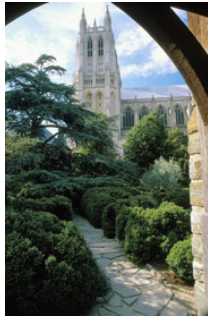


The Community of Reconciliation at Washington National Cathedral

Frequently Asked Questions | About the Community



What is The Community of Reconciliation?

The Community of Reconciliation at Washington National Cathedral is an ecumenical network of individuals seeking radical balance in life and a deepening commitment to reconciliation in the world. The Community engages the ancient Christian

wisdom and practices of Benedictine spirituality as an alternative way of life to our often-fragmented existence. The Community opens us to harmony, to the sacred in our everyday lives, and to balanced living that fosters reconciliation in the world.

Through a constellation of resources and gatherings— at Washington National Cathedral and other communities of like intention— the Community helps individuals freshly interpret and integrate Benedictine spiritual foundations and practices into daily living. Individually and in community— beyond the walls of any monastery— shared wisdom and engaged participation center our lives in God and ground us as people of reconciliation in the world. The Community promises to bring the balance and harmony that one finds in a cloistered community to our own environment— family, the workplace, and daily life in a complex world.

On November 13, 2007, Nobel Peace Prize laureate Desmond Tutu extended an inaugural blessing to The Community of Reconciliation at Washington National Cathedral. During his remarks, Archbishop Tutu articulated the need for “a new global reconciling spirituality.” The Community of Reconciliation seeks to respond to that need.

Washington National Cathedral formed the Community in partnership with the Friends of St. Benedict, a non-profit organization that offers pilgrimages, retreats, and community gatherings focused on applying Benedictine spirituality in today's world.

Everyone is welcome to benefit from the support and resources of The Community of Reconciliation. All who seek balance in their lives and reconciliation in

their world—from all faith traditions and perspectives— are welcome.

How does the Community operate?

The Community is modeled after practices established in Benedictine monastic communities. For centuries, the sounding of a bell has signaled the rhythms of prayer, study, recreation, work, and hospitality that guide and sustain Benedictine monastic communities. And beyond the walls of each monastery— neighboring farmers, nearby villagers, weary travelers, and grateful pilgrims— have also heard the call to balanced living.

So it is with The Community of Reconciliation. Anchored through a constellation of gatherings and resources at Washington National Cathedral and other communities of intention, many are finding balance in the Benedictine rhythms of prayer, study, recreation, work, and hospitality. An array of online resources including written materials, links, videos, and podcasts opens a way for all who wish to participate, regardless of circumstance or location.

Must I practice a particular spiritual tradition to participate in the Community?

No. Community principles are rooted in Benedictine Christian spirituality and hold meaning for all who seek balance in life and reconciliation in the world. There are no required religious affiliations or membership requirements. All are welcome to the support and resources provided by the Community.

What are foundations or principles of the Community of Reconciliation?

Spiritual life and practice in the Community is founded upon the teaching of St. Benedict and monastic communities that have followed this way for more than fifteen hundred years. The Benedictine commitments to stability in community, obedience to the voice of God, and conversion of life provide the foundations of this model of lived balance.

These foundations are practically expressed as we listen for the divine voice within our various communities, as we faithfully respond to God's voice by living the unique life to which God calls each of us, and as we continually consent to God's holiness in ways that transform our lives.

What are the spiritual practices of the Community of Reconciliation?

The practices of prayer, study, recreation, work, and hospitality form the heart of the Community. We seek to live out these practices in daily living. Individually and in community— beyond the walls of any monastery— we pray and listen for the divine in our midst, share and explore spiritual wisdom, rest and renew our bodies and spirit, explore and engage our work in the world, and joyfully welcome and encourage those along our journey. Shared wisdom and engaged participation help center our lives in God and ground us as people of reconciliation in the world.

Additionally, participants are encouraged to regularly gather in community for support and encouragement, to create a Rule for Life as a guide for integrating these practices into their lives, and above all, to open their spirit to the beautiful transformation of lives centered in God. Individually and in community, we seek to weave these practices and intentions throughout daily living.

How do I participate in The Community of Reconciliation?

Participation in the Community is first and foremost an act of intention. A constellation of gatherings provide access to the resources and people of the Community. You can attend gatherings and events occasionally or choose to journey through a more formal exploration process with a cohort of Companion Candidates. You can attend gatherings weekly, monthly, or seasonally, always with the intention of allowing your life to be shaped toward balance and reconciliation. Participation is tailored to your level of interest and what brings the most balance into your schedule.

Though anchored at Washington National Cathedral, the Community is ultimately expressed through an expanding, ecumenical and interfaith constellation of individuals and organizations that honor spiritual life in the way of St. Benedict. Because we are each linked together in spiritual relationship, the Community exists wherever two or more are gathered with an intention to live lives of balance and reconciliation.

Visit www.ationalcathedral.org for the most up to date calendar of gatherings and events. Following is a sampling of the many opportunities anchored at Washington National Cathedral:

Weekly

Benedictine Life and Prayer- Evenings (Monday)

Monthly

Creating a Rule of Life- Evenings (First Monday and Special Dates)

Listening, Hearing, and Living- Winter/Spring- Day (Saturday)

Semester

Welcome to the Community | Fall-3 gatherings- various times

Benedictine Quiet Day | Friday at Home/Saturday Cathedral

Pilgrimage of Reflection | Day (Saturday)

Breakout Sessions for Small Groups

Annual

Community of Reconciliation Weekend | November

Online Resources

Audio, video, and print materials

Affinity Gatherings

Gatherings of individuals in similar life stages who seek encouragement throughout their daily living. Affinity groups meet at times agreed upon by the individuals.

Constellation Gatherings

Gatherings affiliated with the Community hosted at locations beyond the Cathedral close.

Is there a yearly cycle or pattern for The Community of Reconciliation?

Yes. Each year, *The Community of Reconciliation* extends an invitation for all to embark upon a threefold journey of intention, formation, and reconciliation. The Community shares a journey toward wholeness: becoming reconciling agents in the world by living in harmony with God and creation, with both friend and stranger, and with our deepest selves. It is a journey of life in which both praying and living are infused with the presence of God. Lives, schedules, and priorities vary. Each individual is encouraged to choose a rhythm of participation most suited to their unique life and circumstance.

Yearly cycles of the Community are designed for participation as time and interest allow.

Year Round

The Community hosts year round gatherings for support and encouragement, including: weekly Benedictine Life and Prayer gatherings, monthly Creating a Rule of Life sessions, and Listening, Hearing, and Living sessions. Participants are also encouraged to plan a personal retreat, Benedictine Experience, or other times for rest and renewal. Throughout the year, all are encouraged to create their own rule of life and move toward integration of that rule into their daily living.

Autumn

Each fall, a yearlong cycle begins anew with welcoming orientations and reflection days as we take stock of our lives. Newcomers learn about the way of Benedict, while Companions and Companion Candidates— small cohorts of individuals choosing a more focused period of intention— use the time to deepen their experience. In mid-November, a weekend celebration of blessing and investiture allow us to gather with family, friends, and colleagues to consider and bless our intention for balance and reconciliation.

Winter/Spring

Throughout the winter, spring, and early summer, participants are supported through an integrated series of learning events. Monthly Listening, Hearing, and Living series and other events provide practical engagement with leaders in Benedictine spiritual life as we bring balance our own lives.

Summer

During the summer, regular weekly and monthly gatherings continue. The year concludes with an early summer pilgrimage of reflection throughout the sacred spaces of the Cathedral and grounds.

As part of their formation, Companions and Companion Candidates are encouraged to attend a regular community gathering and create their own rule of life. Resources and monthly gatherings are available to assist the process. Most cohorts work to attend, Benedictine Life and Prayer gatherings, pilgrimages, Listening, Hearing, and Living events, and retreats (or visit them online) when possible.

Following is a roadmap for a typical year in the life of

The Community of Reconciliation. Come journey with us. Visit www.nationalcathedral.org the most recent Calendar of gatherings and events for this year.

The Community of Reconciliation

Year I

The first year cycle explores Benedictine foundations and practices for radical balance and reconciliation. You can experience these individually, or in a cohort of Companion Candidates with others who will journey with you throughout the year of intention. Always you are invited to attend those gatherings most helpful on your journey. Each year serves as a foundation for subsequent years and deepening in the foundations and practices of the Community.

Autumn

Welcome to the Community Inquirer Sessions-
evening and weekend afternoon sessions
Pilgrimage of Reflection- *Saturday morning*
Weekly Benedictine Life and Prayer gatherings-
weeknight evening
Monthly Creating a Rule of Life gatherings- *one Monday evening each month*
Benedictine Quiet Day- *Friday evening in your own home and Saturday day at the Cathedral*
Pilgrimage of Intention- *Saturday morning*
Service of Blessing and Investiture- *Weekend Evening*

Winter/Spring

Listening, Hearing, and Living events- *Saturday morning and early afternoon*
Benedictine Quiet Day- *Friday evening in your own home and Saturday day at the Cathedral*
Weekly Benedictine Life and Prayer gatherings-
weeknight evening
Monthly Creating a Rule of Life gatherings-
weeknight evening

Summer

Weekly Benedictine Life and Prayer gatherings-
weeknight evening
Monthly Creating a Rule of Life gatherings-
weeknight evening
Pilgrimage of Reflection- *Saturday morning*
Personal Retreat- *selected by participant*

Year II

In the second year, those who have become part of a cohort or have chosen to become Companions will be

supported in their development through focused events for each cohort along with their regular participation in community. We will work alongside you to develop resources that support your deepening journey. Your second year is one of engagement with the foundations and practices of the Benedictine way.

Year III and following

For those continuing the journey, in the third year and following, individuals are encouraged to maintain connections with their cohort as a support for their ongoing reconciliation in the world. The Community cycle helps support the work of articulating your unique vision for reconciliation in the world. The vision might be as an individual, as a cohort, or in partnership with others.

To this end, we anticipate leading special third year pilgrimages to meaningful sites in the Benedictine tradition. Regionally and internationally, these unique gatherings are designed as working discovery pilgrimages in which you discern and design your unfolding journey alongside a cohort of trusted spiritual friends, in settings of stunning beauty and spiritual significance.

What is a Companion Candidate in the Community of Reconciliation?

Individuals who wish to more intentionally associate themselves with the Community and deepen their attention to the rhythms of balance and reconciliation are known as Companion Candidates. In the fall gatherings for inquiry and reflection provide opportunities for individuals to examine the role of balance and reconciliation in their lives. Those who wish to embark with others on a learning journey, known as a Companion cohort, are invited to make their intention known to their family, friends, and colleagues in a service of blessing each November. Each cohort of Companion Candidates embarks upon a threefold journey of intention, formation, and reconciliation. The inaugural cycle of the Companion Journey is experienced over a period of nine months to one year. The practice of radical balance takes a lifetime.

Over the winter, spring, and following summer, candidates choose from a variety of integrated learning opportunities and support sessions suited to their unique settings in life. These learning cycles foster and sustain the practices of stillness and action, discernment and intention, learning and formation, and renewal and transformation.

Companion Candidates enter the process with an

intention to determine if this model for balance and reconciliation has a place in their world. On completion of their year of exploration, individuals can choose to become invested as Companions of the Community, remain candidates, or simply continue as participants of the Community.

What is a Companion in the Community of Reconciliation?

Following a year of reflection, Companion Candidates who wish to identify themselves as pursuers of radical balance in life and reconciliation in the world will be invested in a celebration at Washington National Cathedral. Companions enter this investiture with six intentions they wish to honor:

- To know God through lives of radical balance that foster reconciliation in the world
- To regularly participate in spiritual communities (at Washington National Cathedral and elsewhere) that honor the Benedictine way as a way of deepening our life in God
- To create and live out a personal rule of life with the guidance and support of others in Community
- To pray for our Companion Candidates and others throughout the year
- To make yearly sustaining commitments of prayer, volunteer time, and financial contributions that sustain the work of the Community
- To discern and engage their unique contributions to reconciliation in the world.

In ensuing years, Companions are nourished and sustained by the Community, as they nourish and sustain the world around them. Through retreats, pilgrimages, workshops, and active work in community Companions actively bring reconciliation into the world born from lives of balance and wholeness.

What is a cohort?

A cohort is a gathering of individuals who embark as a small group upon a year-long learning journey with the Community. Participants set their intention to support one another in their cohort throughout the journey. Members of a cohort are encouraged to make their intention known to their family, friends, and colleagues in a service of blessing each November and then participate in a year of exploration of Benedictine life and practice.

What is a constellation community?

Constellation communities are members of an expanding, affiliated network of organizations that serve as satellite sites in which Benedictine life can be experienced and nurtured. A constellation community might take place in your home faith community, at a local monastery, in a small cell gathering of individuals from your local area, or a retreat center that aligns itself with Benedictine practices.

Because we are each linked together in spiritual relationship, the Community exists wherever two or more are gathered with an intention to live lives of balance and reconciliation. We encourage you to contact us if you would like to identify a constellation community in your area, or if you would like to become affiliated as a constellation community.

Is becoming a Companion the same as joining a monastic order as a monk or becoming an oblate?

No. Individuals affiliated with monastic communities have special relationships unique to each community. Monks and oblates honor their commitment and obligations to specific monastic communities while participants and Companions associated with the Community of Reconciliation make no specific commitments to a particular community.

Rather, they set their intention to live lives that echo practices observed in monastic communities throughout their unique life settings. Thus, they lead lives that reflect the commitments and practices of monastic living while experiencing them in larger communities of daily living – a “monastery without walls.”

What if I am already associated with a monastic community or existing order?

Oblates and those belonging to monastic orders are always welcome to attend Community gatherings as well as become Companions. The Community is designed to enrich every individual's spiritual journey.

Must one become a Companion to participate in the Community?

No. There are many ways to be involved in the Community. Some participants occasionally attend gatherings to support their spiritual growth and renewal. Others intentionally engage learning resources of the Community to enhance or deepen their current practice. Some participants attend events to augment the support of their regular places of worship and service. Others choose to associate as Companions of the Community along with the

attendant commitments. Some choose to participate at a distance and “virtually attend” gatherings and make a pilgrimage visit to the Cathedral when possible. All are welcome to attend gatherings and benefit from resources and support without formally associating with the Community.

Are there any financial obligations?

Yes. St. Benedict encouraged his communities to be self-supporting. In the same spirit, the Community of Reconciliation is supported by generous gifts from its members and friends, along with individual and foundation support. These generous gifts enable us to offer all Community gatherings and many Community and Companion support events and resources without charge.

Some Community events, such as pilgrimages, learning events, guest lectures, and Benedictine Experiences, do have associated fees. Participant fees are not tax deductible.

Additionally, those who choose to become Companion Candidates and Companions are asked to make a sustaining gift of at least \$50 each year to address expenses of the Community and provide scholarship assistance for those with need. All sustaining gifts are tax deductible. Companion Candidates and Companions who make sustaining gifts are extended reduced participant fees for most events.

Companion Candidates and Companions are encouraged take on volunteer roles within the Community as part of their action of reconciliation in the world. Scholarships are available so that all who have need may participate.

How much of my time will the Community of Reconciliation involve?

Participant involvement varies by individual, always with the goal of bringing balance to daily living. All Community gatherings are open and optional. Some participants drop in for an occasional visit. Others make attendance a weekly priority.

Participation in the Community helps us to make choices about our time and the way we live. Rather than adding another thing to full schedules, participants in the Community often bring a new sense of order to fragmented living. Many find that attention to the practices provides a greater sense of ease about time in their lives.

Those who choose to become Companion Candidates and Companions do accept additional commitments that impact their time. They are encouraged to participate in gatherings, pilgrimages, and services that support their practice; set aside time to create a Rule of Life that integrates prayer, study, recreation, work, and hospitality into their lives; physically and financially support the work of the Community; and regularly gather with others in mutual support and encouragement.

Does this replace my attendance at another spiritual community or service?

No. The Community is designed to foster your spiritual life wherever you learn and grow. We seek to enrich life for all who attend and offer support for the many spiritual communities that serve you.

Where does the Community of Reconciliation meet?

Primary gatherings are held on the Cathedral Close (the Cathedral, Cathedral grounds, and buildings) of Washington National Cathedral. Because the Community is linked through spiritual relationship, it is also experienced through the constellation of gatherings, events, and resources of all who participate.

Your engagement in supportive communities and spiritual networks on and beyond the Cathedral close contributes to your experience of the Community. Thus, the Community exists wherever two or more are gathered with an intention to live lives of balance and reconciliation.

Can I participate in the Community, become a Companion Candidate, or become a Companion if I do not live in the area?

Yes. The Community of Reconciliation allows anyone who seeks balance in life and reconciliation in the world to benefit from association with the Community. Currently, those at distance can receive resources and spiritual support by e-mail and online at www.nationalcathedral.org.

We encourage all to participate locally, fully, and regularly in gatherings and events that promote balance and reconciliation. The Community of Reconciliation website has a list of regional gatherings and resources to introduce you to what we call an expanding constellation of communities that honor the practices of radical balance and reconciliation.

We encourage you to plan a Cathedral visit whenever you are in Washington, DC, and to participate in gatherings, pilgrimages, Benedictine Experiences, and special events throughout the country. Several times a year we host events specially designed for distance participants who wish to visit the Washington DC area.

For those beyond the Washington area who wish to become Companion Candidates or Companions at distance, we ask that you contact us to explore possibilities in your area. Beginning in the fall of 2009, we will be working with several pilot distance communities to determine the most effective way to provide support and encouragement. If you are interested in participating in the Community, becoming a Companion Candidate or Companion at distance, would like to be considered as a pilot site, or would like to participate as a constellation community, please contact us at companions@cathedral.org or (202) 537-6217.

What if I move away from the area?

The beauty of a constellation of gatherings is that you can find support and encouragement wherever you may find yourself. We continue to develop new relationships and satellite expressions of the Community with others of like intention, so there is an expanding network of individuals and organizations to accompany you on your journey. You may even wish to host a satellite community in your new setting.

Additionally, we design many of the resources to be available online as audio, video, and print resources for your use, and plan several distance events each year. We encourage you to visit Cathedral gatherings and events whenever you visit the area. We work to make the Community accessible by all who desire to participate.

What if I decide I no longer wish to participate in The Community of Reconciliation?

We recognize that time constraints, differences in need and life stage, and other factors all contribute a decision to participate in The Community of Reconciliation. If you choose another path, you will be blessed for your journey and will always be welcomed as a friend. As a community, we do encourage you to let us know of your decision and to address any areas of concern.

Frequently Asked Questions | About Benedictine Spiritual Life



What is Benedictine Spirituality?

The life and practice of the Community of Reconciliation is rooted in the teaching and model of St. Benedict, a fifth-century Christian saint who established a monastic community in the hills of the Italian countryside.

Those who chose and were chosen to live in this tiny monastery ordered their lives around a document known as the Rule of St. Benedict. The Rule offered a framework for living that addressed the spiritual and physical realities of day to day life. St. Benedict's Rule has continued to shape the lives of spiritual seekers throughout the centuries. Monastic communities have understood the balance modeled by St. Benedict for more than 1500 years. Today, the Community honors this same wisdom, even as we live in our own communities beyond the walls of a monastic enclosure.

What is a Rule of Life?

For more than 15 centuries, Benedictine monastic communities have been guided by a simple document known as the Rule of St. Benedict. Deeply rooted in Judeo-Christian texts and tradition, the Rule continues to provide a model for lives of balance and reconciliation. The Rule has also been used by individuals associated with monastic communities and spiritual communities to help shape lives of balance within the world.

All who associate with the Community of Reconciliation are encouraged to create their own, unique Rule of Life. Each individual Rule re-contextualizes St. Benedict's model and practices as a guiding framework for living in their own environment: family, workplace, and daily life in a complex world. These living frameworks help integrate the Benedictine practices of prayer, study, renewal, work, and hospitality into daily living.

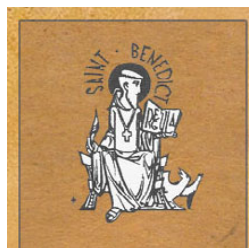
A Rule of Life becomes the foundation for each individual's spiritual journey. For those who choose to become Companions in the Community, each Rule is acknowledged and blessed by the Community, family, friends, and colleagues at a Service of Investiture and Blessing.

What is meant by the phrase radical balance?

St. Benedict offered a radical alternative to a culture that had lost its way. In a society that experienced upheaval, purposelessness, and the isolation of the individual, St. Benedict and his followers modeled lives of stability, meaning, and relationship. Their lifestyle ultimately changed their world and continues to transform ours today. Benedictine spirituality is not a private spirituality. It leads us to care for and passionately connect with the world in which we live.

For many of us, this way of life is "radically" different from our daily experience. Radical balance suggests that the intention and practice of a balanced life can become our contribution to an unstable world. Balance in our own lives nourishes and sustains our capacity for reconciliation in our lives, our families and relationships, our places of work and endeavor, and spiritually prepares us for the challenging world around us.

Frequently Asked Questions | About Community Constellation Partners



Could you tell me more about The Friends of St. Benedict?

The Friends of St. Benedict was founded in 1997 to carry on the work of the Canterbury Cathedral Trust in America in the area of Benedictine spirituality. In 1982, the first Benedictine Experience, held at Canterbury Cathedral, convinced a core group that an ongoing structure for organizing Benedictine retreats and educating interested groups on Benedictine wisdom could address a real hunger. Since then, The Friends of St. Benedict and its predecessor have offered ecumenical programs for clergy and lay people to explore the Rule of Saint Benedict within a community of participants.

The Friends of St. Benedict continues to develop material on the Benedictine Way, and many churches have established Benedictine groups. An Episcopal diocese on the East Coast has a Benedictine diocesan clergy group. These and similar programs have changed the lives of thousands of people who have come to discover the way to finding a spiritually guided balance in their lives between work, rest, and prayer.

The Friends publishes a newsletter, *Regula*, twice a year. This provides a vehicle for sharing information about experiences, as well as reflections by faculty

and participants, and gives notice of Benedictine programs and pilgrimages sponsored by the Friends of St. Benedict and other organizations.

The Friends of Saint Benedict's primary mission is to introduce and sustain the Benedictine way of life to all persons. We offer opportunities through Benedictine Experiences and pilgrimages, through our newsletter and by promoting the Benedictine Way small group concept through parishes and other organizations.

What is a Benedictine Experience?

Benedictine Experiences provide opportunities to study and experience the balanced way of life as St. Benedict envisaged it – in community. Giving due attention to body, mind, and spirit, Benedictine Experiences provide opportunities for men and women, both lay and clerical, to fully experience this balance in local, regional, and international settings. Designed and hosted by the Friends of St. Benedict, gatherings lasting from a long weekend to a full week are offered at various locations several times a year.

Participants take part in an ordered day of prayer, study, work, and leisure. The framework of each day is the Opus Dei – the daily corporate worship of God – including prayer offices that begin with Morning Prayer, and continue with Eucharist, Evensong, and Compline to close the day. After Compline, the "Greater Silence" is observed through breakfast the following morning. Daily lectures and meditations are led by a gifted faculty. Time is set aside for silence and meditation. Mornings are devoted to meditative lectures and study. In the afternoons, time is set aside for rest, study, and work. Because the work of the hands is a vital part of the Benedictine way, participants are encouraged to take part in a work project. Evenings allow time for further talks, discussion, or music.

For more information or to register and find out about Benedictine Experience opportunities, call (202) 363-8061, e-mail SaintBenedict@verizon.net or visit www.benedictfriend.org.

Frequently Asked Questions | About Logistics



How do I register for an event?

Most Community gatherings do not require registration. Benedictine Life and Prayer and Creating a Rule of Life are always open for you to drop in. Though many attend weekly, you are always welcome at any time. Simply attend as your schedule permits. All are welcome.

For some events that include refreshments or have fees associated with a speaker, we ask that you register online. The process is safe, secure, and private. Each event has a link for registration and/or payment. The simplest way to payment is using a credit card. You can do this securely online and will receive email confirmation of your registration and or payment. Prior to the event you will receive an email with detailed instructions (including directions, location, and special notes) for the event.

How do I pay for an event?

Most Community gatherings are offered without a participant fee, including: Benedictine Life and Prayer and Creating a Rule of Life. These events are supported by individual and grant funds, along with the donations and sustaining gifts of Companions, Companion Candidates, and other donors.

For those events requesting a participant fee, (these help defray speaker and travel costs, materials, and hospitality expenses) we ask that you register online. Each event has a link for registration and/or payment. The simplest way to payment is using a credit card. You can do this securely online and will receive email confirmation of your registration and or payment. Prior to the event you will receive an email with detailed instructions (including directions, location, and special notes) for the event.

All events that require registration are listed on the Cathedral website at www.nationalcathedral.org.

Can I make a payment or donation by credit card?

Yes. You can do this securely online and will receive email confirmation of your registration and or payment. Prior to the event you will receive an email with detailed instructions (including directions, location, and special notes) for the event.

Can I make a payment or donation by check?

Yes. Though credit card registration simplifies the process, you can make a payment with a check. Complete your registration online and then bring your check or donation with you, payable to Washington National Cathedral with CoR and the event in the memo line. You will receive email confirmation of your registration and then can make payment at the door. Prior to the event you will receive an email with detailed instructions (including directions, location, and special notes) for the event.

Is scholarship assistance available?

Yes. We work to provide scholarship assistance for all who have need. If you would like consideration, please contact us directly at 202-537-6210 for a confidential conversation. Saint Benedict encouraged his communities to be self-sustaining. In honor of that tradition, we ask that scholarship recipients make a modest contribution and offer an act of service for the Community.

Is it possible to participate online?

Yes. We are developing online resources for the Community as we journey through the inaugural cohort. Currently, you can visit <http://www.nationalcathedral.org/worship/cor.shtml> for detailed information, audio and video resources, and

a growing library of support materials.

Additionally, feel free to explore The Community of Reconciliation Facebook page. From your Facebook account, search groups for The Community of Reconciliation. The page provides up to date conversation and ways you can support one another throughout the week.

What are the logistics for visiting Community gatherings?

We encourage you to visit the Cathedral, participate in Community gatherings and events, and whenever possible. For those who are traveling from a distance, please call to let us know of your arrival and we can make plans to arrange time together.

What about directions, parking, and accessibility issues?

For directions, parking, and accessibility questions, please visit www.nationalcathedral.org.

What if I have other questions?

We always encourage you to contact us at 202-537-6217 or companions@cathedral.org with thoughts and inquiries about the Community. We welcome you to visit our office on the Cathedral close, and always, to visit any of the gatherings where you will be welcomed with open arms.

The *Community of Reconciliation* at Washington National Cathedral is an ecumenical network of individuals seeking radical balance in life and a deepening commitment to reconciliation in the world. The Community engages the ancient Christian wisdom and practices of Benedictine spirituality as an alternative way of life to our often-fragmented existence. The Community opens our lives to harmony, to the sacred in our everyday lives, and to balanced living that fosters reconciliation in the world. All are welcome.



Massachusetts Avenue and Wisconsin Avenue NW | Washington DC | 20016
202-537-6217 | companions@cathedral.org | www.nationalcathedral.org

For additional details visit <http://www.nationalcathedral.org/worship/cor.shtml>

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