

The Fellowship came into being in 2003. We are a dispersed community, vowed in obedience to our Rule of Life and subject to the ecclesial authority where we each live. We come together on an annual basis for retreat and to conduct Fellowship business. Those members who are part of a Priory ordinarily meet on a monthly basis. We strive for consensus in making decisions. Spiritually, our dedication is to the Holy Trinity.



A Fellowship portrait - 2019

Call upon us for:

Prayer Concerns

Spiritual Direction

Preaching

Christian Formation programs

Seminars and Workshops

Pastoral Visits

Grief Support



Iona Priory—Southern California

The Fellowship is a dispersed community of Brothers and Sisters living in their own homes, worshipping and serving in their own parishes and dioceses. We currently are arranged into Priory groups:

Caledonia Priory—Michigan

Clonmacnoise Priory - Missouri, Arkansas

Iona Priory—Southern California

Kildara Priory—Southern Delaware

Killeedy Priory - Montana

Lindisfarne Priory—Oregon

Rona Priory—Scotland

St. Brigit Priory—Pennsylvania

St. Columba Priory—Ohio

St. Patrick Priory—Florida

Whitby Priory—No. Delaware, New Jersey

Brothers and Sisters not living in one of these areas are assigned the closest priory group to their home location.

Anamchara Fellowship

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Anamchara Fellowship

Bless and enlighten
our journeys, O Lord.
May the Triune of our
strength lead us
deeper into the heart
of God's perfect will.



**A New Monastic
Venture**

Who Are We?

Anamchara Fellowship is one of the new expressions of monasticism. Founded in the tradition of and canonically recognized by the Episcopal Church, we are a dispersed community, with a Celtic spirit. We strive to be an inclusive “community”, welcoming men and women; clergy and lay; married, single or partnered. Members of the Fellowship live in their own homes and must be self supporting. We are bound to each other by common ideals and commitment to prayer and service. Our ministry is expressed through catechesis, pastoral care and spiritual direction. Following Christ, our charisms are Generosity, Hospitality, Compassion and Love.

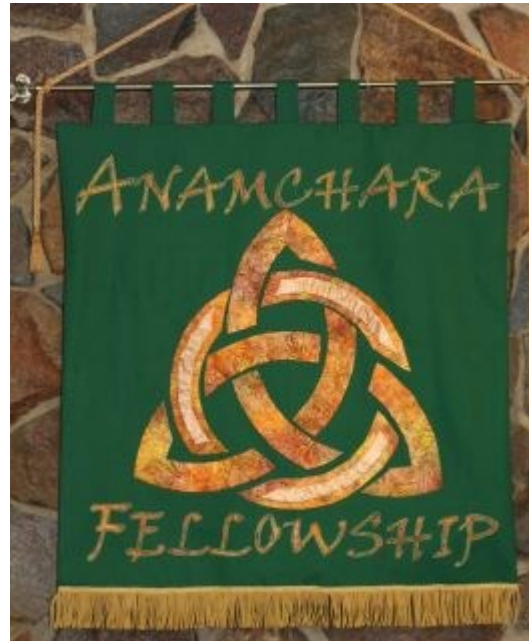
Anamchara Fellowship is incorporated in the State of Delaware. Developed as a Non-Profit 501(c)(3) organization, the Fellowship appreciatively accepts donations, which help defray costs of our common ministry, publicity and operational expenses. A quarterly newsletter, Cuthbert's Coracle, highlights the activities of the members of the Fellowship. Let us know if you would like to receive this publication.

What is Anamchara?

The most frequent question we are asked is, “What is that first word?” ANAM CHARA

Anamchara is a Celtic word for “soul friend”. It was the style of formation given to a new monk or nun in a Celtic monastery, whereby the new member would be paired up with an older, more experienced monk. In this way the new Religious would have a more personal mentoring in the monastic tradition. Our Aspirants and Novices are guided by a Professed Member who is assigned to him/her by the Formation Guardian.

For those interested in exploring a vocation with the Fellowship, please contact our Vocations Steward, Sister Susan Alice at: SAMetzmaker@aol.com



What is the Discernment Process?

A person asks to join Anamchara Fellowship by submitting an application to the Vocation Steward. Once the application is accepted the process of discernment begins and the applicant is known as a **Seeker**. After a minimum of six months a person may be received as an **Aspirant**, and the Fellowship will ask for a letter of recommendation from their parish clergy, their bishop and their spiritual director. A Criminal background check is required of every Aspirant. Aspirancy can last from 6 months to more than a year. Once the requirements of this stage are met, the Aspirant may be clothed as a **Novice**. The novice stage can last from 18 months to 3 years, with a focus on the formation process. At the appropriate time the Novice may be elected for vowed membership. A **Professed Member** makes vows that are renewed every 3 years. Each member lives in their own home and seeks to express their commitment in their own parish. There is an Annual Gathering of the Fellowship which is required of all. This normally lasts one week and happens as close to the Feast of the Holy Trinity as possible.

Our Vows are :

Simplicity of Life: seeking to live without a spirit of accumulation and using all things with gentleness and respect.

Fidelity: living with integrity and faithfulness in the state of life in which God has placed you; striving for peace and mercy for all.

Obedience: being under the authority of the ecclesial jurisdiction of one's denomination and following the guidelines, customary and constitution of the Fellowship.