



Below are some answers to questions we are often asked. If your answer isn't here, do contact us:
applications.catc@stjohndivine.org

1. How old are members?

You must be between the ages of 21-33 on September 1st of the year you would join the community. Why the age limit? For more information, see the paragraph in our FAQs.

2. Why the age limit?

The Community at the Crossing is open to 21 - 33 year-olds. This period of life is often where the most foundational decisions for a person's life are made, and so it is for this generation that we want to prioritise this opportunity of deep formation. By gathering young adults from around the world, the Community brings together people who have very little common ground other than their love for Jesus. Being in a roughly similar stage of life helps people relate to one another as sisters and brothers.

3. Can I be in a relationship during the year?

Local members can be single, in a couple, or married. For those in a relationship, it is important to have the support of your partner in your decision to apply, particularly as this program has a significant time commitment.

4. What about children and families?

Parents may apply, but we can't offer childcare, so you will need to consider in advance how you will manage family life alongside your commitments to the community. Do contact us to talk if you are unsure.

5. Could my health be a barrier?

We want the Community to be open to those with various physical or mental health challenges. We'd be happy to talk about the ways in which any condition you have may be managed to enable you to participate in community life.

6. How does money work?

Our vision is to make this program as accessible to as many people as possible – God interrupts whoever God will. As such, the Community at the Crossing has been established as a non-profit, supported by generous donors. Members further this fundraising effort. Prior to joining the program, members are expected to fundraise \$2,500. During the year, we will work as a community and as individuals to defray the total cost of the program. This fundraising effort can be discussed on a case-by-case basis. Our firmly held belief is that finance should not be the definitive factor in inviting somebody into membership. Therefore, members are not chosen based on their ability to pay. We are available for any questions at any stage.

7. What about work?

Members should have the legal right to live and/or work or study in the US. The program is designed in such a way as to dovetail work commitments with community life.

8. Do I need to be a U.S. citizen?

The Community at the Crossing is open to anybody from across the United States, regardless of nationality. You do not have to be a U.S. citizen to be a member, however, we cannot sponsor visas for the program. You must have the legal right to remain in the US for the duration of the program, and have found accommodation before the beginning of the program.

9. Is there any form of residential accommodation available?

Past cohorts of the Community at the Crossing have included the modality of full-time programming and accommodation. This option is not available for the 26-27 cohort; members of this cohort must find their own accommodation within a commutable distance of the Cathedral.

10. Do I have to be from a particular church background?

The community is open to all Christians from any denomination, church or tradition. Our sincere hope and prayer is that through the experience of community we will learn from the strengths of our different experiences and styles of worship. Each year the community is comprised of a large variety of very different traditions. This is a blessing – enabling us to experience first-hand the treasures of different parts of the Christian family.

11. What kind of posture does this community call for?

Being a part of the community is a major step in life. Being part of a community with many differences between members brings riches and challenges. We are very different from one another - different churches, religious beliefs, social background, opinions. This year will be an opportunity to learn and receive from one another - this calls for courage and openness. It requires a level of Christian maturity and commitment to your faith in order to live, study, pray and volunteer alongside a group of other people. Community life ranges from cleaning tasks to Cathedral worship, from choosing a movie or board game to theological discussion. A willingness to get 'stuck in', to be a participant in all forms of community life is vital. You will not be asked to change your personality or your denomination, but you will necessarily be asked to put yourself outside of your comfort zone.

12. What is spiritual accompaniment?

A weekly meeting with a 'companion'; someone to walk the journey with you who is a little further up the road. This kind of practice is sometimes called 'spiritual direction', however, the Ignatian understanding of this is not to give 'answers' but rather to offer a mirror back to help you see what God is saying to you, and to help you trust that you can hear the voice of God in your life. Spiritual companions at the Community at the Crossing are trained in the Ignatian tradition.

13. What is the link with the Cathedral of St John the Divine?

The birth of the community came about through several ecumenical encounters. The 11th Dean of the Cathedral, Patrick Malloy, met the Chemin Neuf Community (a Roman Catholic community with an ecumenical vocation) in 1987 in Paris, and later the Community of St Anselm (an ecumenical community for young adults) at Lambeth Palace in 2016. These encounters, nourished by prayer and conversation, led to the founding of this ecumenical community by the Cathedral, encouraged by Pope Francis, the former Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, and the Ecumenical Patriarch ([watch the launch service here](#)). The community is run by the ecumenical partnership between the Episcopal cathedral and the Roman Catholic community Chemin Neuf. This partnership is committed to the personal journey and faithfulness of each person to their own Christian denomination.

14. How do I apply?

The application process involves short answer questions, reflection essays, and an interview. Please see the website for more precise information regarding dates and deadlines. Don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions – applications.cac@stjohndivine.org