It's Your Cathedral

Singing the Lord's Song

Over the more than 125 years of its life, the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, our church family, has weathered world wars, economic forces, global turmoil, health crises, and devastating fires. Through every crisis, we’ve turned to the comfort of our church family to help stabilize and ground us.

This year, the ongoing coronavirus pandemic has forced us to reflect on so much about our day-to-day lives, affecting even the nature of worship services—the bedrock of this Cathedral. Even more recently, the brutal police killings of George Floyd and Breonna Taylor have sparked an upwelling of public protest against the anti-Black racism and violence so intrenched in American life and worshiping together. As with so many people around the country, our clergy and educators, and members of the wider community that we care about, have found new ways to unite, to support one another, and to take comfort in the presence of our connection.

While it’s still too soon to judge how, and in what order, the necessary changes brought about by the twin plagues of coronavirus and racial violence will unravel, one thing is clear: our community will evolve. Only a few months ago, we couldn’t have imagined the disruption to our daily routines, but we could neither have imagined the grace and power of our newfound adaptability that has been fueled by videos of extrajudicial killings of Black people and the steadfastness of ongoing silence targeted at people of color. As a house of worship, a neighborhood hub, and a cultural crossroads of so many different nationalities, races, and ethnicities, the Cathedral’s mission and reason for being calls us to draw together in unity and to honor the diverse forces of reason, acceptance, and love. At a vigil on June 5, where Cathedral clergy and members of the wider community stood in prayer and solidarity, we once again renewed the vow to support, protect, and stand by one another, in times of crisis.

The Cathedral Steps Up

The Cathedral pledges to stand for the dignity, humanity, and rights of all people, in New York City and around the country, has experienced the COVID-19 pandemic and racist violence we are doubly devastated by videos of extrajudicial killings of Black people and the steadfastness of ongoing silence targeted at people of color. As a house of worship, a neighborhood hub, and a cultural crossroads of so many different nationalities, races, and ethnicities, the Cathedral’s mission and reason for being calls us to draw together in unity and to honor the diverse forces of reason, acceptance, and love. At a vigil on June 5, where Cathedral clergy and members of the wider community stood in prayer and solidarity, we once again renewed the vow to support, protect, and stand by one another, in times of crisis.

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The Cathedral That Meets You at Your House

Along with art and history, music is a core feature of Cathedral Life, and our digital offerings include a robust variety of online performances to enjoy. With recitals streamed each Tuesday at 6 pm on our Facebook page and videos of pieces sung by members of our esteemed choir posted to our website, there’s so much for a music lover to explore. Queue up a video, sit back, and let the joyous tones transport you to the Cathedral, all from the safety and comfort of your home.

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