As we know, 2020 was a year of historic challenges. COVID-19 ravaged our city; racist violence at the hands of law enforcement took the lives of George Floyd and other Black Americans; rioters stormed the U.S. Capitol; and a shooting erupted on the steps of the Cathedral. With so many dismaying events occurring all around us, it would have been easy to retreat and wait for these hard times to pass. But it was clear to us from the start that as New York’s great Cathedral we could not stand idly by and watch our neighbors suffer. In the past year, at every possible moment and in ways we never before dreamed, we stepped up to face unprecedented challenges and to provide hope, nourishment, and inspiration to our beloved community, and in particular to those among us who are most vulnerable.

In this edition of our year in review, we recognize our donors and all that you have helped us accomplish. We also take a moment to reflect on our hopes for 2021. With the continued support of our community, we will bring people from many faiths and communities together to worship; we will expand our footprint in Morningside Heights, feeding the hungry and providing affordable childcare; and we will nourish the spirit of our city through music, art, and civic gatherings.

With much gratitude,

The Right Reverend Clifton Daniel III
Dean, the Cathedral of St. John the Divine

I am incredibly proud of our team for their courageous work this year, and I am grateful for your unwavering generosity, which has made all of this possible.

- We served 55,000 fresh and healthy meals through our soup kitchen to address the growing crisis of hunger and food insecurity
- We offered the Cathedral as a site for free COVID-19 testing and held multiple blood drives, serving 228 people and saving 684 lives
- We pledged our assistance to our neighbors at Mount Sinai Morningside, continuing to offer Cathedral space for use as a field hospital and vaccination site
- We provided sanctuary to asylum seekers from different countries
- We brought people together safely through virtual gatherings and socially distanced vigils on the steps of the Cathedral
- We distributed clothing to those in need, including people without housing, individuals seeking employment, and people adjusting to life after incarceration
- We connected individuals to essential services and health and wellness education
- We launched a pastoral care hotline to provide emotional and spiritual support to those in need
- We inspired others through music and the arts via weekly concerts, performances, and other virtual programs
- We provided low-cost, high-quality childcare and after-school programs for working families and those seeking work
Advancing the Community of Tomorrow (ACT)

In 1971, ACT grew out of the grassroots efforts of parents in Morningside Heights and the surrounding community to create a quality learning environment in the neighborhood, including preschool, afterschool, and summer camp programs. In 2020, COVID-19 presented significant challenges to our community’s parents and children. As schools closed, frontline and essential service workers were left scrambling to find childcare. Parents sought to balance working from home with managing their children’s virtual school, while children lacked social interaction critical for their development. ACT quickly adapted to meet the growing needs of the community in the following ways:

- We used the Cathedral gardens to make an outside preschool classroom for 32 families to safely gather and engage in age-appropriate activities, including yoga and gardening.
- We developed an online course that introduced young children to a school environment, and made online learning resources available to children learning at home via the Cathedral website.
- We launched a childcare and enrichment service for students in our community who are learning remotely. Parents and guardians, particularly those in the healthcare and hospitality industries, have relied on us to keep their children safe and learning during this difficult time.
- We increased financial aid availability to assist the growing number of families who are unable to pay tuition. We are determined to ensure our services are accessible to all families, particularly in a time of such hardship.

In the year to come, we are focused on securing resources to expand financial aid so that every family has access to academic, social and emotional learning programs that provide children with the skills needed to persevere through this difficult time.
Cathedral Community Cares (CCC)

CCC aims to combat and alleviate poverty through a variety of preventive services. Throughout an unprecedented year that saw a growing crisis of unemployment, food insecurity, and homelessness, CCC rose to meet our community’s needs, serving as an essential lifeline for the community’s most vulnerable:

- We served 55,000 meals, 20,000 more meals than in 2019. Unlike many soup kitchens in NYC, our meals included high-quality, fresh fruits and vegetables that were pre-packaged to ensure the health and safety of our clients and volunteers.
- In partnership with Columbia University Food Services and City Harvest, we distributed more than 90,000 bagged meals over a four month period to people in need.
- We distributed clothing to 5,000 individual clients—a 66% increase from 2019—including many who were recently released from prison. Amid a historic unemployment crisis, we helped prepare thousands of clients for job interviews by providing professional attire, coaching, and advice.
- We distributed more than 1,000 hygiene kits, which included toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, and shampoo.
- We connected individuals to essential services through information, targeted referrals, and health and wellness education.

In 2021, with the pandemic still ongoing and continuing to disproportionately impact the most vulnerable in our community, we plan to serve even more clients and continue to build the Cathedral’s legacy of grace and generosity.
Congregation of St. Saviour

The Congregation of St. Saviour is an active Christian community that calls the Cathedral home. Through dues and volunteering, our group is guided by faith to support many Cathedral endeavors such as Cathedral Community Cares, marching in support of Black Lives Matter, and the Queer Liberation March. During the pandemic, the Congregation was able to remain active and to worship regularly, albeit virtually. Congregation members supported one other and the community at each stage of the pandemic:

- We helped secure COVID-19 vaccines for elderly and at-risk members.
- We connected to the wider Episcopal Diocese of New York through the reading and discussion of Ibram X. Kendi’s book *How to be an Anti-Racist*.
- Together with Cathedral Liturgy and the Arts and Cathedral Music, our members helped support the recording of *Sunday services* each week, helping meet our community’s spiritual needs.

In 2021, we look forward to convening at the Cathedral once again. We will continue to walk in the path of Jesus Christ by creating a community of acceptance, love, and action.
Cathedral Music

Music is a central part of sacred and secular life at the Cathedral, accompanying our Sunday worship services and offering a year-round array of concerts ranging from classical choral compositions to contemporary world music. Heading the Cathedral’s music program is the Grammy-nominated Kent Tritle, one of America’s leading choral conductors. He also serves as the Music Director of Musica Sacra, New York’s oldest choral society, and the 200-person choir at the Oratorio Society of New York. Partnerships with the New York Philharmonic and the Manhattan School of Music help position the Cathedral at the center of New York City’s classical music scene.

- Even though the community was unable to gather in person, we knew from the start of this pandemic that in a time of isolation and distress, music would provide much-needed solace.
- We worked tirelessly to produce online worship services and weekly virtual events, including a livestreamed Tuesdays at 6 recital series, which averages 70 live audience members each week and 1,000 post-performance views.
- We initiated the prestigious Organ Scholar program, which provides real-world Cathedral choral experience to the holder. Samuel Kuffuor-Afriyie, our first Organ Scholar, is working on adapting Ghanaian traditional music to organ compositions.
- We grew the Cathedral Choristers, an ensemble made of Cathedral School students, to more than 30 children, with the goal of keeping choral music alive at the church and in our neighborhood.

In 2021, with the support of Friends of Music and others, we will continue to provide comfort and cheer through choral music in diverse and accessible ways for more viewers around the world.
The Cathedral School

Founded in 1901, The Cathedral School of St. John the Divine is a place where century-old traditions live on in vibrant, modern ways. Within the nurturing environment of this independent, coeducational, Episcopal K-8 day school for children of all faiths, students become articulate, confident, and responsible citizens of the world. Through curriculum and informal school experiences, students at The Cathedral School come to understand the inherent value of all people and the importance of working towards equity in all that they do. Amidst the challenges of 2020, The School community persevered, supporting the minds and spirits of growing young people:

• At the beginning of the pandemic, The School pivoted to distance learning, integrating the technology and innovation that have redefined education—and our world—with a grounding in the living history of the Cathedral.

• Basing our reopening on state and city guidelines, and utilizing the capacious Cathedral Close as an outdoor, alternative classroom, we safely returned to in-person instruction, helping balance safety requirements during the pandemic with the social and emotional needs of our students.

• Amidst a turbulent year, we drew upon our seven Core Values: Cooperation, Courage, Integrity, Kindness, Passion for Learning, Respect, and Responsibility.

In 2021, The Cathedral School will welcome Erica Corbin as the 19th Head of School, continuing The School’s legacy of dedication to children’s education in the coming years.
Public Education and Visitor Services (PEVS)

Each year, the Cathedral receives 250,000 visitors, and PEVS is dedicated to delivering memorable experiences, including architectural tours for world-travelers and field trips for students from across the country. In 2020, with the doors of the Cathedral largely closed to the public, we rose to the challenge by creating new and lasting partnerships in the greater Cathedral community and expanding our virtual programs for all to enjoy.

- We forged new partnerships with Education First Tours, the Morningside Park Alliance, and the Cathedral’s children’s program Advancing the Community of Tomorrow (ACT), enabling us to offer service-learning opportunities for more than 100 high school students.
- More than 15 volunteers and staff created a robust program of online experiences, including a meditative Lenten Tour series and a virtual version of our signature Vertical Tour, bringing the wonders of the Cathedral to the homes of more than 300 people.

In 2021, we are dedicated to creating a larger national and world-wide audience via virtual programs, with a special focus on strengthening our relationship with local schools to reach more students than ever before.
The Textile Conservation Lab

The Textile Conservation Lab is a world-renowned program for restoring not only the Cathedral’s tapestry collection, but also those of other museums and private collectors. As one of only two textile conservation centers in the country, we aim to preserve and restore unique materials and offer internships to the brightest students to continue the science and art of conservation. Despite challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic, the conservation team completed several historic textile conservations in 2020:

- Conservators painstakingly worked to revive a Marcel Duchamp piece from a private collection, addressing its serious water damage.
- We began conserving textiles damaged during the Cathedral’s 2019 Palm Sunday fire, including the State Trumpet flags and our Acts of the Apostles tapestries, world-class treasures of textile art.

On the horizon, our team aims to complete several exciting projects, including a flag commemorating 9/11 from the Trinity School that incorporates children’s handprints. In 2021, these projects will continue the legacy of preserving cultural heritage and educating the next generation of conservators.
**FINANCIALS**

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**FY2020 REVENUE**

- Endowment/Interest Income
- Program-Related Donations
- Unrestricted Contributions
- Program Fees

**FY2020 EXPENDITURES**

- Fundraising
- Management and General
- Public Affairs & Communications
- Programs and Ministry
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The Cathedral is profoundly grateful to its Staff, Clergy, Volunteers, Board, Advisors and Friends, whose unparalleled energy and determination make thousands of annual services, programs and events possible. Please visit the Cathedral website and join us on Facebook to stay in touch.

Our many and varied programs, services, and events are made possible by your generous contributions. Our heartfelt thanks for your continued support.

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