



INTRODUCTION TO VOLUNTARY WORKPLACE CHAPLAINCY

A 7 WK TRAINING COURSE for VOLUNTARY CHAPLAINCY

Monday early evening starting **21 September 2020**
At Colmore Row, Birmingham B3 2BJ

LED BY

Workplace Chaplaincy CIGB

www.cigb.org.uk

Over a year, our Volunteer Chaplains **meet 8000 people** for significant conversations, and support. We meet many thousands more, month in, month out for briefer conversations.



“Chaplains re-charge our batteries”
(Christmas Market Trader)

“My journey at times has felt unbearably hard and having the chaplain there, providing a listening ear or a smile, meant so much to me, enabling me to go back, renewed and able to carry on”
(Public Sector Staff)



CIGB’s Voluntary Workplace chaplains:
are people who give about half a day a week
visiting a local organisation or enterprise,
befriending the workers and stimulating people to wonder about God:
answering questions such as ‘what are God-people doing here?’,
Chaplains support staff to make sense of the highs and lows in their lives.



Workplace Chaplaincy CIGB

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Reg. Charity 511711

CIGB has a network of 60 voluntary chaplains in Retail;
Conference Venues; Fire Stations; FE Colleges;
Construction Sites; Council Offices; Manufacturing; Canal
community; Transport; Residential Living.



Brief outline course:

- The course is intended for people who are interested in exploring Workplace Chaplaincy as an outworking of their faith life. It introduces some of the core themes and skills of workplace chaplaincy.
- The course is a pre-requisite before CIGB will support volunteers into chaplaincy but completion of the course is not a guarantee that volunteers will be recommended for chaplaincy. There is no requirement that those who complete the course begin chaplaincy with CIGB
- Being 'in good standing with their local faith community' is something that CIGB will also want to confirm before recommending individuals for chaplaincy; as well as asking for character references.
- CIGB originates from the Christian church; most of our chaplains are Christian but have experience of working alongside other faiths. Reference will be made to Church Teaching during the course, but teachers will attempt to respect diversity of participants.
- Course teaching is informal, discussion and role play based, drawing on experiences and skills of participants; Sessions will start and end with brief prayers. Typical programme:
 - **21 Sept Wk 1 – What is chaplaincy? How does it work?**
 - **28 Sept Wk 2 - Chaplain as carer and listener**
 - **5 Oct Wk 3 - Chaplaincy connecting with work / life issues**
 - **12 Oct Wk 4 – Chaplains asking questions and challenging issues**
 - **19 Oct Wk 5 – Visit to see Chaplaincy; Strategies for Chaplaincy**
 - **26 Oct Wk 6 – Chaplaincy in a Multi Faith / Multi Spirituality world**
 - **2 Nov Wk 7 – Fitting this Ministry into Local Faith life; What next?**
- There is a charge of £50 to cover some of the course costs, materials and refreshments – but do still enquire if the cost may be a difficulty.

Course materials

- A course book will be given out at the start of the course and extra materials will be also be given each week. Where possible, a small amount of preparatory reading before each session will be encouraged.

At end of course

- On Wk 7 there will be a chance for an individual meeting with the course tutor to discuss progress into voluntary chaplaincy, if appropriate.
- The course is not formally accredited but we will give out certificates of completion at the end.
- Progress into any form of chaplaincy at the end of the course will normally require further safeguarding references etc being taken.
- **Volunteer opportunities in current CIGB chaplaincy teams** include: Solihull Shopping Centre, Fire Service, Construction, Birmingham City Centre. The posts are all unpaid.

CIGB is:

- An ecumenical charity (cigb.org.uk) that supports workplace chaplaincies across the Birmingham and Solihull areas. The 60 current chaplaincies include places like Birmingham Airport, Bullring and Touchwood Shopping Centres, NEC and NIA, Jaguar Land Rover, Fire Stations.
- Led by a management council drawn from the major denominations of the Christian church. CIGB stands for "Churches and Industry Group Birmingham-Solihull.
- Linked with other faiths and can draw on other faith advisors as necessary
- Working with church congregations to help them connect with their local economy and working people
- Well connected with national chaplaincy, 'faith and economy' networks

Limited places available. Application form available from Peter Sellick:

To book a place, or for more info:

peter.sellick@cigb.org.uk; 0121 426 0425;

CIGB, 1 Colmore Row, Birmingham B3 2BJ