

Seamen's Church Institute of New York/New Jersey

Overview: Through its Maritime Chaplaincy in the Port of New York and on the Rivers, Seafarers Hospitality Center in Port Newark, and training facilities in Houston and Paducah, SCI provides for the spiritual, physical and professional well-being of American and International mariners.

SCI was founded in 1835 in affiliation with the Episcopal Diocese of New York to provide religious services for mariners on its floating chapel in the port of New York. The Mission has expanded over the centuries to provide for the spiritual, physical and professional well-being of mariners visiting the Port of NY/NJ, on the great rivers of America, and worldwide. SCI's Mission is non-denominational (there are very few Episcopalian mariners!) and is recognized by key maritime organizations such as the US Coast Guard, United Nations (IMO), and the domestic and international shipping industries. SCI has an engaged and active Board of Trustees, primarily of lay persons. Only the Executive Director is an Episcopalian minister, while the Archbishop of New York is a board member. Of historical interest, one of the longest serving trustees was Franklin Delano Roosevelt who served until his death in 1945.