



Statement of Beliefs



The Sanctuary

The name of this religious and spiritual community shall be The Illuminating Collective, Inc., hereinafter referred to as "The Sanctuary."

The Sanctuary is a non-denominational inner faithentheogenic church dedicated to the direct exploration of spiritual truth, personal transformation, and conscious communion with the Divine. We welcome individuals from all faith traditions, spiritual backgrounds, and sincere paths of inquiry who seek a deeper relationship with God, Source, Spirit, Creator, or the sacred reality as they understand it.

We believe that authentic spiritual wisdom transcends religious labels and can be discovered through direct experience, contemplative practice, ethical living, community, and sacramental communion. Our tradition honors the common truths found throughout humanity's spiritual heritage while encouraging each

individual to cultivate their own personal relationship with the Divine.

The Sanctuary draws inspiration from contemplative Christianity, Christian mysticism, indigenous and earth-honoring traditions, Buddhist wisdom teachings, and other sacred lineages that support awakening, healing, compassion, and service. These influences are not viewed as exclusive doctrines, but as complementary expressions of humanity’s enduring search for spiritual truth.

We affirm that every person possesses an innate capacity for direct spiritual realization and communion with the Divine. Within our tradition, this realization is cultivated through disciplined spiritual practice and may be deepened through the sacred and responsible use of entheogenic sacraments within a structured, ethical, and reverent religious framework.

While The Sanctuary maintains a particular commitment to supporting veterans, first responders, and those seeking profound healing and transformation, participation is open to all adults who sincerely desire spiritual growth, self-discovery, and service to humanity.

Inner Faith Principle

The Sanctuary recognizes that humanity has expressed its relationship with the Divine through many cultures, religions, philosophies, and spiritual traditions. While these traditions may differ in language, symbolism, and practice, we believe they often point toward shared truths concerning love, compassion, service, wisdom, and spiritual awakening.

Members are not required to abandon their existing faith, religious identity, or spiritual beliefs to participate in The Sanctuary. Rather, we encourage individuals to deepen their understanding of the sacred through direct experience, contemplative practice, ethical living, and sacramental communion.

The Sanctuary exists not to replace any faith tradition, but to provide a sacred framework through which individuals may explore and strengthen their own relationship with the Divine.

The Threefold Path

The Sanctuary teaches a threefold spiritual path of:

Purification	Illumination	Unification
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Purification

Purification is the intentional ordering and cleansing of body, mind, and spirit. Members engage in contemplative and embodied disciplines including meditation, breathwork, prayer, fasting, mindful nutrition, yoga, self-examination, and study of sacred texts and wisdom traditions.

This stage emphasizes integrity, accountability, and the relinquishment of destructive habits, compulsions, and attitudes that obscure alignment with love, truth, and higher purpose. Members are encouraged to embody compassion, responsibility, and ethical conduct as natural expressions of spiritual maturity.

Purification prepares the individual to approach deeper spiritual experience with humility, stability, and reverence.

Illumination

Illumination is the cultivation of awareness of the Divine within oneself and throughout creation. This phase includes sustained contemplative practice, meditation, reflective study, and integration of insight into daily life.

Members are encouraged to practice discernment and non-attachment, recognizing that insights, visions, and altered states are not ends in themselves. Illumination deepens wisdom, clarity, compassion, and ethical alignment.

Through illumination, the practitioner learns to carry awareness of the sacred into ordinary life.

Unification

Unification refers to the experiential realization of communion with the Divine. Within our tradition, sacramental ceremony may serve as a sacred context in which profound mystical experience occurs.

The goal of unification is the lived embodiment of love, wisdom, compassion, and service. Many wisdom traditions teach that divine love is the ultimate reality and that spiritual maturity is expressed through living in alignment with that love.

Unification is integration expressed through humility, compassion, service, responsibility, and conscious participation in the well-being of others.

Mystical Experience & Discernment

Within contemplative and sacramental practice, individuals may encounter symbolic, archetypal, psychological, transpersonal, or mystical dimensions of consciousness. These experiences may include visionary imagery, perceived encounters, profound insight, or expanded states of awareness.

Within The Sanctuary, such phenomena are approached with discernment, humility, and respect. They are understood as meaningful aspects of spiritual development but are not regarded as the ultimate goal.

The aim remains transformation of character, reconciliation, integration, service, and embodied love.

Commitment to Veterans & First Responders

The Sanctuary is committed to supporting veterans and first responders who carry spiritual injury, grief, guilt, shame, moral distress, or the burdens of service.

We affirm that healing, reconciliation, and spiritual wholeness are available to every person. Through disciplined spiritual practice, supportive community, and structured sacramental ceremony, participants may experience renewed purpose, restoration of dignity, deeper self-understanding, and greater alignment with divine love and service.

The Sacraments of The Sanctuary

The Sanctuary recognizes a variety of entheogenic sacraments that may support spiritual exploration, healing, insight, and communion with the Divine when used within a structured religious context.

Psilocybin	Associated with introspection, shadow integration, reconciliation with mortality, spiritual insight, and courage in confronting unresolved psychological material.
Huachuma	Associated with heart-centered awareness, connection to nature, clarity of intention, gratitude, and alignment with service.
Bufo	Associated with profound mystical experience, non-dual awareness, surrender of limiting identity structures, and direct experiences of unity.
Iboga	Associated with disciplined introspection, personal accountability, life review, and examination of inherited narratives and behavioral patterns.
Ibogaine	Associated with structured introspection, deep self-reflection, and support in transforming destructive behavioral cycles within an ethical and supervised framework.
Ayahuasca	Associated with emotional processing, relational healing, symbolic insight, spiritual exploration, and compassion.
MDMA	Associated with heart-centered awareness, trauma-informed healing, reconciliation, connection, and reduction of fear-based defenses.
Cannabis	Associated with contemplative presence, embodied awareness, nervous system regulation, creativity, and integration.
LSD	Associated with expanded perception, philosophical inquiry, pattern recognition, spiritual reflection, and insight grounded in humility.

All sacramental practice within The Sanctuary is embedded within preparation, screening, supervision, medical safety protocols, ethical standards, and post-ceremonial integration.

Sacred Rhythms & Ceremonial Environment

The Sanctuary honors the sacred rhythms of creation, including solstices, equinoxes, lunar cycles, and other designated holy days recognized within our tradition. These rhythms serve as symbolic markers of renewal, balance, transformation, and spiritual reflection.

Ceremonies are conducted in intentionally prepared and consecrated spaces designed to foster safety, reverence, containment, and contemplative depth. These environments support focused spiritual practice, participant screening, medical readiness, and responsible supervision.

Our ceremonial spaces are arranged with intention, simplicity, and sacred symbolism. Lighting, sound, seating, and spatial design are carefully considered to cultivate an atmosphere conducive to inward reflection and communal support.

While our gatherings are primarily held within dedicated sanctuary spaces, we maintain deep reverence for the natural world as an expression of divine creation. When appropriate, community practices may include outdoor contemplative gatherings, integration walks, and seasonal observances that honor the cycles of nature.

The purpose of our ceremonial environment is not spectacle, but spiritual integrity. Safety, structure, reverence, and compassion form the foundation of all gatherings within The Sanctuary.

Leadership

The Sanctuary was founded by Justin LaPree, who developed this path through personal spiritual experience, contemplative study, service, and sacramental practice. He serves as Lead Minister and steward of the tradition.

Additional ministers, ceremonial leaders, and support staff may serve the community in alignment with the teachings, ethical standards, and spiritual principles of The Sanctuary.

Ethical Commitments & Safety

The Sanctuary affirms nondiscrimination, informed consent, comprehensive participant screening and preparation, ethical sourcing, diversion prevention, emergency preparedness, trained support personnel, medical oversight where appropriate, and structured integration.

Participation is open to adults who complete the screening process and who affirm or sincerely explore alignment with the spiritual principles of The Sanctuary.

Closing Affirmation

The Sanctuary exists to cultivate disciplined spiritual practice, personal transformation, reconciliation, and conscious communion with the Divine.

Through preparation, discernment, sacramental communion, integration, and service, members seek to embody love, wisdom, compassion, responsibility, and reverence for all life.

We affirm that the sacred can be encountered directly, that healing and transformation are possible, and that each individual possesses the capacity to awaken more fully to their highest purpose and deepest connection with the Divine.

