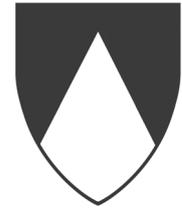


OUR WAY FORWARD



For the Church's mission to flourish it needs young people who are well formed in their faith and can see how that faith makes sense in the context of a society where Christianity is constantly challenged and where many people struggle to see the relevance of faith in the modern world.

Our response to these challenges is to develop the existing structure of St Albert's Catholic Chaplaincy in order to offer young people formation that equips them with an understanding of their faith and the confidence to express it in the context of their future roles in society.

Since 1931, when the Dominican Order was invited by the Archbishop to take over the Catholic Chaplaincy to the University of Edinburgh, the needs of young people have changed greatly. The Chaplaincy has always aimed to support staff and students and build a strong Catholic presence within the university. We now also want to extend the range of our work and deepen the service we provide to reflect the changing needs of the Church today.

To achieve this by the academic year 2011/12 we will:

- Develop the formation in the Catholic faith offered to young people, in particular by relating Catholic teaching to the demands of life after education. Using our congregation and our contacts in the Archdiocese and the Dominican Order, we will aim to gather students from different disciplines together to explore the challenges of living the Gospel, and give them the support and guidance they need to place their faith at the centre of their lives.
- Extend the breadth of the Chaplaincy service we currently provide to the University of Edinburgh and the Edinburgh College of Art to include Queen Margaret and Edinburgh Napier universities. We will build good

relationships with these institutions and establish ways to be of service to their staff and students. Including students from these universities in our community at George Square will help to widen the range of people we cater for and thereby broaden the impact our young people will have on society once they graduate. It will also increase the potential number of students we can engage with, as there are 16,000 students at Napier and 5,000 at Queen Margaret, in addition to the 24,000 at the University of Edinburgh.

- Renew our physical presence. We need a new Chapel that facilitates disabled access, has a larger capacity to hold our growing congregation, links directly to other chaplaincy spaces, and give a beautiful focal point for the life and work of the Chaplaincy. Public areas will also be redesigned to integrate them with the new Chapel and make them more useable, so that our investment will provide us with the environment we need now and into the future.
- Build up the supporting community around the work of the Chaplaincy and connect them with this and future plans. We will form an association for alumni that will build long term relationships with this important constituency, keeping them informed and providing them with opportunities to help with the Chaplaincy and its work.

This strategy has been presented to the Archdiocese as the priority for the Dominican Order in Edinburgh, and as its way of serving both the local Church and the wider Church in Scotland. Upon graduation, students who have attended the Chaplaincy disperse over a wide geographical and occupational range, and so there is a real opportunity for the Church in Scotland to have an increased impact upon a large number of people throughout society, both at home and abroad.



St Albert's Catholic Chaplaincy is part of the English Province of the Order of Preachers (The Dominicans) a charity registered in Scotland (SC039062) and in England & Wales (231192). Registered Office: Blackfriars, 64 St Giles, Oxford OX1 3LY. You can contact the Chaplaincy on 0131 650 0900, at Blackfriars, 24 George Square, Edinburgh EH8 9LD, or by email at info@keepingthedooropen.org You can also find details of how to pledge your support on our website, <http://keepingthedooropen.op.org>