

The Cathedral Church of St. Mary's Outreach Co-ordinator

The aim of the Church is to bring about the Kingdom of God

a kingdom of truth and life,
a kingdom of holiness and grace,
a kingdom of justice, love, and peace. (Preface Feast of Christ the King)

Following the example and heart of Pope Francis, we seek to echo his reminder that "The Church does not exist to condemn people but to bring about an encounter with the visceral love of God's mercy" and that "the thing the church needs most today is the ability to heal wounds and to warm the hearts of the faithful; it needs nearness, proximity. I see the Church as a field hospital after battle." (Pope Francis)

With this uppermost in our minds, the Cathedral Church of St. Mary's will begin an Outreach Project in November 2017 which will serve and support the city of Newcastle upon Tyne. As a significant landmark in the heart of Newcastle, the Cathedral is ideally located to respond in many ways to the people of the city.

We seek through our work and reputation to be continually growing and responding to the love of God through the service of our neighbour and our response to those in need. The Outreach Project will make use of the newly developed basement within the Cathedral to offer service and opportunities to some of the city's most vulnerable. Networking and working alongside groups already reaching out to our community, the newly appointed Outreach Co-ordinator will support and enable this area of the Cathedral's work to grow. For those who may never enter the Cathedral, our Outreach Project will seek to make accessible the heart of our Catholic message in practical and relevant ways as we seek to serve and respond to the needs of people in our city.

As well as serving the needs of vulnerable people of our city communities and the groups who support them, our basement facilities will provide conference and training opportunities in this central location to a wide range of groups.

The Outreach Co-ordinator will discern and develop this new outreach hub within the Cathedral complex. This person will have wide responsibility for research, development and implementation of the plans and strategy, as well as the day to day management of the newly refurbished facilities. The Co-ordinator will report to the Project Management Group and will be line managed by a member of this group.

We are looking for an experienced individual with a breadth of understanding in regard to Church based outreach work and the support of vulnerable people in a city-centre setting. Ideally this person will have experience in developing similar projects, and working with a range of third sector and public services or the skills to do this well. This person will need sensitivity in the management of such a project within the location of a busy city centre based Catholic parish.