

Winter 2017–18 at the Cathedral

The Cathedral Gives Back



or where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” The Right Reverend Dan Daniel quoted Jesus’s Sermon on the Mount when asked about the Cathedral’s commitment to tithing. Typically seen as a way for people of faith to give back to the church, Dean Daniel takes the tradition a step further, viewing it as a sacred obligation for the Cathedral to give back to the community.

“When I balance my checkbook at the end of the month, I can see very clearly what my priorities are and if my actions are living up to my values,” Dean Daniel said. “The same is true of

the Cathedral. I want to be able to do more than just talk about the things we believe in here, but also show our beliefs in action. We do this through our programs—Cathedral Community Cares, Adults and Children in Trust, and the myriad of events that help underserved populations, but also through donating to causes that we believe in.”

The Cathedral has a long tradition of social outreach and commitment to community. Cathedral Community Cares (CCC) works to combat and alleviate poverty through preventive poverty services, education and advocacy—specifically targeting the issues of health and hunger. CCC tackles these problems on multiple fronts by addressing the immediate and beyond-emergency needs of the underserved, while seeking long-term policy solutions that will benefit both clients and the greater community.

CCC, with the help of 30 volunteers, hosts a Sunday soup kitchen that serves breakfast and lunch to over 600 people a month. Twice a week, CCC operates a clothing closet, helping provide clothes to people needing emergency assistance and for those looking to return to the workplace. This program is also assisted by volunteers, and all the clothes distributed have been donated by members of the Cathedral community. (Clothes can be donated in person, and anyone interested in volunteering for CCC is encouraged to email ccc@stjohndivine.org.)

The Cathedral’s commitment to our preschool, afterschool, and summer camp programs through Adults and Children in Trust (ACT) is also a contemporary extension of the Cathedral’s tithing in practice. By providing quality and affordable activities for neighborhood families, we are proud to use our space and resources to give back to this community.

The idea of tithing originates in the Book of Genesis, when, after winning a military battle and rescuing his nephew Lot, Abraham thanks God by giving the church one-tenth of all he owns. This initial conception of tithing makes it clear that it’s not just about money, but rather a way to look at all of the possessions and material wealth in our lives and figure out what we are able to give back. And indeed, original tithes to the church were given in kind, with worshipers pledging agriculture or other goods to the church.

In addition to our own programs, the Cathedral has also long partnered with other mission-aligned community organizations to support their work, something Dean Daniel wants to continue to emphasize in our public programs. Longtime readers of this newsletter will recall the Cathedral’s collaboration with Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS to produce staged readings of Joan Didion’s haunting *A Year of Magical Thinking* and *Blue Nights*, the proceeds from which benefited UNICEF and The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East. Our Enter the Conversation series has frequently drawn partners from across the spectrum of nonprofit community and policy-making organizations. More recently, the Cathedral donated portions of our offerings from St. Francis Day and UN Sunday to several animal welfare and environmental organizations, each of them doing work that aligns with our mission and values. We do this in the original spirit of the tithe—as a gift of gratitude for all we have been given.

While tithing is still tied to the rule of ten percent, present-day understandings look to this as a positive challenge rather than a strict requirement, one that has translated into many other aspects of our lives. Many of us set up automatic, recurring donations to nonprofits we choose to support. We volunteer our time at institutions that we believe are deserving of it. We donate our old clothes and books to places that will reuse them for the public good. When it comes down to it, people of faith look at their budget, and instead of asking *What should I give?*, ask themselves *What can I give?* At the Cathedral, we are committed to doing the same.

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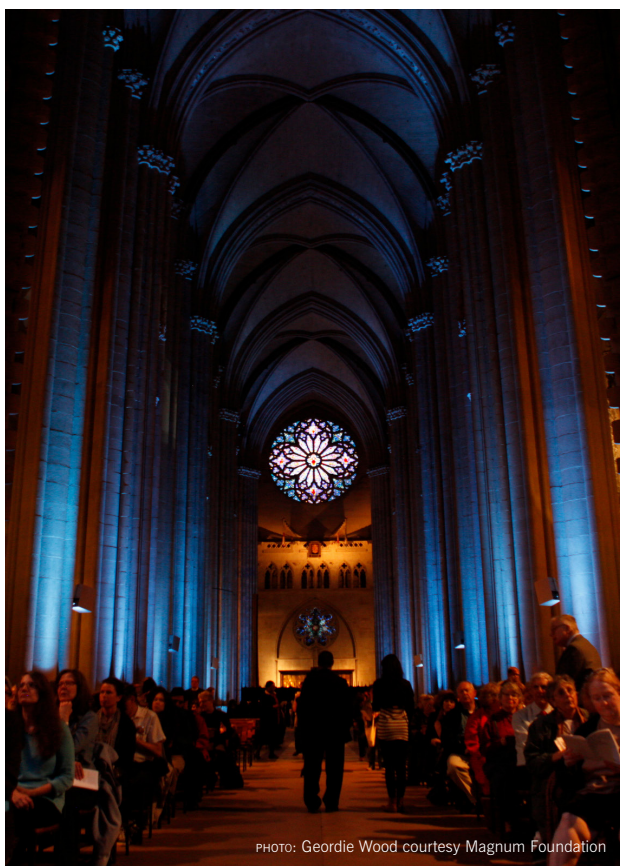


PHOTO: Georgie Wood courtesy Magnum Foundation

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Bishop of New York

The Right Reverend
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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
& Holy Eucharist

8:30 am

Holy Eucharist
(Tuesday & Thursday)

12:15 pm

Holy Eucharist

5 pm

Evening Prayer

Cathedral 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

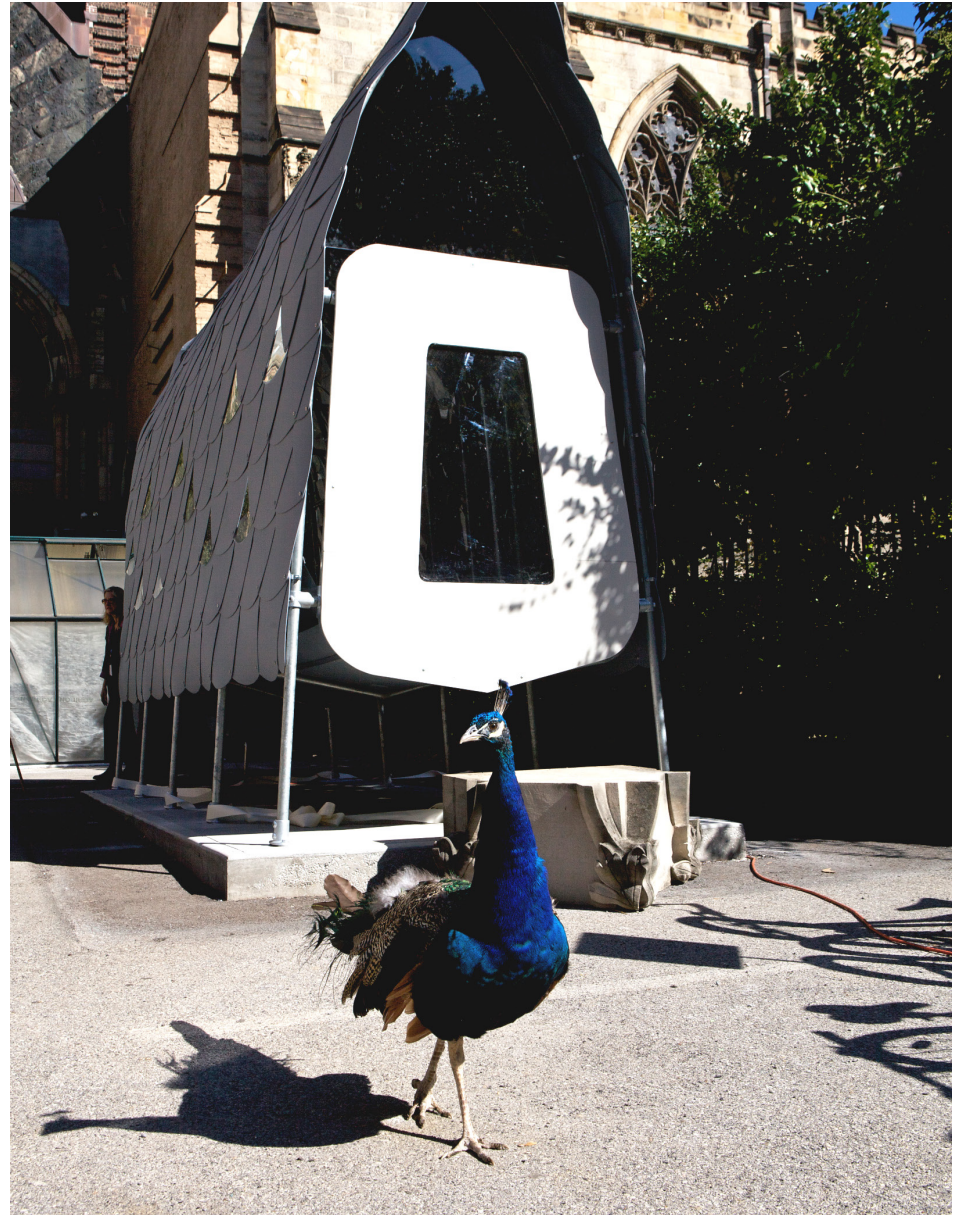


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Presenting...the New Peacock Hutch!

On October 18, a delegation of VIPs—comprising preschoolers from Adults and Children and Trust accompanied by students from the Cathedral School—joined Cathedral clergy and staff, architects, veterinary experts, and a heaping helping of reporters from various New York City media outlets to celebrate the unveiling of the long-awaited new peacock hutch. Peacocks Phil, Jim, and Harry mostly avoided the hubbub, but the day went off without a hitch. Following remarks from the Right Reverend Clifton Daniel, Dean of the Cathedral, and representatives from Ennead Architects and the Brodsky Organization, the new hutch, designed by Ryan Lewandowski and Paul Scrugham, received a vigorous blessing by the Right Reverend Andrew ML Dietsche, Bishop of the Diocese of New York. The new hutch, thoroughly blessed (along with the delighted schoolchildren), is now open for business. We expect to see our peacock trio settling in over the next few months.

PHOTOS: Helena Kubicka de Bragança



Dean's Meditation

THE RIGHT REVEREND CLIFTON DANIEL III

I write this on All Saints Day, about a month away from the first Sunday of Advent. The Christmas season and Epiphany will follow quickly.

All three of these seasons of the Church year point our thoughts and prayers toward the coming of the Messiah. Beyond, they point to the fulfillment of God's intentions and designs for the human race and all of creation—past, present and future.

Jesus speaks in the Gospels of the signs of the fulfillment of God's reign. According to Jesus, there will be many signs. Some signs will indeed be precursors of God's reign; but others will be distractions.

Distractions are all about us: An economic system that is too enamored of corporate greed and exploitation that led in 2008 to the near collapse of our economy; an economy that promises more for some but drains care for the poor, the weak, the elderly, the young and the vulnerable. A health care system that works for those who can pay for it and mostly ignores the rest. A nation of incredible abundance and wealth also sustains incredible poverty and starvation.

Then, the distraction of political life in this nation frozen by ideology, a lack of compromise and a leader who is crude,

bullying, frightening and a distinct threat to our nation's ideals and traditions.

Our present day is filled with distractions. All these signs point to promises broken and ideals cast aside.

Advent, as the Dean of Virginia Theological Seminary Ian Markham has said, is "...the political season of the Church year. It is the season that draws our attention both to God's promises of fulfillment and restoration as well as to the unfulfilled promises in the present."

Advent's call is to read the signs and distractions of the present day while keeping an eye on God's future and how God's future is being realized.

Advent calls us to consider God's politics. God's politics, at least as I read the Biblical witness, are all about God's preferential option for the poor, the weak, the refugee, the outcast. In this world filled with visions of material wealth and power over others, God's agenda makes its appearance—caring for the poor, serving the outcast, welcoming the refugee, resisting oppression, overcoming prejudice and reconciling brokenness. The Advent politics of God are contrary to our world's addiction to exploitation of others, greed, oppression and self-serving pursuit of power.

Amid these distracting signs in the present there are also more hopeful signs of the inbreaking of God's reign—generosity, forgiveness, care for another, a spirit of reconciliation, hope and justice. There are many signs of God's presence and God's political agenda in our world.

This Advent/Christmas/Epiphany cycle presents us with the challenge to decide whose politics we will choose to enact by our words and actions. Will we dedicate ourselves to the ends of justice, abolition of hunger, adequate health care available to all, putting an end to racism and sexism? Will we dedicate ourselves to becoming peacemakers in our own lives, hope-bringers to others by our deeds and generosity? These are all signs of God's politics. We will either chose to enact God's politics in our lives, words and actions or we will simply become a part of the distractions so rampant in this day.

May the coming Messiah strengthen our wills and steel our resolve to become ever stronger witnesses to God's love and doers of God's politics.

+ Clifton Daniel III

Crafts at the Cathedral

INTERVIEW WITH MARSHA RA



Ceramic Bowl by Margaret Wozniak



Brooch by Erh Ping Tsai and Cynthia Chuang

The Congregation of St. Saviour, founded in 1992, enlivens the winter season each year with Crafts at the Cathedral. Typically held in Synod Hall, this year's fair expanded into the heart of the Cathedral itself. Margaret Diehl sat down with Marsha Ra, organizer of the craft fair, to talk about its origins and its evolution.

MD: *Could you tell me how the craft fair got started?*

MR: The Congregation was about two years old, and we were looking for ways to make money, and also to show what wonderful members we had—including a lot of artists. But none of them were the least bit interested! So we went back to the drawing board and came up with the idea of having a craft show. I went to the American Craft Council and they were very helpful, giving us valuable guidance and their mailing list. We made up a prospectus and sent it out. We immediately received interested phone calls offering advice. Not too many wanted to join us, because nobody wants to risk taking part in the first year of a craft show. So we attended different shows, met people, and ended up with thirteen applications. We had a lot of fun, and actually made a few thousand dollars.

How long did it take to become successful?

It took, I don't know how many years, before our Craft Fair started to get any kind of reputation. What was really nice was that exhibitors were constantly calling us with suggestions, even regarding the name. We were just going to call it "Holiday Fair" and they said, "Oh no." The name "Cathedral" makes it special. The level of applicants just kept going up, and the fair kept getting more competitive.

Who decides who gets in?

We put together a jury made up of members of the Congregation who have an art or craft background. I'm on it;

I have an art background. I've learned what to look for—like when someone is obviously showing us imported goods. Exhibitors get very upset about that. The people who come to and take part in American craft shows do everything by hand. The jury screens the applications, looking for craftsmanship, originality and quality. We especially try to represent a wide range of crafts and arts, including textiles, jewelry, wood, ceramics, glass, watercolors, etc.

There are some exhibitors who have other careers, and they only do a couple of shows a year. There are some that are in the neighborhood who only do our show. One jeweler takes part in 40 shows a year.

Some of our exhibitors do very well. Sometimes I'm almost surprised by how well they do! There's a craftsman who lives in Vermont who makes exquisite spoons. He goes in the woods where he finds interesting pieces of wood from which he makes his spoons. They're very interesting and lovely. Collectors come from all over to purchase them. He tells me he regularly makes \$6,000 or \$7,000 at our show.

Has anyone really made it big?

Yumiko Kuga, a ceramicist, is one of our most successful exhibitors—her work is shown in museums. Her pots have organic shapes that are textured in a wide range of earthen tones. They evoke images of the nature and are a celebration of life.

Tell me about the change from Synod Hall to the Cathedral.

Because of planned renovations, we could not hold the craft fair last year. Initially the Cathedral suggested we do the fair over the summer, but due to our planning cycle, which starts almost immediately after each fair closes, it just was not possible. Crafts at the Cathedral has been held in Synod Hall almost

every year since we started, and while Synod has a warm feeling, we have actually outgrown it.

We were disappointed about cancelling last year's fair, when Dean Kowalski suggested—as part of the 125th anniversary celebrations—that we do it in the Cathedral. My first response was, "Oh my God, that could be terrible!" I'm a convert—I think of myself as a "church lady," and my first thought was, "you can't do that." But everybody around me told me I was crazy and I started to think about all the stuff that goes on in the Cathedral. So much happens here beyond daily worship services—so much life goes on inside the building. So we sent out our prospectus and got more responses than ever. I think people were excited about showing in the Cathedral. One of the things I love—and this year it's even better—is that all the Cathedral departments are so supportive. I feel so lucky and I really appreciate all that they're doing. I'm not nervous this year, maybe for the first time. I just feel like, "Wow, this is going to be great. Look at all the work other people are putting in!" It may be difficult for us to return to Synod Hall next year.

How much bigger is this year's fair?

It's going to include 85 exhibitors; the most we had ever had before was 55. We will have many new and enticing crafts. I am delighted that an artist who makes jams will be with us. Although he has applied in the past, I didn't feel we had room for artisanal goods like that. That's new. We also have someone who makes icons, chicken icons. They are so funny and really well done.

What's your favorite thing you've bought?

A beautiful bowl made by have a ceramic artist who comes every year, Margaret Wozniak. She did a big punchbowl that is a huge hedgehog. That's my favorite.

winter events 2017

TICKETS AND RESERVATIONS

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

Unless otherwise noted events do not require tickets or 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.

Please visit the Cathedral’s website, stjohndivine.org, or call the Visitor Center (212) 316-7540 for updates and additional event and tour information.

Don’t forget to become a fan of 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

ONGOING TOURS & EVENTS

Highlights Tours

Mondays, 11 am – Noon & 2 – 3 pm
Tuesdays – Saturdays, 11 am – Noon & 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. Learn about the Cathedral’s services, events, and programs that welcome and inspire visitors from around the world. \$14 per person, \$12 per student/senior. No prior reservation necessary. Meet at Visitor Center.

Vertical Tours

Mondays, 10 – 11 am
Wednesdays & 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. \$17 per person, \$15 per student/senior. All participants must be 12 years of age and older and reservations are recommended. For reservations visit the Cathedral website or call (866) 811-4111. Bring a flashlight and bottle of water. Meet at Visitor Center.

NIGHTWATCH

The Nightwatch series offers two exciting and innovative programs: Nightwatch Crossroads Christian and Nightwatch Crossroads Interspiritual. For more information visit stjohndivine.org or contact: (212) 316-7518 / 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 or contact (212) 316-7581, ccc@stjohndivine.org.

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: (212) 316-7581, ccc@stjohndivine.org.

Sunday Soup Kitchen

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

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: (212) 316-7581, ccc@stjohndivine.org.

PASTORAL EVENTS

The Office of Pastoral Care offers a number of programs for visitors and Episcopal spiritual inquirers of all age groups. Themes including race, health, and interfaith issues are covered from a Christian perspective, and families and children are welcomed into the life of the Cathedral with age-appropriate events and playgroups. Visit stjohndivine.org or contact pastor@stjohndivine.org for more details!

December

SELECTED PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

21st Annual Crafts at the Cathedral

Friday, December 1 and Saturday, December 2
This year’s Crafts at the Cathedral will be held in the Nave, turning the Cathedral into an even more delightful spot for lovers of handmade beauty! Join us for a celebration of the Cathedral’s 125th anniversary as well as the 25th anniversary of its Congregation on Thursday! Visit craftsatthecathedral.org for hours and more information.

A Season of Lights: A Winter Workshop

Saturday, December 9, 10 am
In this special workshop, children and their families brighten up their winter with a reading of Nancy Luenn’s *Celebrations of Light*, learning about winter festivities from around the world. After exploring the many sources of light in the Cathedral, including stained glass windows, families are then off to the workshop. Activities include rolling beeswax candles; cutting Chinese and Taiwanese paper lanterns; and sculpting clay candelabras inspired by Hindu floating lamps, Jewish menorahs, and Kwanzaa kinaras. Recommended for children ages 4 – 8 years old. \$10 per child, with accompanying adult. Check in at Visitor Center upon arrival.

Cathedral Christmas Concert

Saturday, December 9, 7 pm
This year’s Christmas Concert, a beloved holiday tradition at St. John the Divine, features brilliant choral music by Britten and Vivaldi. The Cathedral Choristers, joined by the soprano and alto voices of the Cathedral Choir, sing Britten’s exquisite setting of medieval poetry, the *Ceremony of Carols*. The Cathedral Chorale and Orchestra join for Vivaldi’s splendid and festive *Gloria*, while New York composer James Bassi’s radiant *Quem pastores laudavere* portrays the quiet beauty of the Christmas story. The whole audience is warmly invited to join in singing favorite Christmas carols, led by the choirs and orchestra!

Early Music New York: Burgundian Christmas

Sunday, December 10, 2 pm, Chapel of St. James
EMNY presents a series of holiday concerts featuring sacred and secular Renaissance motets and carols for voices and instruments. Also on December 17 at 2 pm and December 25 at 2 and 5 pm.

Paul Winter’s 38th Annual Winter Solstice Celebration

Thursday, December 14, 8 pm
This year’s Winter Solstice Celebration celebrates the spirit of the holidays within the extraordinary acoustics of New York’s greatest Cathedral. This multi-media event features musicians, vocalists, and the 25 dancers and drummers of the Forces of Nature Dance Theatre. A dazzling extravaganza of music and dance, these performances offer a contemporary take on ancient solstice rituals, when people gathered together on the longest night of the year to welcome the return of the sun and the birth of the new year. Also on December 15 at 8 pm and December 16 at 2 and 7:30 pm.

Dzieci Theatre: Fools Mass

Sunday, December 17, 5 pm
In Dzieci’s living example of “holy theater,” hymns and chants from the 8th to the 14th centuries combine with a robustly comic village tale, creating a seminal work that has been Dzieci’s signature piece since 1998.

Christmas Eve Lessons and Carols

Sunday, December 24, 4 pm
The Cathedral Choristers, led by Director of Music Kent Tritle and Associate Choirmaster Bryan Zaros, are joined by members 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 to attend!

Christmas Eve Festal Eucharist

Sunday, December 24, 10:30 pm
Prelude music begins at 10 pm. The Bishop of New York celebrates the Eucharist and preaches. The Cathedral Choirs and Orchestra perform a festive mass setting and anthems, as well as classic Christmas carols. Special guests Paul Winter and Susanna Phillips join to celebrate the Christmas spirit. This beloved service is open to all. Passes are not needed to attend this service—there is plenty of seating! For information on reserving seats, please email lcortorreal@stjohndivine.org.

Christmas Day Choral Eucharist

Monday, December 25, 10:30 am
The Dean preaches and the Cathedral Choir sings. This special service will be the only liturgy of the day.

New Year’s Eve Concert for Peace

Sunday, 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. This year we begin with Haydn’s glorious *Te Deum* and continue with the U.S. premiere of *See the Wretched Strangers* by composer Lucas Wiegierink. A series of songs about our shared Earth continues the theme of neighborly compassion and the renewal of hope for the coming year. Wrapping up this year’s performance, we celebrate the concert’s founder by performing chorales from Leonard Bernstein’s own *Mass*. Visit stjohndivine.org for tickets and more information.

New Year’s Eve Watchnight Service

Sunday, December 31, 11 pm
Join the Cathedral community in ringing in the New Year with this special late-night service.

Stay in Touch

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

January

New Year's Day Eucharist

Sunday, January 1, 10:30 am

Please note, this special Eucharist will be the only service on New Year's Day.

Nightwatch Crossroads: Christian

Friday, January 5, 6:30 pm

Nightwatch Crossroads is a Friday evening and overnight spiritual retreat for middle and high school age students, youth groups and their adult chaperones. Your group will have the opportunity to unplug from the distractions and stresses of daily life to connect with God and one another in the sacred space of the Cathedral of St. John the Divine. Visit stjohndivine.org for more information and to register.

Camels and Kings: A Gift Giving Workshop

Saturday, January 6, 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.

With Angels and Archangels: Spotlight on Angelic Images

Saturday, January 6, 10:30 am

Discover images of angels in the Cathedral's glass and stone. Learn about the role of angels in the Hebrew, Christian and Islamic scriptures, the angelic hierarchy and how to identify angels by their field marks. The tour concludes with an ascent to the triforium for a birds-eye view of the breathtaking Archangels Window. Participants must be 12 years of age and older for the ascent. Led by Senior Cathedral Guide Tom Fedorek. Tickets are \$18 per adult and \$15 for students and seniors.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Choral Eucharist

Sunday, January 14, 11 am

The Cathedral offers a special service in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Spiritual Sing with Alice Parker

Sunday, January 14, 2 pm, Chapel of St. James

Join Alice Parker, choral conductor, educator and Artistic Director of Melodious Accord, for an hour of communal singing, celebrating the work of Dr. King and the legacy of African-American spirituals.

Great Organ: David Briggs

Tuesday, January 16, 7:30 pm

Artist in Residence David Briggs performs his celebrated 1998 transcription of Gustav Mahler's Fifth Symphony. Mahler stated that "a symphony must be like the whole world—it must contain everything." Embodying every emotional nuance, from the intense pathos of the funeral march through to the incomparable euphoria of the finale, Mahler's 5th includes the *Adagietto*, perhaps his most famous and beloved orchestral movement. Visit stjohndivine.org for tickets and more information.

Nightwatch Crossroads: Christian

Friday, January 19, 6:30 pm

Please see details for January 5.

The Last Crusade: World War I and the Cathedral of St. John the Divine

Saturday, January 20, 10:30am – 11:30am

The Cathedral's 125-year history parallels more than half of the history of the American Republic, with its art and architecture mirroring the life and times of this country during the periods in which they were created. This thought-provoking tour takes you to areas of the Cathedral constructed during World War I and its aftermath. Explore the war's impact on the iconography, comparing images in glass and stone with Allied propaganda posters. Led by Senior Cathedral Guide Tom Fedorek. Tickets are \$18 per adult and \$15 for students and seniors.

Diocesan Chorister Festival

Saturday, January 27

Join choristers from throughout the Diocese and beyond in an exciting day of rehearsals, workshops, games and tours throughout one of the grandest cathedrals in the world. The day will culminate in a festive Evensong in the Cathedral featuring the combined choirs led by Bryan Zaros, Raymond Nagem and Amaranta Viera. The Evensong is open to the public and begins at 5 pm.

February

Nightwatch Crossroads: Christian

Friday, February 2, 6:30 pm

Please see details for January 5.

With Angels and Archangels: Spotlight on Angelic Images

Saturday, February 3, 10:30 am

Please see details for January 6.

The Feast of Absalom Jones

Saturday, February 10, 10:30 am

Join the Cathedral community and the Diocese of New York for a special Eucharist commemorating Absalom Jones, abolitionist and the first African-American ordained as a priest in the Episcopal Church of the United States.

Great Organ: It's Sunday – David Briggs

Sunday, February 11, 5 pm

Artist in Residence David Briggs performs three innovative transcriptions of orchestral music by Maurice Ravel, including the premiere of his new transcription of the "Mother Goose Suite." Kaleidoscopic and ravishingly impressionistic, this music will illustrate the Great Organ's dramatic range of tone and color.

Ash Wednesday Services

Wednesday, February 14, 7:15 am, 8:30 am, 12:15 pm, 7 pm

The Cathedral observes the first day of Lent with the liturgy of the Holy Eucharist and the Imposition of Ashes at four services throughout the day. Spoken services are offered in the morning in the intimacy of the Cathedral's chapels of St. Martin and St. James. At the afternoon service, the professional Cathedral Choir will sing Gregorio Allegri's beloved *Miserere*. At the 7 pm evening service the Cathedral Choir is joined by our volunteer Cathedral Chorale; again the Allegri will be sung, along with Dawson's arrangement of *Balm in Gilead*.

Nightwatch Crossroads: Christian

Friday, February 23, 6:30 pm

Please see details for January 5.

Great Music in a Great Space

CHRISTMAS CONCERT/ NYE CONCERT FOR PEACE

Winter brings some of our most anticipated concerts of the Great Music in a Great Space season. Join us December 9 for our Christmas Concert, a beloved Cathedral tradition. The stunning Cathedral Choir is enhanced by the Choristers as they perform Britten's *Ceremony of Carols*, conducted by Bryan Zaros. Then the Cathedral Chorale joins in for Vivaldi *Gloria* and other holiday favorites, led by Kent Tritle.

Our New Year's Eve Concert of Peace will be extra special this year! Always a stirring performance, this year sees the U.S. premiere of Lucas Wiegierink's *See the Wretched Strangers*. Selections from Leonard Bernstein's *Mass* celebrate Bernstein's centennial and honor him as the founder this very concert. Come ring in the new year with the Cathedral Choir and Orchestra and special guests Judy Collins, Jason Robert Brown, and Harry Smith.

Our season continues in the new year with back-to-back organ recitals: Artist in Residence David Briggs performs on January 16, and Kent Tritle on February 6—both are acclaimed maestros of the instrument. As we look forward to spring, March welcomes back Musica Sacra and showcases our own Cathedral Choir performing Arvo Pärt's *Miserere*. Finally, join us in April as Rose of the Compass helps wrap up our season with a tribute to refugees and immigrants.



PHOTO: Brian Hatton



PHOTO: Cathedral Archives

The American Poets Corner: Winter

(from *The Four Seasons of the Year*)

Cold, moist, young flegmy winter now doth lye
In swadling Clouts, like new born Infancy
Bound up with frosts, and furr'd with hail & snows,
And like an Infant, still it taller grows;
December is my first, and now the Sun
To th'Southward Tropick, his swift race doth run:
This moneth he's hous'd in horned Capricorn,
From thence he 'gins to length the shortned morn,
Through Christendome with great Feastivity,
Now's held, (but ghest) for blest Nativity.
Cold frozen January next comes in,
Chilling the blood and shrinking up the skin;
In Aquarius now keeps the long wisht Sun,
And Northward his unwearied Course doth run:
The day much longer then it was before,
The cold not lessened, but augmented more.
Now Toes and Ears, and Fingers often freeze,
And Travellers their noses sometimes leese.
Moist snowie February is my last,
I care not how the winter time doth haste.
In Pisces now the golden Sun doth shine,
And Northward still approaches to the Line,
The Rivers 'gin to ope, the snows to melt,
And some warm glances from his face are felt;
Which is increased by the lengthen'd day,
Until by's heat, he drive all cold away,
And thus the year in Circle runneth round:
Where first it did begin, in th'end its found.

Anne Bradstreet (1612 – 1672) was inducted into the American Poets Corner in 1994. Today considered the first woman recognized as an accomplished American poet, she was born Anne Dudley in Northampton, England, and emigrated with her family to the Massachusetts Bay Colony as part of the Winthrop Fleet. Her 1650 book, *The Tenth Muse Lately Sprung Up in America*, marked Bradstreet as the first female poet published in both England and the Americas.

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.

Looking Back



PHOTO: Helena Kubicka de Bragança

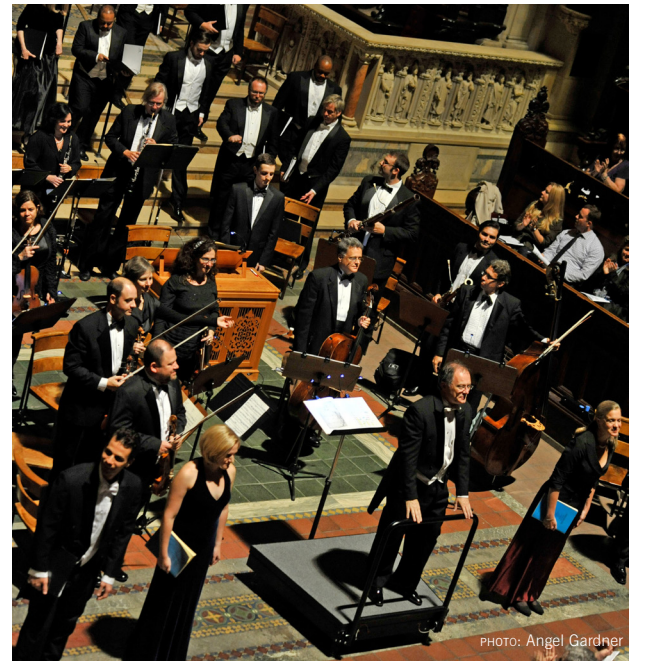


PHOTO: Angel Gardner

Kent Tritle. Highlights included gospel singer **Theresa Thomason**, dance by **Forces of Nature**, and musical performances by the **Paul Winter Consort** and the **Cathedral Choir**. The service concluded with the world famous and beloved **Procession of the Animals**.

Autumn has seen a far greater than average—and far more destructive—number of hurricanes and tropical storms in the southern United States and Caribbean. As of the time of writing, communities in Puerto Rico are still reeling from the devastation unleashed by Hurricane Maria. In light of these disasters, and the innumerable ways our New York City communities are connected to those in the affected regions, the **Diocese of New York** organized a **hurricane relief service** on October 7. All funds raised during the collection will go to assist rebuilding efforts.

October 18 brought the long-awaited dedication of the new peacock hutch (SEE ARTICLE)—finally, **Phil, Jim, and Harry** have a home as aesthetically pleasing as the birds themselves!

The first **Great Music in a Great Space** concert of the 2017–18 season, held on October 25, was also our first with **Musica Sacra** as a full GMGS partner. The concert featured the music of Schütz, Bach, Brahms, and Bruckner, conducted by our own **Kent Tritle**, Director of Cathedral Music.

The Annual Halloween Extravaganza, on October 27, with **Ralph Lee's Procession of the Ghouls**, delighted children and adults and signaled the divide between the colorful and mostly warm first half of autumn and the colder, darker months that commence the holiday season. Continuing the spooky, seasonal mood, **Crypt Crawls** invited children into the Cathedral's crypt to hear stories and learn the history of Halloween.

This summer, organist **David Briggs** was appointed as a new Artist in Residence for the Cathedral, and his first recital, on November 3—performing his own organ transcription of Edward Elgar's deeply moving First Symphony—did not disappoint. Briggs will continue to join us throughout the season, bringing the Great Organ to life during services and post-Evensong recitals.

The **241st Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of New York**, held at the Cathedral on November 11, reaffirmed our connection to the wider Diocesan community, and the Diocesan community's focus on recognizing and working to alleviate suffering throughout the United States and abroad—suffering that, in many regards, feels particularly magnified by the intense social conflicts revealed by the 2016 election, by natural disasters around the globe, and by the continuing threat of unaddressed climate change.

On November 12, the Cathedral and the Cathedral Poet in Residence **Marilyn Nelson** welcomed attendees to the Poets Corner induction of **Jean Toomer**, whose nuanced, modern approach to themes of race in America continues to resonate for students of the Harlem Renaissance and the American novel. Almost a hundred years have passed since Toomer published *Cane*, the novel that has come to be regarded as his masterwork. Yet, in looking back over the events of the past few months, perhaps we all could stand to learn from his unstinting focus on the vulnerable and underserved, and his uncompromising refusal to allow colorism and ingrained racism to direct the course of his life.

As we leave the fall season behind and enter into another winter on the Close, we experienced the joys of **Crafts at the Cathedral**, this year held under the roof of the Nave! For a behind-the-scenes view of all the planning that goes into organizing the **Congregation of St. Saviour's** annual fair, read the interview with Marsha Ra in this issue—and don't forget to check the calendar section for more details.



PHOTO: Cathedral Archives

Fall is when the Cathedral's public programs—special events, informative workshops, and breathtaking concerts—kick into high gear, and 2017 proved no exception to that rule.

The office of the Interim Vicar and Pastor of the Congregation of St. Saviour launched a series of **Know Your Rights workshops** this fall, aimed at providing an arsenal of tools to navigate life as an immigrant of any legal status. Command of multiple languages is a particularly powerful tool, both for immigrants and for communities and parishes supporting them, and a series of free **English and Spanish classes**, offered on Tuesday afternoons throughout the season, added to the robust offerings flowing from the Cathedral.

Continuing the focus on social justice, the Cathedral was pleased to host noted activist **Ruby Nell Sales** during September 10's Choral Eucharist. Ms. Sales delivered a stirring talk on the legacy of white supremacy in this country, a source of profound violence she experienced firsthand. As a young girl of 17, she participated in the Selma-Montgomery marches of 1965. During a deadly attack by white supremacists, Ms. Sales' life was saved by a young Episcopal seminarian, whose self-sacrifice went on to shape the course of her future life, inspiring her to attend theological school and continue to advocate for human rights.

The Mettawee River Theatre Company returned to the Close this September with *Before the Sun and Moon*, a production based around ancient Korean folktales and incorporating Mettawee's signature range of masks, puppets and other visual elements.

September also brings **Cathedral School** children back to the Close each year; the School convocation on September 14 welcomed new and established families into the heart of the Cathedral.

September 17, **U.N. Sunday**, spotlight one of the Cathedral's finest traditions: providing a grand space for the important civic dialogues of our times. The Cathedral honors the mission of the United Nations each year with this special service. The Honorable Miroslav Lajčák, President of the 72nd Session of the U.N. General Assembly, spoke. October 1 marked another spectacular **Feast of St. Francis and Blessing of the Animals**. The St. Francis Day events require an enormous amount of work involving many Cathedral departments, with last-minute scheduling, rehearsals, deliveries, delays, and often an unexpected issue with one of our animal guests. But as always, staff went above and beyond, and the resulting service, performances and fair celebrated the intricate shapes life takes within the vastness of divine love. The *Missa Gaia* (Earth Mass), composed by **Paul Winter** and **Paul Halley**, brought together a massed choir of hundreds of voices under the direction of



PHOTO: courtesy Mettawee River Theatre Company



PHOTO: courtesy David Briggs

Looking Ahead

Crafts at the Cathedral (SEE ARTICLE) ushers in the holiday season each year, bridging as it does the end of November and beginning of December. Christmastime follows quickly on its heels: this year's annual **Cathedral Christmas Concert** falls on December 9. The Cathedral Choristers, joined by the soprano and alto voices of the Cathedral Choir, will sing Benjamin Britten's exquisite setting of medieval poetry, the *Ceremony of Carols*. The Cathedral Chorale and Orchestra join for Vivaldi's splendid and festive *Gloria*, while New York composer James Bassi's radiant *Quem pastores laudavere* portrays the quiet beauty of the Christmas story. As always, the whole audience is warmly invited to join in singing favorite Christmas carols, led by the choirs and orchestra.

While you're at the Cathedral, take a look at the **Peace Tree**, decorated by Cathedral School students. The origami cranes decorating the tree hearken back to Japanese traditions, reflecting our most fervent wish: for peace and harmony in our neighborhoods, city, and worldwide community.

On December 10, 17 and 25, **Early Music New York** returns to the Cathedral with **Burgundian Christmas: Renaissance in the Low Countries**. The series of concerts, held in the Cathedral's Chapel of St. James, presents sacred and secular Renaissance holiday motets and carols for voices and instruments.

Paul Winter's 38th Annual **Winter Solstice Celebration**, featuring **The Paul Winter Consort** and the 25 dancers and drummers of the **Forces of Nature Dance Theatre**, will take place December 14, 15 and 16. A dazzling extravaganza of music and dance, these performances offer a contemporary take on ancient solstice rituals, when people gathered together on the longest night of the year to welcome the return of the sun and the birth of the new year.

On December 24, **Christmas Eve Lessons and Carols** features the Cathedral Choristers under the direction of Kent Tritle and Associate Choirmaster **Bryan Zaros**. This family-friendly service uses readings, carols and larger-than-life puppets to tell the Christmas story.

The **Christmas Eve Festal Eucharist** begins with a musical prelude at 10 pm and service at 10:30 pm. **The Bishop of New York, The Right Reverend Andrew ML Dietsche**, celebrates the Eucharist and preaches. Special guests Paul Winter and **Susanna Phillips** join to celebrate the Christmas spirit. This service is open to all, and passes are not needed to attend—there is plenty of seating available!

Founded by Leonard Bernstein in 1984, the annual **New Year's Eve Concert for Peace**, December 31, is a signature Cathedral event, gathering old friends and new for more than 30 years. This year's concert begins with Joseph Haydn's *Te Deum*, and features the U.S. premiere of *See the Wretched Strangers* by composer **Lucas Wiegierink**. 2017 is the centennial of Bernstein's birth, so this year we include a special celebration of the concert's founder by performing chorales from Leonard Bernstein's own *Mass*.

Nightwatch Crossroads overnights continue throughout the winter season, welcoming spiritually-minded tweens and teens into this majestic space and challenging them to expand their understanding of faith traditions both Christian and non. A special College Night edition, on January 5, expands that welcome to slightly older students, while retaining the hospitality and intellectual stimulation Crossroads has long offered to younger seekers.

On January 11, the Cathedral is pleased to present an unusual combination of modern dance, poetry, and music, with a performance of **Ned O'Gorman's *The Buzzard and the Peacock***. Details were still coming together at the time of writing, so visit our website for more details!

January 14 is **Martin Luther King Sunday**. The 11 am 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 Tritle. Following the service, join us for a communal **Spiritual Sing** led by **Alice Parker**, director of Melodious Accord. Parker frequently leads communal sings, workshops, and intensive professional training programs for composers, teachers, and conductors. Of Parker's work as a leader of group song, one observer remarked, "There is no one who is not a singer when she leads."

On January 16, Artist in Residence **David Briggs** returns to the Great Organ with his celebrated 1998 transcription of Gustav Mahler's Fifth Symphony. Mahler stated that "a symphony must be like the whole world—it must contain everything." Since our Cathedral itself is large, containing multitudes (to paraphrase Walt Whitman, inducted into the Poets Corner in 1984), this performance seems particularly apt.

The **Diocesan Chorister Festival**, on January 27, brings together young singers from throughout the Diocese and beyond for an exciting day of rehearsals, workshops, games and tours. The day will culminate in a festive Evensong featuring the combined choirs led by Bryan Zaros, Assistant Director of Music **Raymond Nagem**, and **Amaranta Viera**.

The **Feast of Absalom Jones**, on February 10 this year, is always a celebratory day at the Cathedral: congregants and musical groups from the Diocese will again fill this grand space, honoring the life of Absalom Jones, abolitionist and clergyman (and the first African-American person ordained as a priest in the Episcopal Church).

Ash Wednesday, coinciding with Valentine's Day this year, is observed at the Cathedral with spoken and sung services. Join us as we usher in the season of Lent with solemn and stirring music sung by the Cathedral Choir and Chorale at the afternoon and evening services.



PHOTO: Cathedral Archives



PHOTO: Cliff Sobel



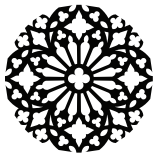
PHOTO: Helena Kubicka de Bragança



PHOTO: Cathedral Archives



PHOTO: Geordie Wood courtesy Magnum Foundation



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the **Divine**

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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 ²⁰¹⁷ -18 at the Cathedral

Join Us

This has been a year when we, as a nation, have had to think hard about what we can and should do for others. Whether those others are undocumented people; DREAMers; victims of racism, sexism, hurricanes or wildfires—the politics and natural disasters of 2017 have sent us careening through differing perspectives on what it means to be one people.

At the Cathedral, we think about this every day and work on it year after year. Our frustration is that we never give as much as is needed; even as New York City, like the whole of America, grows richer, those on the bottom rungs of society lose more and need not only material help but the love, faith and belief in community that the Cathedral has always nurtured.

It is in this spirit that we ask, as we do every year, that if you make charitable contributions at the end of the year, you remember the Cathedral. Please take a moment to think about

Cathedral Community Cares (CCC) Soup Kitchen & Clothing Closet, which also offers social and medical services; Adults and Children in Trust (ACT) with its myriad of summer, pre-school and after-school programs; Friends of Music, which supports the Cathedral 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.

The Cathedral also needs volunteers, for assistance with the liturgy, pitching in at ACT, CCC, and The Cathedral School, greeting people at the door, leading guided visits and working in the garden. Whatever your interests and skills, there is room and a warm welcome for you here!

It's Easy to Give!

It's now even easier to support the Cathedral. Join our Cornerstone Society by becoming a monthly donor. Text "stjohndivine" to 77977 and download our secure donation app. Type in your information just one time then choose the amount of your monthly donation. That amount will then automatically be charged to your credit card once a month. Our monthly gifts will keep this magnificent building strong and help grow its myriad programs in liturgy and art, conversation, music, tapestry preservation, worship, and advocacy as well as direct service to thousands of individuals in our community who are in need. Become a part of the Cathedral's future with your support today!

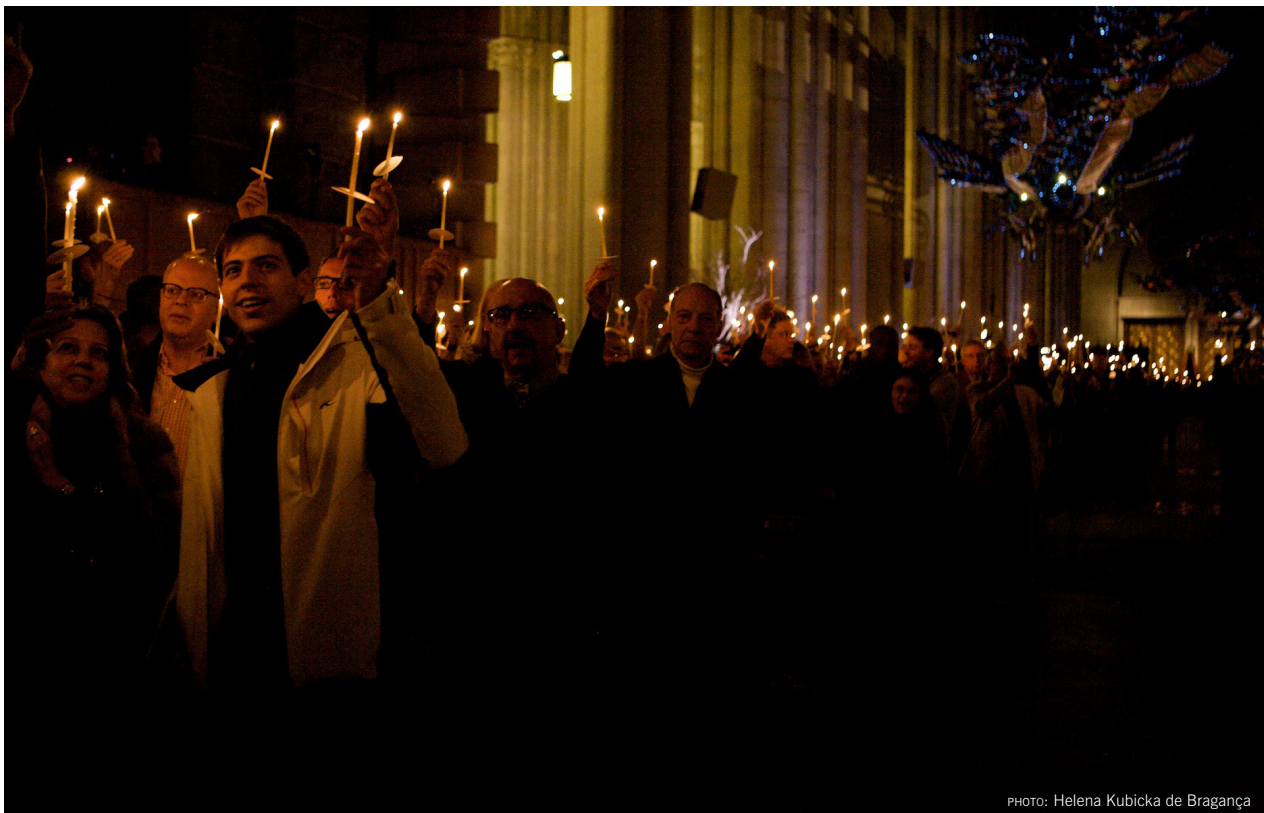


PHOTO: Helena Kubicka de Bragança

Cathedral Community Cares Toy Drive

If you're searching for a way to directly help our friends and neighbors in need this holiday season, look no further! Cathedral Community Cares is collecting new, unwrapped toys for their annual holiday toy drive. Toys can be dropped off at the CCC offices in the Town Building through December 21. All donations are distributed to the families served by CCC. For more information, please call Thomas Perry, Program Manager, at 212-316-7583.