

Residential membership



Who is it for?

Spend a year with the Community after an undergraduate or postgraduate degree, as a gap year during studies, before entering seminary, or at a moment of career change. Residential membership is open to any Christians aged 21-30 who have the legal right to be in the US.

When is it?

The program runs from mid-September to early-mid June. The residential program is full-time, although there will be set times for vacation.

Where is it?

This program is only offered in-person, Residents live on-site on the Close of the Cathedral of Saint John the Divine.

Why be a Residential member?

- Give yourself and God the gift of time
- Invest in privileged relationships through the humility of daily life
- Practice and ingrain life-giving habits and rhythms of prayer, work, and rest – as inspired by the monastic tradition
- Be deeply and widely formed by a wide-ranging program of speakers and topics
- Benefit from unique experiences and retreats
- Learn practical service skills as part of formation – our education should send us to service, and vice-versa
- Engage in and be part of the change in NYC

How does this happen?

Members commit to the Rule of Life. We are called to love God and others in all moments and all contexts (Matthew 22:37-39). Our Rule of Life aims to give us a common framework in how we do this, as each Member undertakes to shape their life around the Community's Rule of Life. Residential and Local members share the same Rule, but its incarnation may differ, particularly as regards the 5 Pillars &

Rhythms. The incarnation of these pillars in the Residential rhythm of life is incarnated the shared weekly and year schedule.

Daily personal prayer solidifies your relationship with Christ. One-on-one weekly spiritual accompaniment is the privileged place to review your growth into yourself and into the likeness of Christ. These practices, supported by ongoing formation in Ignatian spirituality gives tools for personal flourishing and discernment in all aspects of life.

Weekly service in placements around the city give both practical skills and the opportunity to be formed by those we serve. Service without prayer or without formation quickly becomes dry, our service should flow from the prayer and theological formation that we receive during the week.

Regular time of deep sharing and humble common life together enables strong relationships to be established and places of trust to be built. Remaining embedded in the worshipping life of your local church compliments life with Christians from other backgrounds and enriches your experience of the Church.

A varied program for community times from a wide range of voices and themes gives vast opportunity for learning, reflection, and discovery. Retreats spread throughout the year give space and time outside of the busyness of NYC to rest, reflect, and have intentional time set apart for formation, healing, and growth.

A year in the life – a snapshot in time

Daily

- Personal prayer
- Eucharist
- Bible reading program
- Daily office
- Community meals
- Full bed and board accommodation in the heart of Manhattan's Upper West Side
- Teaching program or serving with charities

Over 25 weeks of teaching from national and international speakers

Weekly

- Desert day (prayer and silence)
- Personal spiritual accompaniment
- Worship evening
- Group singing practice
- Meals in sharing groups
- Time in sharing groups
- Social evening

E.g. Visits and outings in and around NYC

- Personal/group work
- Worship in local churches

Opportunity to explore local churches and become part of their worshipping family

Annually

- Spiritual Exercises of Saint Ignatius (7 or 30 Days)
- 30 Days Ignatian silent retreat
- Experiment/Mission (7 or 30 Days)
- Life in the Holy Spirit retreat
- Liturgical celebrations at the Cathedral of Saint John the Divine
Including St Francis Day and Holy Week
- Retreat in sharing groups
- Ecumenical session
During the week of prayer for Christian unity (January 18-25)
- Community celebration

A day in the life – a snapshot in time

Monday-Friday

Réveil (Bible reading, exercise, breakfast)

Morning Prayer

Personal prayer

[Study (Monday & Tuesday)

[Desert (Wednesday)

[Service (Thursday & Friday)

Eucharist/Mass

Lunch

Community household tasks

[Study (Monday & Tuesday)

[Desert (Wednesday)

[Service (Thursday & Friday)

Personal prayer

Evening prayer

Dinner

[Evening program

NB. This snapshot reflects the current rhythm of the 24-25 cohort. Like any community, and particularly new ones, rhythms are given to evolve and change.