

This wide variety of institutions and places served shows the immense value and importance of Chaplaincy. The main purpose of Chaplaincy is to meet people where they are, and be with them, especially in times of great need. Many of the people who they meet are not engaged at all with any church, and often not with any kind of faith. We are there to offer a compassionate and non-judgemental ear. We remind people that God really does exist and although they may not be immediately changed by our encounter, may remember conversations as a seed which may later start to grow in their lives.

Paid Chaplaincy positions tend to be advertised nationally and will be found on websites. We also hope to include them in our Bulletin. If you wish to volunteer, you would be best to contact your local institution's Chaplaincy and ask them for more information



## About Chaplaincy

The first person to be named a chaplain was St Martin of Tours who gave half his cloak to a beggar (because he had already given away the rest of his clothes). He was commissioned to work away from the main church in places where people were in special need.

Today, in the Liverpool Diocese, we have over 80 people involved in the same way. People who exercise their ministry in an institution or place that is outside the parochial structure of the Church of England are now known as Sector Ministers. Some are ordained, some are full-time but others are lay, part-time or volunteers.

Sector Ministers work in a wide variety of places and the following list gives a very brief description of the sort of work they do.



HOSPITAL – a very established system where Chaplains will be available to speak to patients asking for them and to distribute Holy Communion as required. They are also available at the end of life. We have 12 hospitals in our Diocese.



HOSPICE – havens of peace for those who are terminally ill, Chaplains offer support to the dying and their families in the 5 Hospices of our diocese.

MERSEYCARE – Chaplains care for those who have acute mental health issues and offer support as well as offering regular Services.



SCHOOLS – Chaplains are available to speak to pupils as required and will play an important part in the spiritual life of the school

UNIVERSITIES – In the many campuses of the Diocese, Chaplains are available to students and often operate in conception with their well-being agenda. They usually operate in an ecumenical, multi faith context and offer support to both students and staff.



PRISON – there are 4 such institutions in our Diocese and all have Chaplains who are required to visit daily every new prisoner, and those who are in Healthcare and the Care and Separation Unit. They also visit those on suicide

watch and offer support as required to both prisoners and Staff. Regular Chapel Services are also provided.

MITE (Mission in the Economy) based in the city centre recruits and trains mainly volunteer Chaplains to operate in the RETAIL trade, at St John's Market in Liverpool and also in the shopping centres in Warrington. We also have Chaplains working in the Wigan retail centres.



MITE also employ Chaplains to work at JOHN LENNON airport, the Liverpool YMCA and the Liverpool POLICE. More details about their work is on their stall.



Railway Mission

RAILWAY MISSION based in Warrington has a Chaplain responsible for a large area of the rail network in the North West. He speaks to both passengers and staff, particularly after serious incidents on the line.

WATERWAYS – Chaplains, mainly volunteers, regularly visit the canals and rivers, offering companionship and a listening ear to individuals and businesses.



In Liverpool we have a Chaplain to SEAFARERS who is part of the network to deliver professional welfare services for seafarers at the front line



SPORTS' CLUBS – throughout the Diocese there are several Chaplains who are connected to a specific sport's club and can offer support to all other users

SERVICES – The Fire Service, Sea Cadets and the Armed Forces all have Chaplains that offer support in various places in the Diocese.

