



FAQs

Below are some answers to questions we are often asked.
If your answer isn't here, do [contact us](#).

1. How do I apply?

The application process involves short answer questions, reflection essays, and an interview. These questions and stages will differ slightly for Residential and Local membership applicants. Please see the website for more precise information regarding dates and deadlines.

Don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions - communityatthecrossing@stjohndivine.org

2. What about money?

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 \$2000. During the year, we will work as a community and as individuals to defray the total cost of the program. This fundraising effort will be different for Residential and Local members and 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.

3. 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 brothers and sisters.

4. 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 is not spiritual direction. You will not find they give you the 'answers' but rather offer a mirror back to help you see what God is saying to you. 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 style of accompaniment.



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

The birth of the community came about through a number of ecumenical encounters. The Acting 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, Archbishop 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.

6. 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.

7. Why the different types of membership?

We believe that the differences in membership is a source of riches for each person.

It is one community with two types of membership. These types of membership are identical in validity, but asymmetric in time commitment.

Local members will experience transformation primarily through the implication of the rhythms of the community rule in their current workplace, home life, student experience.

Residential members will experience transformation primarily through the intense shared community life.

Both of these experiences are a source of riches for the other - coming together to pray and share as one body enables the sharing and building-up of the body.

Everybody has a unique relationship with Jesus Christ, with unique turning points and life stages. Residential membership will not be right for everybody, in the same way that Local membership will not be right for everybody. The application process is designed to help us discern together (the team and the applicant) where God is calling them.

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