



Inspiring commitment to the Cathedral as a world-class treasure in our community

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
UPDATED November 8, 2021

Contact: Carolyn Will

612-414-9661
carolyn@cwcommunications.info
Susan Ritt
651-335-1834
susan@cwcommunications.info



Cathedral Festival of Lights returns with free outdoor Christmas light show, new immersive indoor show & holiday market

*Light and music celebrate the story of Christmas on a massive scale
Wednesday Dec. 15 through Sunday Dec. 19, 2021
Cathedral of Saint Paul*

(Saint Paul, Minn.) The [Cathedral Heritage Foundation](http://CathedralHeritageFoundation.org) brings back the **Cathedral Festival of Lights** event with a major expansion. The CHF presents both an indoor and outdoor Christmas light shows **Starry Night** and **The Beginning**, along with an outdoor Christmas market, at the Cathedral of Saint Paul, 239 Selby Ave., Saint Paul. The light shows run Wednesday, Dec. 15 through Sunday, Dec. 19; the Christmas Market is slated for Dec. 16-18. Tickets for the indoor event, **Starry Night**, may be purchased now at [eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com). The outdoor show is free and presented by the Cathedral Heritage Foundation and sponsors as a gift to the community.

Starry Night, produced by the award-winning *Luxmuralis* from the United Kingdom, will transform the Cathedral's interior into a fully immersive 360-degree light and sound experience. Guests will be allowed to find their own seats and perspective, as the show surrounds them in dynamic, moving images accompanied by a

(MORE)

custom musical score. Guests are welcome to view the full projection multiple times before exiting the Cathedral. Outside, the cinematic projection of *The Beginning* uses the Cathedral's 150-foot-tall eastern façade as the backdrop to tell the Christmas Story of wonderment and joy. The 12-minute show will be run on a continual loop during each night's operating hours. (See below for details.) The light shows represent only the second North American offering by *Luxmuralis*.

The Cathedral Heritage Foundation's 2020 inaugural offering, *The Manger*, drew thousands of people in cars for the drive-in viewing (due to COVID restrictions), along with more than 50,000 viewers from around the globe who watched via Facebook livestreams or recordings. This year, the outdoor event is open to pedestrians, with an additional drive-in movie setting on Sunday, the final day of the event, with **registration available by invitation only** for those more comfortable viewing from inside their vehicle. The street in front of the Cathedral can fit approximately 80 vehicles per viewing, with shows running every 20 minutes.

"We are so pleased, thanks to the generosity of our community sponsors, to present both indoor and outdoor light shows by *Luxmuralis*, and to showcase the grand architecture of the Cathedral of Saint Paul," said Mary E. Schaffner, CHF board chair. "We are especially delighted to present *Starry Night* inside the Cathedral, where visitors will be enveloped in music and wondrous images within the Cathedral's beaux-arts interior."

2021 Cathedral Festival of Lights

Starry Night

Immersive indoor presentation, 6-10 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 15 through Friday, Dec. 17, and 7-10 p.m. Saturday and Sunday Dec. 18 & 19

\$15 per person, \$40 for groups of 5 or fewer.

Tickets are on sale now at [eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com).

Please note that masks will be required inside the Cathedral.

The Beginning

FREE outdoor presentation. View from Cathedral Hill Park & Facebook livestream.

Walk-up 6-10 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 15 through Friday, Dec. 17, and 7-10 p.m. Saturday and Sunday Dec. 18 & 19

In addition to walk-up viewing on Sunday, Dec. 19, a limited number of 720 reserved time slots to view *The Beginning* as a drive-in experience will be available by invitation only. Portions of Selby and Dayton Avenues, and John Ireland Boulevard, will be closed. Traffic will be one-way only on the eastern portion of Summit Avenue between Summit Overlook Park/Ramsey Hill and the Cathedral from 7 to 10 p.m. Cars must register in advance.

Thank you to the following community sponsors whose support enables the Cathedral Heritage Foundation to present Luxmuralis: *The Beginning* free to the public.

Premier Sponsors: Atomic Data & Dr. John and Anne Dowdle, Larry McGough and McGough Construction, Premier Bank, Securian, Pioneer Press.

Community Sponsors: Eileen Baumgartner, Dr. David and Barbara Dries, Cretin-Derham Hall High School, Cay Shea Hellervik, Heppner's Auto Body, Stanley S. Hubbard, Kowalski's Markets, Kuhrmeyer Foundation, St. Paul Linoleum & Carpet Company, Robert L. Lee and Mary E. Schaffner, Minnesota Public Radio, Saint Paul College.

For details on how to become a **community sponsor**, please contact Carolyn Will carolyn@cwcommunications.info. Donations from the public in any amount are also gratefully accepted. To donate, visit the CHF website [online](#).

GETTING TO THE CATHEDRAL FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

PUBLIC TRANSIT

The Cathedral of Saint Paul can be accessed via Metro Transit Route 21 or 63. Visit <https://www.metrotransit.org/home> for details.

PARKING

[Saint Paul College parking ramp and surface lots are open to visitors](#). Enter from Marshall Avenue. Max. fee \$5.

If parking on streets, please be considerate of our neighbors and do not block driveways or curb cuts.

SPECIAL NOTE FOR THOSE REGISTERED FOR THE SUNDAY DRIVE-IN VIEWING:

Enter Drive-In lanes from the intersection of Summit Avenue and Ramsey Hill (Summit Overlook Park, 418 Summit Ave)

How to get there:

FROM THE NORTH, EAST, AND WEST – Take Hwy 94 to Dale Street, and head north. Turn left onto Summit Avenue and follow signs to the Cathedral.

FROM THE SOUTH – Take Hwy 35E north to the Grand Avenue exit and turn left (west) onto Grand Ave/Ramsey Hill. At the top of Ramsey Hill, turn right onto Summit Avenue and follow signs to the Cathedral.

- Saint Paul Police Department officers will manage traffic as vehicles travel one way along Summit Avenue beginning at Ramsey Hill and Overlook Park
- Vehicles will be ushered into the “drive-in” area in front of the Cathedral to see the 12-minute show (approximately 80 vehicles per show).
- Selby Avenue will be closed at Western Avenue to east-bound traffic. West-bound traffic along Selby Avenue will be open. Residents of the area will be allowed access in both directions.

[The Cathedral Heritage Foundation](#) is a non-profit, historic preservation, cultural and arts organization established to preserve, restore, and enhance the Cathedral of Saint Paul.

-CHF-