



## **The Feast of St. Francis and Blessing of the Animals** Frequently Asked Questions

### **When does the Cathedral host the Feast of St. Francis?**

The Cathedral hosts the service on the first Sunday of October. This year, the event takes place on Sunday, October 2nd.

### **Can I just show up on the morning of October 2nd?**

Yes, but this particular service is especially well-attended and the Cathedral is often filled to capacity. The service does require a pass, which is free, and can be reserved in advance on our website or at the Cathedral on the morning of October 2nd.

### **How do I secure passes for this event?**

Advance passes will be available on [stjohndivine.org](http://stjohndivine.org) on Tuesday, September 6th. The remaining passes will be distributed only on at the Cathedral on the morning of October 2nd on a first-come, first-served basis.

### **I would be flying in for this service. How can I ensure that I have a pass?**

To ensure a seat, you should obtain an advance pass on our website at 10 am EST on Tuesday, September 6th.

### **How early should I arrive to obtain Day Of passes?**

It is recommended that you arrive no later than 8:30 am. Please keep in mind that the lines grow rapidly and while we always certainly try to accommodate as many people as possible inside the Cathedral, arriving at or before 8:30 am is no guarantee that you'll secure a pass.

### **At what time does the service begin?**

The service begins at 10:30 am and passes will not be honored after that time.

### **Is the Cathedral ADA/wheelchair accessible?**

Yes. Our ADA/accessibility ramp is located on the Cathedral's Upper Driveway, on Amsterdam Avenue between 111th and 112th Streets.

### **I am mobility impaired and/or elderly—do I need to wait in line?**

No, you do not. Please approach the ADA/accessibility ramp and a member of the Cathedral's staff will escort you inside.

**Is there parking at the Cathedral?**

Unfortunately, there is no parking on Cathedral grounds. There is limited street parking in the vicinity and several parking garages in the area. Please visit [this page](#) for a list of garages.

**Do I need a pass to attend the fair following the service?**

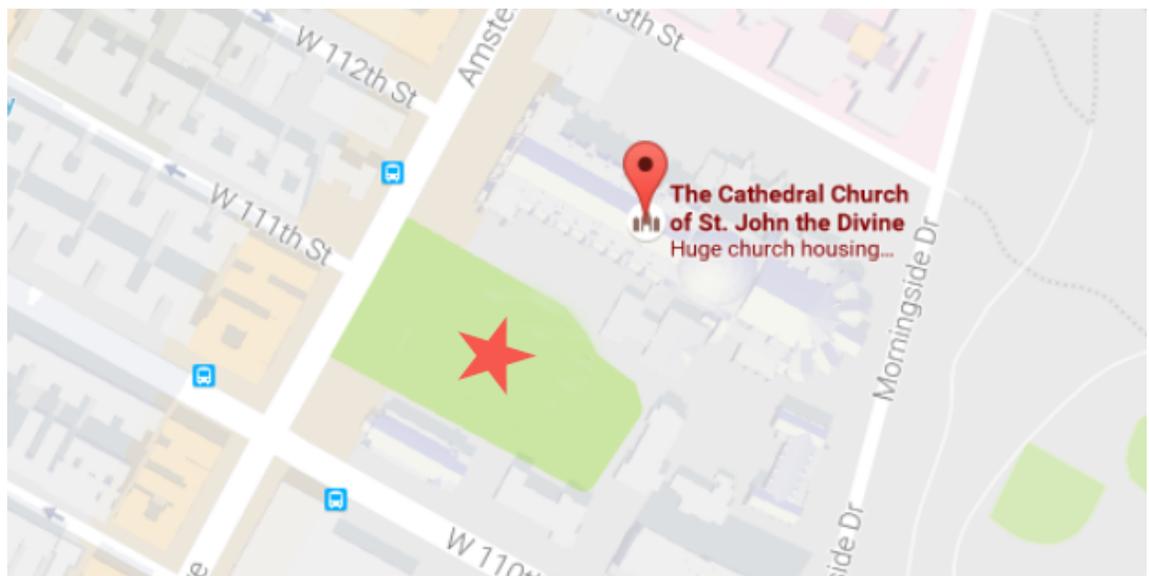
Not at all! All are welcome to attend the outdoor fair!

**Will there be food and refreshments available at the fair?**

Absolutely! Well-loved local food truck Gorilla Cheese NYC will be on site, selling a delicious assortment of grilled cheese sandwiches and sides, including tater tots, macaroni and cheese, and tomato soup. Their menu offers several vegetarian options.

**Where/when can I bring my furry friend to be blessed?**

Pet blessings take place on the Cathedral’s Pulpit Green (marked with a star on map below) shortly after the conclusion of the service. Members of the clergy will be located at stations on the Pulpit Green for pet blessings starting at approximately 1:30 pm.



**Is there anything new planned for this year?**

Yes! A live music stage is in the works for this year’s fair. It will feature several family-friendly performances between 2 and 4 pm.

**I am a member of the press interested in covering this event. Who can I contact about obtaining a press pass?**

Please contact Robin Verges ([rverges@rubenstein.com](mailto:rverges@rubenstein.com)) and Mike Stouber ([mstouber@rubenstein.com](mailto:mstouber@rubenstein.com)) at Rubenstein Communications for any press pass queries.

**I am interested in helping underwrite this beautiful service. Who can I contact about making a donation?**

Please contact Priscilla Bayley, Director of Individual Giving, at [pbayley@stjohndivine.org](mailto:pbayley@stjohndivine.org) or (212) 316-7570.