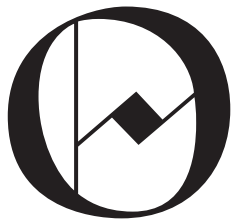


Summer 2019 at the Cathedral

Sanctuary: “A Place Where Everybody Feels Protected”



One of the many pleasures of life on the Cathedral Close is bearing witness to the lives and unfolding personalities of the young people with whom we share these majestic grounds. The kids of ACT (Advancing the Community of Tomorrow) and the Cathedral School bring life and boundless curiosity to the campus, and particularly in troubled times, it's a privilege to see at first-hand how today's children and teens are grappling with and finding responses to the big-picture issues of our times.

This spring, the Cathedral was filled with artworks comprising *The Value of Sanctuary: Building a House Without Walls*, the latest in a series of Cathedral-wide art initiatives. *The Value of Sanctuary* features works by over thirty contemporary artists spanning the interconnected themes of immigration, housing, religion, identity, and community. In doing so, the exhibition asks visitors to engage with the complexity of sanctuary—including what sanctuary means for each person.

The exhibition provided the Cathedral community with many opportunities to delve into the meaning of “sanctuary” and explore what it means for the Cathedral to be a sanctuary for the communities it serves. The School is one of those communities—a bustling hive of activity from September through June each year, packed with young thinkers, ponderers, and creators.

After visiting *The Value of Sanctuary*, Cathedral School second graders this past April crafted a special Evensong to share what they learned with their schoolmates, teachers, and parents. After sharing definitions of sanctuary—including “a place where everybody feels protected”—the students led their peers in music, poetry, and prayers. As the Evensong came to a close, one student in the audience reflected, “I didn't realize that any place where you feel sound and safe could be a sanctuary.”

Visitor and community engagement is central to the mission of the Cathedral and to its relationship with sanctuary. Although *The Value of Sanctuary* will close at the end of June, the themes and questions explored in the exhibition will, we hope, continue to resonate for a long time to come. Drawing all who consider the Cathedral their home—be they students, members

of the Congregation, Cathedral Community Cares clients, or visitors from far and wide—into the larger community, where we may encourage, sustain, and learn from one another, is but one way of strengthening and deepening Cathedral sanctuary.

Four poems written by our second-grade friends are printed below. We hope they'll encourage you to think about how you define your own personal sanctuary and work to create and safeguard sanctuary for all those around us.

Oh Sea
by Joseph B.

Oh sea, your dolphins are so nice to me
Your manta rays sing with me
Oh sea, your waves are so fun to surf on
You make me feel at home when I splash in your water
And you make me feel better when I'm sad
You're always on my side
Sea, you sing at night and your sand is so soft
Like a pillow for your bed
Oh sea, you're my sanctuary

Untitled
by Justin H.

Your eyes glistening in the moon light.
In the dark you're as sleepy as me
That's why we are meant to be
You're the angel of my life
Even though I have lots of strife in my days
You're the one who makes it better.
You light my day.
God, you did a great job choosing
Your eyes glisten in the moonlight.
My dog is my sanctuary.

WHAT'S INSIDE

[Dean's Meditation](#)
[The American Poets Corner](#)
[ACT Camp](#)
[Spirit of Pride](#)

My House
by Amaya J.

My house feels locked up.
I feel very safe in my house.
I feel toasty and warm in my house.
I have a lot of room, so I have space to hide.
I feel very comfortable, so that makes me feel loved!
My house is very secure.
I love my house.
My house feels safe, so I can be loud!
I can even jump on my bed.
I love you, house.
My house feels like sanctuary.
My stuffed animal is sanctuary.
Best house ever!
My house is my sanctuary!

My Room
by Ella S.

Reading books peacefully
Resting in my room
Putting my feet on the soft rug
Peacefully without my brothers
I stay in my room until I'm hot
I feel a nice breeze through the air
My room gives me all the feelings everywhere
Nice things never go until I'm done
My room is my sanctuary

[Looking Back](#)

[Looking Ahead](#)

[The Cathedral Invites You to Take a Pause to Consider Poetry as Sanctuary](#)

[From the Archives: Celebrating Pride Month](#)

Sunday

8 am Morning Prayer 9 am Holy Eucharist 12:15 pm Choral Eucharist 4 pm Choral Evensong

Monday through Friday

8 am Morning Prayer 12:15 pm Holy Eucharist 5 pm Evening Prayer

Saturday

12:15 pm Holy Eucharist

Cathedral Information

The Cathedral is open daily from 7:30 am-6 pm For 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

Dean's Meditation

THE RIGHT REVEREND CLIFTON DANIEL III



PHOTO: David Rider

"The best-known unknown place in New York City."

This is how a friend described the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in a conversation a few days ago. "Everyone knows the name, but not many can tell you where it is," continued my friend.

As Christians, our goal is to "know Christ and make him known" through our words and actions. This is no less true for our life as a community of Christians gathered here at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine. Another friend said to me years ago that the traditional stance of The Episcopal Church is to say, "If you can find us, you'll like us." Our call as Episcopalians and as the Cathedral of St. John the Divine is to be "a city set on a hill," not a candle hidden under a bushel.

One of my theories about the Church is that as Episcopalians, our tradition is to be the greenhouse of the great catholic stream of Christianity. That is, what happens in the broad Anglican stream of Christianity is often a forerunner of where the wider stream of catholic Christianity is headed. This greenhouse effect seems to be embedded in our ecclesiastical genes from the earliest days of Anglicanism—translating the liturgy from Latin to "a language understood of the people," a corps of bishops, priests, and deacons free to marry or not; receiving communion in both kinds (i.e., bread and wine); the King James version of the Bible, which was to become the standard for the Bible in English for centuries; the notion of the broader Anglican tradition as a family of independent, self-governing national churches with authority dispersed and shared; and, more recently, the ordination of women and the full inclusion of LGBTQ persons in the ordained and lay life of The Episcopal Church, including the availability of marriage for members of that community desiring it. We continue to grow in our understanding of the Gospel in relation to

hospitality to all; to justice; to the responsibilities of freedom; and to the imperative to care for the weak, the oppressed, the stranger, the refugee. We continue to strengthen our witness against personal, national, ethnic, and racial aggression; sexism; and the structural causes of hunger, poverty, and disempowerment.

All of this flows from the clear imperative in Paul's letter to the Church in Philippi, urging them and us to be bold witnesses to knowing Christ and making him known to others.

So, back to being the best-known unknown place in New York: How are we here at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine making Christ known to the city and world? As I look around, I see a Cathedral community that is growing in its desire and ability to be welcoming to and inclusive of all who come here. I am more and more convinced that every person, parishioner, tourist, and casual walk-in is seeking to touch and be touched by the divine—through architecture, worship, seeking solace or encouragement, hearing great music, or enjoying a gala evening. And we are growing in the ways in which we welcome the visitor, feed the faithful, and nourish the soul.

With the excellent exhibition, The Value of Sanctuary: Building a House Without Walls, all who visit are invited to examine how we make the world a safer place. We have opened ourselves to become a sanctuary for immigrants seeking refuge in the U.S. who are being threatened by deportation by offering them a place to live in safety while their troubles are being worked out.

In conjunction with the Archbishop of Canterbury, the cooperation of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of New York, and the active involvement of Chemin-Neuf, a Roman Catholic ecumenical community, we are moving ahead at a steady pace to establish this community on the Cathedral

Close with a cohort living in Diocesan House, all with the goal of knowing Christ and making him known.

On Palm Sunday, we experienced a fire in an art storage room in the Crypt (i.e., the basement beneath the Cathedral). While the fire destroyed some artwork and furniture, the major damage was due to smoke filling the Cathedral. Cleanup was immediately undertaken by professionals, and all surfaces were wiped down. Sadly, the newly re-installed State Trumpet was scheduled to make its debut on Easter Sunday, but the smoke and debris prevented this. The Great Organ will also be silent until the damage can be assessed.

In the category of our mission to make Christ known, Palm Sunday services were moved outside with Bishop Dietsche celebrating Eucharist on the Pulpit Green for about 400 people, while the soup kitchen served meals to about 200 people on the lawn. The church was filled with smoke and the organ silenced, but our mission went on undeterred. And on Easter Sunday, a crowd of approximately 3,000 gathered to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus. Hallelujah!

All of this, undergirded by a steady stream of daily Eucharist and prayer in the Cathedral, welcoming thousands of tourists and visitors, concerts and performances, galas and graduations. The mission of the Cathedral continues on its joyful and steady way of inviting all to know Christ and to make him known.

Thanks be to God!

From the Archives: Celebrating Pride Month

In celebration of Pride Month, here are some pieces from the archives of the Cathedral and the Episcopal Diocese of New York that vividly evoke the struggle for acceptance in the church and city.

AUG 1 1967: FOR YOUR INFORMATION

THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE CATHEDRAL HEIGHTS, NEW YORK, N. Y. 10025

Bishop Andrew Dietsche

Reverend and dear brother, July 26, 1967

During the past two years the Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine has held several conferences for the purpose of informing Episcopal clergy about contemporary thought and knowledge on a variety of controversial subjects, from narcotics to the political Extreme Right.

On Tuesday, November 28th, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., the combined Dioceses of Connecticut, Newark, Long Island and New York plan to hold an informational conference to be called "Project H" to help the clergy break down prejudice and develop an increased tolerance and understanding of problems encountered while counseling male homosexuals and their families.

This conference is designed to fill part of the "Information gap" about the subject of male homosexuality in our society, a subject which traditionally is difficult to tackle in open discussion but which, we feel, is often met with in pastoral counseling and should be as much the subject of careful and objective concern as the many other personal and familial problems about which parishioners look to their clergyman for guidance.



MARCH AGAINST ANTI-HOMOSEXUAL CONDITIONS: The Gay Liberation Day parade entering Central Park on the way to the Sheep Meadow yesterday. Demonstration by groups from Northeast area started in Greenwich Village.

The Cathedral Church of Saint John the Divine SUMMER 1999



ONCE again, the Cathedral's mission as a "house of prayer for all people" will be vividly and proudly upheld as thousands are expected to gather in the great church at 10:30 am, on June 26 for "Stonewall 30: A Sacred Celebration." "We expect this to be a significant occasion," said Cathedral Dean Harry H. Pritchett, Jr. "As such it is an important opportunity to reflect on the spiritual dimensions of freedom and justice, as well as extended christian hospitality." The program will feature gay and lesbian speakers from the worlds of politics, the arts, religion, the academy, and business and finance. Gay and lesbian clergy from throughout the Diocese will offer prayers of thanksgiving and hope. Confirmed speakers include: Massachusetts Congressman Barney Frank and Senator Associate for Peace and Justice at All Saint's Church, Pasadena, The Rev. Dr. Rene Hill. There is no more fitting site for Stonewall 30 than the Cathedral, which is known worldwide for boldly advocating human rights and is the home of the National AIDS Memorial. It was here last October that a solemn candlelight vigil was held to honor the memory of Matthew Shepard, the gay college student who was brutally murdered in Wyoming in a hate crime that outraged the nation. "Stonewall 30 is the Cathedral once again affirming the sacredness of all people," said Dean Pritchett.

Episcopal Clergymen Here Call Homosexuality Morally Neutral

Episcopal Clergymen Here Call Homosexuality Morally Neutral

By EDWARD B. FISKE

Ninety Episcopal priests intended to foster a permanent generally agreed yesterday that relationship of love," he stated. The church should classify ho- He added, however, that this moralistic acts between consenting adults as "morally neutral" quality should be encouraged or and acknowledge that in some that homosexual acts, like other cases such acts may be extramarital sexual relations, cannot also be "promiscuous."

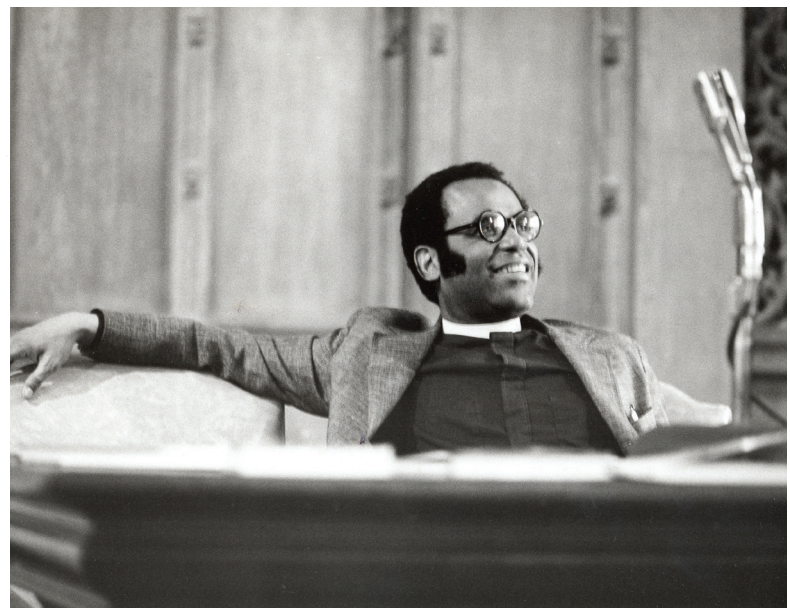
The clergymen were partici- In the discussions, those who pants in Project H, a day-long agreed with this view also ex-symposium on the church's ap- pressed difficulty in formula- approach to homosexuality that ting the standards by which was held at the Cathedral to distinguish "healthy" from Church of St. John the Divine. "promiscuous" homosexual It was jointly sponsored by the acts, Episcopal Diocese of New Others, however, disagreed York, Connecticut, Long Island with the majority position. The and Newark.

A large majority of the of Trinity Episcopal Church in priests appeared to take the Astoria, Queens, for instance, position that homosexual acts declared that homosexual acts should not be dismissed as "must always be regarded as wrong "per se." He also warned against the relaxing of moral standards in participants were expressing the name of compassion and genuine love or simply "using" understanding. "The reason for each other for selfish purposes. Continued on Page 39, Column 5

Instead, they declared, such not part of the natural process- individual instance by other He also warned against the criteria, such as whether the relating of moral standards in participants were expressing the name of compassion and genuine love or simply "using" understanding. "The reason for each other for selfish purposes. Continued on Page 39, Column 5

The Rev. Walter D. Dennis, canon of the cathedral, who organized the symposium, said, for instance, that Christians must "rethink the usual position that has turned homo-sexuals into modern-day lepers."

"A homosexual relationship between two consenting adults should be judged by the same criteria as a heterosexual mar-



The Right Reverend Walter Dennis, who joined the Cathedral as Canon Residentiary in 1965, was deeply involved in discussions of the church's role in the serious issues of the day, from bioethics to humanitarianism, to what would become known as the fight for LGBTQ rights. In 1967, two years before the epochal Stonewall riots, he convened a conference called "Project H" to address the lives and needs of gay men in the church. In 1979, he was ordained a bishop of the Diocese of New York, and continued to advocate for the inclusion of those under-represented in the church.

Reflections on the Spirit of Pride

KEVIN DE LAIGLE, MEMBER OF THE CONGREGATION OF SAINT SAVIOUR

I first moved to New York in May of 1994, just on the eve of Stonewall 25, and I cannot believe that WorldPride | Stonewall 50 is now upon us.

Just a few weeks after moving to New York as a 21-year-old NYU student, I remember the thrill of being among thousands marching up First Avenue in the Stonewall 25 Gay Pride March, past the United Nations, and up into the Great Lawn of Central Park, which at the time was a huge dust bowl, without one blade of grass.

Once inside the Park, RuPaul headlined on an outdoor stage on the dusty "lawn" lip-synching to "Supermodel (You Better Work)," the first big mainstream hit ever sung by a drag queen. It was an amazing time, and I felt Pride like I had never known before.

To put things in perspective, most people didn't even have cell phones in 1994! More seriously, sodomy laws were still on the books, and same-sex marriage was not a mainstream idea. The military were forced to remain in the closet ("Don't Ask, Don't Tell" had just been implemented), and AIDS was still a death sentence (and the leading cause of death for all Americans aged 25-44). It was also four years before Matthew Shepard's murder in 1998.

Fast-forward to 9/11/2001, another unforgettable day in New York City that shook us to our core... I first came to the Cathedral of St. John the Divine when a colleague invited me to come with her for a big memorial service for 9/11. I had just lost my job, and I felt lost. The world seemed changed forever. However, I found a place of hope, solace, and peace at the Cathedral in those dark days.

I immediately felt that the Cathedral was a house of prayer for ALL people and that I could reconnect with the divine there after many years of living life for myself. After growing up in a non-accepting church environment, it was a great joy and comfort to me to be able to grow spiritually in a place that was 100 percent accepting of who I am. I was confirmed in the Cathedral in 2003. Since then, I have always wanted to share the love and pride I have for the Cathedral with newcomers, and I started ushering at Sunday services.

In 2008, I met my husband Tim, and in 2015, after marriage equality became the law of the land, we were married in the Chapel of St. Martin at the Cathedral. It was really a dream come true to be married in a Cathedral, with the blessing of God and the Church and with our family and friends surrounding us. Tim was received into the Church at Easter Vigil in 2016, and I reaffirmed my faith at the same time.

Last year, it was a great honor to play a part in bringing the AIDS Memorial Quilt panels to the Cathedral. We also cheered on the marchers in the AIDS Walk New York, re-dedicated the AIDS Memorial in May, and commemorated World AIDS Day in December. The Spirit of Pride has indeed been moving these last few months.

We have come such a long, long way in 25 years, but there is still much more to be done. For me, it has been an incredible journey, and I look forward to another 25 years (or even 50 years!) of sharing the Spirit of Pride in the Cathedral of St. John the Divine!



A panel of the NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt PHOTO: Isadora Wilkenfeld

The American Poets Corner: What is the grass?

A child said What is the grass? fetching it to me with full hands; How could I answer the child? I do not know what it is any more than he. I guess it must be the flag of my disposition, out of hopeful green stuff woven.

Or I guess it is the handkerchief of the Lord, A scented gift and remembrancer designedly dropt, Bearing the owner's name some way in the corners, that we may see and remark, and say Whose?

Walt Whitman, from "Song of Myself," 1890 Whitman was inducted into the American Poets Corner in 1984.



PHOTO: Cathedral Archives

Summer events 2019

SERVICE TIMES

Sunday Services	Daily Services
8 am Morning Prayer & Holy Eucharist	Monday–Saturday
9 am Holy Eucharist	8 am Morning Prayer (Mon–Fri)
11 am Choral Eucharist	12:15 pm Holy Eucharist
4 pm Choral Evensong	5 pm Evening Prayer (Mon–Fri)

TICKETS AND RESERVATIONS

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. Learn stories through stained glass windows and sculpture and study the grand architecture of the Cathedral while standing on a buttress. The tour culminates on the roof with a wonderful view of Manhattan. \$20 per person, \$18 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.

ADVANCING THE COMMUNITY OF TOMORROW (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 (C.C.C.)

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.

June

Divine Grace: Elements of Christian Mysticism at the Cathedral

Saturday, June 1, 11:30 am

From the beginning of time, people have tried to contact with the divine. In what ways in the Christian faith has this been expressed? Explore the foundation in the Jewish tradition, Christian mysticism, and how it translates to this twentieth century building. Learn about the complex ideas of The Tree of Life, the Fibonacci Series, and a composition from Olivier Messiaen at the Great Organ. Led by Cathedral Guide Gary Gelfenbien. Tickets are \$25 per person, \$20 per student/senior.

The Value of Sanctuary: A Visual Thinking Strategies Salon

Tuesday, June 4, 6 pm

Join us for an evening of deep inquiry and profound conversation. With *The Value of Sanctuary: Building a House Without Walls* grounding the conversation, guests will consider the Visual Thinking Strategies (VTS) discussion model and together explore new ways in which it can be used. VTS is utilized in classrooms, museums, hospitals and boardrooms across the United States to support open and meaningful group discussions.

Diocesan Confirmations

Saturday, June 8, 10:30 am

Visit dioceseny.org for more information.

Color and Sound: Nikolai Kachanov Singers & the Russian Chamber Chorus of New York

Sunday, June 9, 8 pm

RCCNY performs Morton Feldman’s Rothko Chapel for chorus, viola and percussion. Visit rcnny.org for tickets and more information.

Big Sing

Monday, June 10, 7:30 pm

The BIG SING is an annual free massed singing event inaugurated in 2011 by the New York Choral Consortium as an opportunity for New York choral singers to sing together and celebrate the beginning of the summer. All are welcome to attend and sing along! Visit newyorkchoralconsortium.org/the-big-sing for more information.

Care Beyond Borders: Centering Women and Girls in Humanitarian Response Efforts

Wednesday, June 12, 6:30 pm

Conflict, climate change, and natural disasters have displaced an unprecedented number of people in recent years. Many of these people are women of reproductive age, one in five of whom is likely to be pregnant. Join us for a conversation, co-presented with the International Planned Parenthood Federation, on the urgent issues and unique physical and psychological needs of women and girls on the move. This program is presented in conjunction with *The Value of Sanctuary: Building a House Without Walls*, on view in the Cathedral through June 30.

Brilliant Walls of Light: Spotlight on Stained Glass

Saturday, June 15, 10 am

Each window contains a unique style of stained glass drawn from the English, French, and German traditions. Explore the beautiful narrative and geometric windows by modern English and American firms and view the memorial to a stained glass artist. Ascend over 100 feet of spiral stairs for a closer look at windows dedicated to medical and communications achievements. Led by Senior Cathedral Guide John Simko. Participants must be 12 years of age and older for the ascent. \$18 per person, \$15 per senior/student.

Paul Winter’s 24th Annual Summer Solstice Celebration

Saturday, June 22, 4:30 am

This beloved annual performance welcomes concert goers to an intimate sunrise performance under the roof of the Cathedral. This magical event celebrates the first rays of light illuminating the summer morning as sweet music bids welcome to the summer days to come. For tickets, visit stjohndivine.org.

Building a House Without Walls: Spotlight on Sanctuary

Saturday, June 22, 1:30 pm

Join us for a curated tour of *The Value of Sanctuary: Building a House Without Walls*. Contemporary art offers a visual response to the time in which it is created, and within the Cathedral it reminds us of the long history of viewing art in gothic Cathedrals. Like the exhibit itself, this tour invites visitors to reflect on the interconnected stories—of refugees, of immigrants, of human beings of all backgrounds coming together and drawing apart—that are central to the mission of this Cathedral. While learning about the artwork in *The Value of Sanctuary*, all participants are invited to share their observations in a safe and welcoming environment. Led by Cathedral Educator Cheryl McGinnis. Tickets are \$18 per person, \$15 per senior/student.

The Cathedral in Context: Spotlight on Morningside Heights

Sunday, June 23, 1 pm

The Cathedral spurred the growth of Morningside Heights into becoming one of Manhattan’s most unique neighborhoods. Go back in time on an illustrated walking tour of the neighborhood and its historic architecture and institutions and learn about its development into the “Acropolis of Manhattan.” The tour begins at the Cathedral and ends at Riverside Church. Led by Cathedral Guide Bill Schneberger. All participants must be 12 years of age or older and reservations are recommended. This tour requires extensive outdoor walking and use of stairs. Tickets are \$25 per person, \$20 per student/senior.

Spirit of Pride Choral Evensong

Sunday, June 23, 4 pm

Celebrate Pride at the Cathedral! Cosponsored by the Congregation of St. Saviour, this service, open to all, joyfully commemorates 50 years since the iconic Stonewall rebellion with music and prayer in the tradition of the great Cathedrals of the Anglican Communion. Join us for a reception following the service!

ACT Summer Camp

Monday, June 24 – Friday, August 23

Celebrate summer with Advancing the Community of Tomorrow (ACT), the Cathedral of St. John the Divine’s after school and summer program for youths ranging from toddlers to teens! ACT offers a wide variety of specialty day camps for families with children in Pre-K through 8th grade. Camp begins June 24 and runs through August 23. Over the course of nine weeks, families can choose between July Summer Day Camp, August Specialty Camp, and August Adventure Camp, with carnivals, art projects, sports, and daytrips in and around the city. More information about summer camp opportunities and all of ACT’s programs can be found at stjohndivine.org/education/act/.



Value of Sanctuary Closing Celebration

Thursday, June 27, 6:30 pm

Join us as we celebrate the Value of Sanctuary: Building a House Without Walls and Pride Month! Visit stjohndivine.org for more information.

Cathedral Carnival

Saturday, June 29, 2 pm

Kids of all ages are invited into the Cathedral for a fun-filled afternoon celebrating the start of summer! Engaging activities and exploration stations focusing on Cathedral architecture and the artwork of the Value of Sanctuary: Building a House Without Walls will be open for all.

July

Divine Grace: Elements of Christian Mysticism at the Cathedral

Friday, July 6, 11:30 am

See details for June 1.

ACT Overnight

Thursday, July 11, 6:30 pm

Join ACT for a summer overnight experience beneath the dome of the world’s largest gothic Cathedral! Visit stjohndivine.org for more information and to register. Also offered Wednesday, July 17.

Medieval 2.0: Spotlight on Traditions Transformed

Saturday, July 13, 10 am

What does New York’s Cathedral of St. John the Divine share with the great medieval cathedrals of Europe? How does it depart from that tradition? Join Senior Cathedral Guide John Simko for a tour of architecture and stained glass that focuses on St. John’s unique blend of modern New York and medieval Europe. Tickets are \$18 per adult and \$15 for students and seniors.

Gateway to the New Jerusalem: Spotlight on the Iconography of the West Front

Saturday, July 20, 10:30 am

The Cathedral’s western façade provokes much comment and curiosity as well as the occasional conspiracy theory.

This stimulating one-hour tour decodes the thematic programs underlying its art and architecture. Led by Senior Cathedral Guide Tom Fedorek. Tickets are \$18 per adult and \$15 for students and seniors.

Cathedral Through Time: Celebrating 125 Years!

Saturday, July 27, 10:30 am

See details for June 29.

The Cathedral in Context: Spotlight on Morningside Heights

Sunday, July 28, 1 pm

See details for June 23.

August

Harlem Havana

Saturday, August 3

Harlem Week 2019 kicks off at the Cathedral with an afternoon of live performance. Visit stjohndivine.org for more information.

I Love NY: Spotlight on the City

Saturday, August 3, 10 am

Celebrate New York City and its indomitable spirit with a special tour of the Cathedral. Learn how the Cathedral and City serve as places of diversity, tolerance, and human achievement. Hear stories of New York’s immigrants, inventors, and artists who have helped shape the City and the world. Led by Senior Cathedral Guide John Simko. \$18 per person, \$15 per senior/student.

Gateway to the New Jerusalem: Spotlight on the Iconography of the West Front

Saturday, August 10, 10:30 am

See details for July 20.

The Cathedral in Context: Spotlight on Morningside Heights

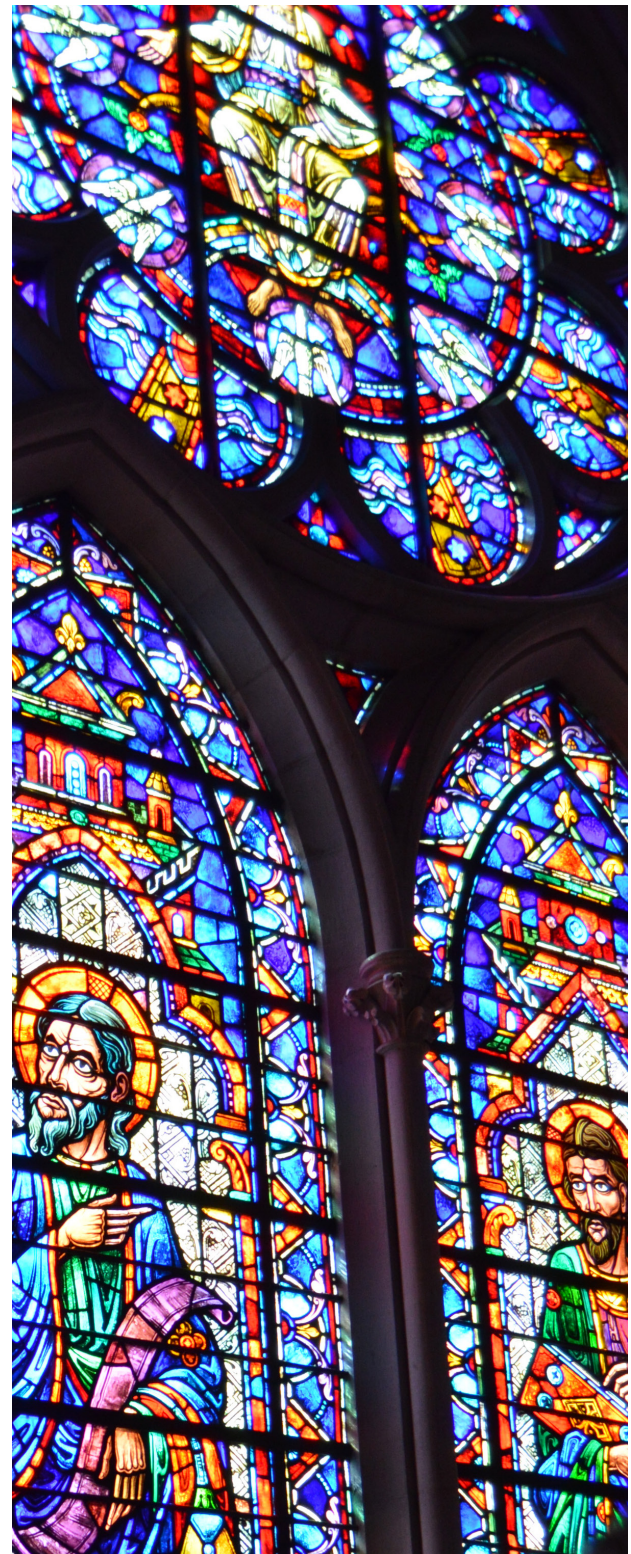
Saturday, August 24, 1 pm

See details for June 23.

Cathedral Through Time: Celebrating 125 Years!

Saturday, August 31, 10:30 am

See details for June 29.



Looking Back

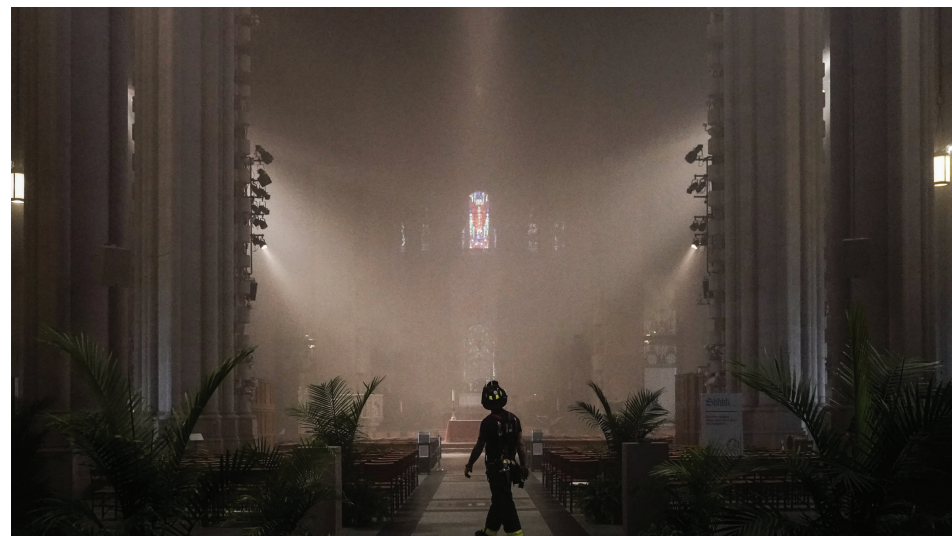
Spring was indeed busy this year: all of the normal, anticipated activity of concerts, events, and the central drama of **Holy Week** and **Easter** happened as a matter of course, but added to it was the danger and uncertainty of a fire in the crypt on **Palm Sunday**. Thankfully, no one was injured, and any structural damage was kept to a minimum. Cathedral clergy, with the help of staff and volunteers, moved the Palm Sunday Eucharist outside to the Pulpit Green, while firefighters and art handlers inspected the condition of the Crypt. Although the scent of smoke lingered during Holy Week, the remainder of the services from Tuesday onwards were able to proceed as planned. We thank our wonderfully level-headed friends and community for banding together and assisting in whatever capacity they were able!

Prior to this unanticipated near-emergency, the spring season of **Great Music in a Great Space** was in full swing. On March 5, **Musica Sacra** presented *Silhouettes*, featuring works by **William Byrd**, **Orlando Gibbons**, **Thomas Tallis**, **John Tavener**, and **Stephen Paulus**, plus the world premiere of *Migration* by Pulitzer Prize finalist **Michael Gilbertson**, written specifically for Musica Sacra. On March 21, Associate Director of Music **Raymond Nagem** performed **J.S. Bach's** complete *Orgelbüchlein*, or Little Organ Book, in honor of the composer's birthday. The 2018-19 season of Great Music in a Great Space concluded on April 9 with **Great Choir: French Masters**, pairing **Gabriel Fauré's** beloved Requiem with **Francis Poulenc's** deeply spiritual *Litanies à la Vierge noire* and *Quatre petites prières de saint François d'Assise*.

A number of programs and events tied to *The Value of Sanctuary: Building a House Without Walls* brought dialogue and performance to expand the conversations around immigration, community, and what it means to truly belong somewhere. Over a thousand guests joined us on March 13, when performance pioneer **Laurie Anderson** presented **Lou Reed Drones**, an incredible drone-based sonic experience utilizing a number of historic guitars from the late **Lou Reed's** collection. The following Tuesday, March 19, Artist in Residence



Clockwise from top: participants at the annual Blessing of the Bikes (photo: David Rider), assessing the Cathedral after the Palm Sunday fire (photo: Jeannah Moon, The New York Times). The Rev. Canon Patrick Malloy and Dean Daniel with firefighters (photo: Cathedral Archives); Liao Yiwu, Ma Jian, Zhang Boli, Wang Dan, Zhou Fengsuo, Fang Zheng, and translator Michael Day (photo: Isadora Wilkenfeld); The Reverend Dr. William Barber, II (photo: Isadora Wilkenfeld).



Alessandra Belloni launched her new book, *Healing Journeys With the Black Madonna*, with a performance in the Chapel of St. James. On March 26, arborist and longtime friend of the Cathedral **William Bryant Logan** discussed his book *Sprout Lands: Tending the Endless Gifts of Trees* with **Dr. William Schuster**, the Executive Director of Black Rock Forest Consortium. On March 30, religious scholar **Elaine Pagels**, physician and author **Siddhartha Mukherjee**, and Garrison Institute co-founder **Jonathan Rose** came together for a talk on **The Sacred as Sanctuary**, followed by a performance by **Jog Blues**, a group that brings together masters of jazz, blues, and Indian classical music in a 21st century mix.

Reaching out to the wider community and being thankful for our warm circle of Cathedral supporters and friends are two constant threads running through life here, no matter the season. The **Congregation of St. Saviour's** Close Conversation series continued into April, with a discussion on the life-altering impact of incarceration led by **Robert Pollock**, **Samuel Cabass**, and **Lanetta Hill Short**, moderated by **L'Engle Fellow Elizabeth Howard**. We celebrated the annual **Blessing of the Bikes** on May 4, the day before New York City's **5 Boro Bike Race**. At the **Spirit of Giving** event on May 15, we recognized and honored past and present donors who have given most generously to the life and mission of the Cathedral.

We were honored to have **the Reverend Dr. William Barber, II**, author, activist, and spiritual force for good, join us for three days in May. On May 5, he preached a rousing sermon at the 11 am Choral Eucharist, exhorting all in attendance to heed Jesus' call for moral justice. An **interfaith breakfast** followed on May 6. On the 7th, in partnership with **PEN America** and **Humanitarian China**, we saluted the dauntless courage and youthful defiance of the **1989 Tiananmen Square protests** that challenged China's authoritarian establishment. With key student organizers of the 1989 movement sharing their poems and stories of courage in the face of almost insurmountable state oppression, Rev. Barber's closing words reminded us that the fight for democracy and human rights is far from over.

The Cathedral Invites You to Take a Pause to Consider Poetry as Sanctuary

"I feel blessed to have the opportunity to share my poetry, to give back in hopes that someone might be enlightened with a fresh vigor for life and its meanings of love expressions through the arts of all kinds. Thank you for the time you spend in this. You are my voice while I cannot speak and my energy while I am confined."

The note above is excerpted from a letter by a recent contributor to the Muriel Rukeyser Poetry Wall at the Cathedral.

In 1976, poet Muriel Rukeyser and The Very Reverend James Parks Morton, then Dean of the Cathedral, inaugurated the Poetry Wall in the Cathedral as a "place where poems will always be accepted." The Cathedral continues to receive several submissions each week, which come exclusively from people who are currently incarcerated. The Cathedral has expanded Rukeyser's original vision to incorporate a digital archive of poetry submissions, and has displayed a selection of these poems in the current exhibition *The Value of Sanctuary: Building a House Without Walls*.

Looking Ahead

The unofficially-official beginning of summer here in New York City is, of course, the **New York Philharmonic's Memorial Day Concert** at the Cathedral. This year's performance, featuring **Anton Bruckner's** Symphony No. 8 in C minor, takes place on May 27.

Performances of all sorts continue through the month of June. On Sunday, June 9, the **Nikolai Kachanov Singers** and **Russian Chamber Chorus of New York** present **Color and Sound**, featuring **Morton Feldman's** *Rothko Chapel*, along with works by **Nikolai Kachanov** and the world premiere of **Efrem Podgait's** *Morning Birds*.

On June 10, singers of all sorts are invited to participate in the **New York Choral Consortium Big Sing**. This all-encompassing annual event is perfect for anyone who's ever wanted to sing to their heart's content in the Cathedral (or perhaps just listen and enjoy).

Longtime friends of the Cathedral no doubt remember the **Sing for Hope** pianos that appeared next to the **Peace Fountain** for several summers. We had a hiatus last year, but this summer the music is back! Feel free to tickle the ivories and bang out a tune: no matter your level of keyboard prowess, the piano is open to all.

The Value of Sanctuary: Building a House Without Walls is on view through June 30! Don't miss the final weeks of this Cathedral-wide exhibition and program initiative... particularly on the evening of June 12, when the Cathedral partners with the **International Planned Parenthood Federation / Western Hemisphere Region** to present **Care Beyond Borders: Centering Women and Girls in Humanitarian Response Efforts**. The topics covered in this panel discussion on women's rights and the activists and organizations supporting them are especially urgent now, with threats to female bodily autonomy coming under increasing attack by authoritarian governments at home and abroad.

Artist in Residence **Paul Winter's 24th Annual Summer Solstice Celebration**, on Saturday, June 22, welcomes concertgoers to an intimate sunrise performance under the roof of this great space. This magical event celebrates the first rays of light illuminating the summer morning as sweet music bids welcome to the summer days to come.

June is also Pride Month, and the Cathedral's vibrant history of supporting our local LGBTQ community and the push for rights nationwide means we've got something to celebrate! Join us on June 23 for a **Spirit of Pride Choral Evensong**, co-sponsored by the **Congregation of St. Saviour**, joyfully commemorating 50 years since the iconic Stonewall rebellion with music and prayer in the tradition of the great Cathedrals of the Anglican Communion. (Read on in this issue for a reflection by Congregation vestry member Kevin de l'Aigle on the Cathedral and LGBTQ communities.)

On June 24 – 25, **Working Theater** presents a work-in-progress showing of *Sanctuary*, a new participatory theatrical experience created by **Rachel Falcone**, **Rebecca Martinez** and **Michael Premo** in collaboration with the Cathedral community and members of the Congregation. In the words of the playwrights: "In the community of the world-famous Cathedral of St. John the Divine in Manhattan, many people find home and sanctuary. But in a world of chaos and injustice, what does that mean?" Join us for a thought-provoking and sensitive consideration of the question.

The end of June provides a couple of excellent opportunities to explore the Cathedral and *The Value of Sanctuary* exhibition before it closes. On June 27, join us for a closing event and Pride celebration. On June 29, kids of all ages are invited into the Cathedral for a fun-filled **afternoon carnival** celebrating the start of summer! Engaging activities and exploration stations focusing on Cathedral architecture and the artwork of *The Value of Sanctuary: Building a House Without Walls* will be open for all.

Following the end of the *Value of Sanctuary* exhibition, the Cathedral is pleased to present **Portraits of Immigrants: Unknown Faces, Untold Stories**, a series of works by painter **Betsy Ashton**. See the box in this section for more information.

Advancing the Community of Tomorrow camp is in full swing during the height of summer. Visit us online for full information on the many specialty sessions available!

Harlem Week 2019 opens with **Harlem Havana** at the Cathedral, presented on Sunday, August 4 in partnership with the **Greater Harlem Chamber of Commerce**. Past collaborations have included wonderful dance performances, so check our website as the date draws nearer for more details!

The end of summer is typically a quiet time at the Cathedral, when staff, volunteers, and residents take a moment to pause and recharge for the busy fall ahead. Before we head into autumn, with its roster of **Great Music in a Great Space**

concerts, **Cathedral School Evensongs**, and **St. Francis Day** festivities, though, we hope you'll find time to stop and take a pause to experience the beauty of summer and the long, peaceful days on the Cathedral Close.

Christmas in July: A Crafts at the Cathedral Preview

As most longtime friends of the Cathedral know, our Congregation of St. Saviour sponsors a festive fair each holiday season, bringing dozens of highly talented artisans into the Cathedral to showcase their handmade wares. This year's fair will be held on December 6–8. Read on below for a preview of just one of the artists whose work will be on sale!

Carrie Fertig's relationship with the Cathedral of St. John the Divine began in the 1990s, when she made custom metalwork for the large shop that used to be the North Transept before the 2001 fire. During one visit with the shop buyer, she met the stonemasons on the West Front, and that led to her working on carving the "Portal of Paradise" from 1995-1997.



Photo: Carrie Fertig

Today she spends nine months of the year as an artist whose practice includes film, performance, installations, music, and sculpture. Fertig exhibits, performs, and teaches internationally, and is based in Edinburgh, Scotland. In 2019, her solo exhibition *Forgiveness*, commissioned by The National Glass Centre in Sunderland, England, traveled from its six-month run there to The Thurso Gallery and Inverness Museum and Art Gallery in Scotland. The interactive exhibition explored the process of forgiveness, and included the stories of veterans, asylum seekers, and the elderly with dementia and their carers.

Each autumn, Fertig comes to the United States for three months where she exhibits in a number of craft shows. She has participated in the Cathedral crafts fair since it began in 1995. It is her favorite show. "The quality level is exceptionally high: the Congregation of St. Saviour, who produce the show, are some of the loveliest people on the planet; the food, made by the Congregation, is the best you will have at any craft exhibit anywhere; and the general ambience is a love-fest, as we are all so fond of each other. Then there is our relatively new venue, the Cathedral itself: a place of glorious beauty, serenity, and great community and connectedness," she says. Fertig learned glass flameworking from traditional master craftsmen in Lauscha, Germany, where F. W. Woolworth went when he first brought commercial Christmas ornaments to the United States. Thousands of her glass icicles made the interactive sound installation *Ausklängen (Fade Away)* one of Fertig's solo exhibitions this year at the Veste Coburg, in Coburg, Germany. Tiny and huge versions of these icicles will be available at her booth at Crafts at the Cathedral. This year, for the first time, Fertig will also show lighting made from these shimmering, sonic icicles.

She also sells ornaments that have a variety of historic, mythological, and religious connections. Some are inspired by magnificent architectural design, such as the Cathedral's own Rose Window, originally made all those years ago for the shop in the North Transept. Others bear Celtic knots or griffins, winged creatures with a lion body and eagle head, treasured as powerful symbols of protection. Her best-selling ornament is a hand-hammered star ornament inspired by the Hans Christian Andersen story, "The Fir Tree." The star looks battered and misshapen but still shines brilliant gold, like the human soul. "May it remind you of the resilience each one of us has, and no matter what life metes out, that we still shine."

Great Music in a Great Space, 2019-2020 Season

We're excited to announce the ninth season of Great Music in a Great Space! Our choral season expands this November to include the U.S. premiere of Patrick Zimmerli's *Instrument of Destiny*, a new oratorio on poetry by Alan Seeger. We welcome back world music ensemble Rose of the Compass, who will collaborate with the Cathedral Choir on *Our Fragile Earth*, a February program marking the 60th anniversary of Earth Day. In March, join us for *St. John at St. John* as we present J. S. Bach's monumental St. John Passion in the unique setting of the world's largest Gothic cathedral.

Kent Tritle, our Director of Music, conducts Musica Sacra in two concerts in the Great Choir series, including Medieval and Renaissance music by Guillaume de Machaut and Josquin des Prez. The Cathedral also welcomes the Oratorio Society of New York for a concert featuring two extraordinary 20th-century pieces: excerpts from Sergei Rachmaninoff's *All-Night Vigil* and Maurice Duruflé's ethereal *Requiem*.

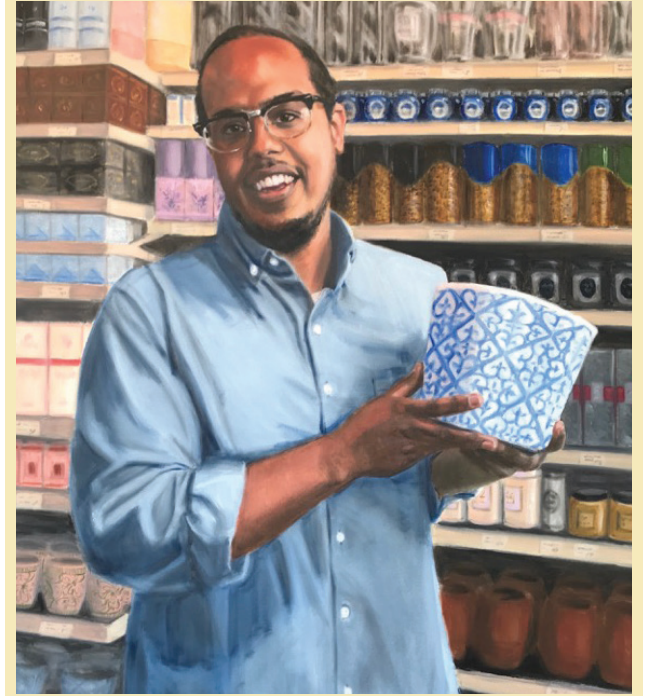
At our annual Christmas Concert, *Fantasias and Carols*, Associate Choirmaster Bryan Zarus leads the Cathedral Choristers, and the combined Cathedral Choir, Chorale, and Orchestra perform music of Ralph Vaughan Williams and George Frideric Handel, with Associate Music Director Raymond Nagem as organ soloist. Our New Year's Eve Concert for Peace offers a moment of beauty and repose as we turn the calendar to 2020, bringing together the Cathedral Choir and Orchestra with special guest artists for an unforgettable evening.

The Great Organ series features two virtuoso recitals from Artist-in-Residence David Briggs, who will give the world premiere of his Variations on "Take the A Train" in October. Director of Music Kent Tritle, organist of the New York Philharmonic, will play Bach, Bruhns, and Viëne, and in April, Associate Music Director Raymond Nagem closes the season with a recital of organ music by women composers, including Clara Schumann, Florence Price, and Nadia Boulanger.

Stay tuned for more information on our website, stjohndivine.org/music/great-music in the coming months. We welcome you to become a Friend of Music and help support Great Music in a Great Space by emailing Priscilla Bayley (pbayley@stjohndivine.org).

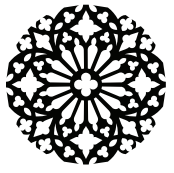
Exhibition Preview: Portraits of Immigrants

Later this season, the Cathedral will welcome *Portraits of Immigrants: Unknown Faces, Untold Stories*, a traveling exhibition of oil portraits and stories of immigrants by artist-journalist Betsy Ashton. The exhibition features men and women of all ages from a variety of countries, religions, and cultures to share the stories of why each came here, what sacrifices or challenges it took to make the journey and settle in, and what each has accomplished since.



Mustafa Mohammed, a refugee from Somalia. From the series *Portraits of Immigrants* by Betsy Ashton.

Sparked by the maligning of immigrants she heard during the 2016 election, Ashton decided to try to find out who today's immigrants really are. Beginning in her own neighborhood, these are the people she found. Ashton's portraits hang in collections throughout the United States, United Kingdom, and Italy. Prior to painting, she was an award-winning reporter and correspondent on radio and television stations in Washington, D.C.; in New York City; and on CBS News.



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Summer 2019 at the Cathedral

Celebrate Summer with ACT Camp!

Summer at the Cathedral is here and, with it, the return of happy campers at Advancing the Community of Tomorrow (ACT)! Founded in 1971, ACT provides a safe haven where toddlers to teens from many faiths, cultures, and economic backgrounds gather to learn, play, and grow as they participate in a broad range of programs among highly-trained and caring adults. Beginning on June 24, ACT offers a wide variety of specialty day camps for families with children in Pre-K through 9th grade. Over the course of eight weeks, families can choose between July Theme Camp, August Specialty Camp, and August Adventure Camp, with carnivals, art projects, sports, and daytrips in and around the city.

The summer camp is just one part of ACT's year-round dynamic programming, which continues to grow in complexity and resources. ACT has launched several new classes in Spanish, yoga, soccer, drama, and storytelling. Thanks to volunteers and the donors, ACT's newly renovated literacy lounge provides a new space for the community to come together.

One year since she joined the ACT team, Executive Director Jen Gowers is looking to find more ways to share ACT's many resources with the city at large. "People don't expect a many-pronged youth enrichment program under the Cathedral, but it's here!" This year, ACT has expanded its free public programming to include outdoor movie screenings, a roller-skating party inside the Cathedral, and an upcoming Carnival on Saturday, June 29.

To learn about the many programs offered by ACT, please call (212) 316-7530 or visit stjohndivine.org/education/act.



Stay in Touch

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