutter, and Gregg Smith**. Don't miss this joyous occasion when friends, family and neighbors come together to celebrate the Christmas story. While you're here, take a look at the **Peace Tree**, decorated by Cathedral School students.

We all remember the snows of last winter! Maybe this one will be milder—maybe not. In any case, the solstice is a time for color, music, excitement and celebration: what humans have always done to stay joyous through the dark. The 36th annual **Winter Solstice Celebration** will take place December 17th, 18th and 19th. The concert features the **Paul Winter Consort** with special guests Brazilian singer/guitarist **Renato Braz** and gospel singer **Theresa Thomason**.

On New Year's Eve, the **New Year's Eve Concert for Peace**, founded by Leonard Bernstein in 1984, gathers old friends and new. The music, the candles, and the spirit of peace send audiences out into the chill January morn with renewed hope for the world we share. This year's concert, hosted by **Harry Smith**, features guests **Judy Collins** and **Jason Robert Brown**, and soloist **Jamet Pittman**.

On January 13, the **Visual Thinking Strategies Salon** is a chance to look at art with new eyes, hosted by VTS National Program Director **Amy Chase Gulden**.

Susan Brind Morrow, author of the forthcoming book *The Dawning Moon of the Mind: Unlocking the Pyramid Texts*, will be joined by **Professor Robert Thurman** for a discussion of ancient and modern mysteries. The precise date is yet to be confirmed, but check our website soon for details.



Paul Winter returns to the Cathedral with the 36th annual Winter Solstice Celebration. PHOTO: Cathedral Archives

January 17 is **Martin Luther King Sunday**. The service, in commemoration of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., will include readings from his speeches and other writings as well as musical selections curated by Director of Music Kent Trittle.

On January 23, **The Diocesan Treble Choir Festival**, under the combined direction of Kent Trittle, Malcolm J. Merriweather, Melissa Attebury and Raymond Nagem, will fill the Cathedral with joyous music. The Choir will perform **C.S. Lang's Evening Canticles "Canon Service," Maurice Greene's "O Praise the Lord," C.V. Stanford's "Psalm 150"** and **Bob Chilcott's "Mid-Winter."** The program includes Evensong, a tour of the Cathedral and a session with Dalcroze Eurhythmics Method specialist Sean Harley.

On February 25, Great Music in a Great Space will continue its collaboration with the **Manhattan School of Music** and **Oratorio Society of New York** in a presentation of **Gustav Mahler's 8th Symphony**. Often referred to as "The Symphony of a Thousand," this symphony calls for a gargantuan orchestra, an off-stage brass ensemble, two SATB choirs, a children's choir, and eight soloists. **Sara Murphy, mezzo-soprano; Adam Lau, bass; John Tiranno, tenor**, and a cast of soloists from the Manhattan School of Music will perform.

How Your Giving Matters to the Cathedral

SALLY BENNER, VICE PRESIDENT FOR DEVELOPMENT & STRATEGY



PHOTO: Cathedral Archives

Generous supporters are asked to do a lot at this time of year. To affirm your commitment to the Cathedral Church of Saint

John the Divine, let me tell you about the depth of impact gifts made to the Cathedral had in 2015 alone:

- More city children played, gardened and learned at summer camp because their families received financial aid to cover activity and registration costs. (Adults and Children in Trust)
- More audiences heard the finest vocal performances in choral music today. (Great Music in a Great Space)
- More visitors were captivated by site-specific art installations that trained a spotlight on workers' rights (*Phoenix: Xu Bing at the Cathedral*) and food justice (*The Value of Food*).
- More New Yorkers were fed three wholesome meals each Sunday. (Cathedral Community Cares)
- More of the Cathedral's glorious spaces were repaired, restored, and revitalized.

- More visitors to New York City from around the world made the Cathedral a destination to experience along with the Statue of Liberty, Ellis Island and Broadway theater. (Visitor Services)
- More public school teachers used field trips to our Gothic Gotham workshops to animate lessons they taught from the core curriculum. (Public Education)
- More people attended liturgical services to enter a community and learn lessons in keeping peace.
- More art and history experts could view historic tapestries in the Cathedral's collection. (Textile Conservation Lab)

For what we ask of you we aim to return the feeling that you've done more than you could have imagined. A gift from you at this time of year will guarantee that the Cathedral will be more and do more in 2016. Be as generous as you can. We look forward to greeting you time and again in the Cathedral, where all are welcome, this season and in the new year. Happy Holidays.

Gift Box

At any time of year, a gift box appears to promise something special—something we want and will reach out for, that brings to mind hopes and dreams. So the promise of a better job (or any job), a loving relationship, a richer life can entice people in difficult situations to leave home, cross borders, take risks. But often what they find is that the dream is an illusion and they themselves are in a box—imprisoned, trafficked for labor or sex. To bring awareness to this global problem, STOP THE TRAFFIK and United Nations Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking have collaborated on The GIFT Box project, a large walk-in street sculpture staffed by trained volunteers, that has introduced over 55,000 people in approximately 100 locations across 6 countries (the U.K., Brazil, Haiti and Slovakia as well as the U.S. and Canada) to the issue of human trafficking and inspired them to take further action.

Rita Fishman, a member of the International Council of Jewish Women, which is part of the United Nations NGO

committee to Stop Trafficking in Persons, and The Rev. Adrian Dannhauser, Associate Rector and Chair of the Task Force Against Human Trafficking for the Episcopal Diocese of New York, arranged to bring the GIFT Box to the Cathedral where it was in the Narthex for the Diocesan Convention in November and is now (through late December) on the Close, next to the Peace Fountain.

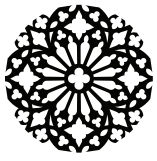
According to the Polaris Project (polarisproject.org), "Although slavery is commonly thought to be a thing of the past, human trafficking still exists today throughout the United States and globally when traffickers use force, fraud, or coercion to control other people for the purpose of engaging in commercial sex or forcing them to provide labor services against their will. Traffickers use violence, threats, deception, debt bondage, and other manipulative tactics to trap victims in horrific situations every day in America. All trafficking victims share one essential experience—the loss of freedom."

This is a place to talk if you have been a victim of trafficking, if you suspect it might be happening somewhere around you, or if you just want to learn and help. The GIFT box facilitates

conversations that its creators hope will lead to international trafficking rings being disrupted. To learn more, visit stophetraffik.org/us/giftbox.



PHOTO: Isadora Wilkenfeld



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

1047 Amsterdam Avenue
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New York, NY 10025

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Gifts from Cathedral friends and supporters allow the Cathedral to plan for the future. Please take the time to fill out the contribution envelope in the pages of the newsletter. Your generosity is needed and is always appreciated.

Winter ²⁰¹⁵ -16 at the Cathedral

Join Us

“It is one of the beautiful compensations in this life that no one can sincerely try to help another without helping himself.”

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803–1882),
inducted into the American Poets Corner in 1987

Sometimes it can seem like there are too many pressing demands on our time, both in our personal lives and careers, and in response to social issues. Each person finds her own balance between caring for those close to her and caring for others who desperately need help. (And some need to be reminded to also care for themselves.) The Cathedral, as a convening institution, can act as a filter. We provide the institutional structure and staff for a wide range of services and programs, many of which need volunteers, all of which need donations. The Cathedral works year round to enrich the lives of both the haves and the have-nots: clergy, staff, volunteers and the many artists and activists who speak or perform at the Cathedral are all part of our embrace of the larger community. This year we are paying particular attention to food and hunger—though that is a perennial concern of ours—and invite you all to take part in upcoming *Value of Food* programming, which has many offerings for adults and children. Another challenge at the forefront of our minds recently is the maintenance and repair of this architectural landmark.

Many of you concentrate your charitable contributions at the end of the year. Please take a moment to think about the Cathedral Community Cares (CCC) Sunday Soup Kitchen & Clothing Closet, which also offers social and medical services; Public Education and Visitor Services (PEVS), which hosts workshops for school children and family groups; Adults and Children in Trust (ACT) with its myriad of summer, pre-school and after-school programs; Friends of Music, which supports the Cathedral’s choral and organ concerts; the American Poets Corner, celebrating the best in our nation’s literature; the Textile Conservation Lab, conserving precious textiles, including Cathedral tapestries damaged in the 2001 fire; and our beautiful gardens, managed by the Cathedral Gardens

Conservancy. Join us in supporting the Cathedral’s Annual Fund and make a gift by December 31! An envelope is enclosed for your convenience. For further information, please contact the Development Department at 212-316-7488 or support@stjohndivine.org.

The Cathedral also needs volunteers, for assistance with the liturgy, pitching in at ACT, CCC, and The Cathedral School, leading guided visits and working in the garden. Whatever your interests and skills, there is room and a warm welcome for you here. Also consider joining the Society of Regents, an association of men and women who provide annual unrestricted leadership gifts of \$1,000 or more to support the preservation and maintenance of the Cathedral architecture, as well as its educational, outreach and artistic programs. Members of the Society of Regents are invited to special events throughout the year.



PHOTO: Courtesy ACT

Recent programming at the Cathedral explored the meaning and value of altruism by way of Buddhist thought and current neuroscience. As the epigraph to this article reminds us, it’s not a new idea that giving benefits the giver as much as the recipient. At the Cathedral, we see it as evidence of the profound connection between all aspects of Creation. We are grateful to those men and women who built the Cathedral, to those who have given their time and passion throughout the decades, to you who are helping now—and to generations yet to come, who will inherit our struggles, joys and very human nature.

From Paris to New York: A People’s Vigil for Preventing Climate Change Wednesday, December 9 at 7:00

To raise our voices in favor of a bold, forward-looking agreement in accord with the economic resources and historical carbon emissions of the developed and developing world, the Cathedral and Cathedral partner Food & Water Watch will host a vigil on December 9.

It is our children and grandchildren who will inherit the world we are now creating—one of hunger and abundance, climate uncertainty and technological advance, cooperation and conflict. It behooves us to do what we can to make sure the planet is on a sustainable path, and to curb or re-think the many human activities that contribute to the dangerous climate change we are witnessing now, and which scientists assure us will get dramatically worse without action. Addressing this challenge is the specific task of the United Nations Climate Change Conference COP21 (also known as the 2015 Paris Climate Conference), taking place in Paris from November 30 through December 11, 2015. For the first time in over 20 years of U.N. negotiations, the aim is to achieve a legally binding and universal agreement on climate from all 195 participating nations.

Please come and bring your family and friends. The future is made by all of us.

Stay in Touch

We welcome your suggestions and thoughts on the newsletter. Please write us at editor@stjohndivine.org.