

The Chaplaincy at U.P.E.I.

The Chaplaincy at UPEI exists to provide for students religious needs on campus. To this end the Chaplains are available daily during the week in offices in Student Services (or in the future Chapel in the old bookstore).

Fr. Brendon Megannety is Chaplain for Roman Catholic students and Fr. Ron Evans is Chaplain for non-Roman Catholic students including Anglicans, Orthodox and Protestant Christians.

At present there is a lack of a centre for chapel-related activities. At the inception of the combined University of Prince Edward Island the old St. Dunstan's chapel was given up by the Chaplains because it was too large and not conducive to worship in small numbers. It was expected that the University would provide an alternate place for worship and for chapel activities. We are still waiting but we hope that soon the old Bookstore in the middle of campus will be renovated and made into a centre adequate for the needs of the religious community and one which would serve the needs of the campus community in general. We had hoped to be moved in by Christmas, but now it seems that Easter is our goal.

Services are held, however, in the chapel-to-be. Daily Mass is offered by Fr. Brendon (with Sunday Mass in Marion Lounge). Fr. Ron celebrates the Service of Holy Communion each Thursday at 12:5 p.m. and on Sundays at 10 a.m. There is also a Service (without Communion) at 11:15 a.m. on Sundays. Be it confessed, our prejudice is that everyone in their own way is "looking". We feel that the search is easier when people are looking with others be it in academics, worship, community activities, study of social issues or personal encounters. Let us continue looking together.

But first, we must get to know one another. Not always easy--- either work! ACT has sought to provide opportunities for people to meet here on campus. It has sought also to arouse interest in work

with slow-learning students at St. Jean's School and in visiting senior citizens in the Provincial Home for the Aged. (Commercial again!-- Both these ventures, RIGHT NOW, could use the support of a few more fellows and girls. Inquire at the Chaplaincy Office, Student Services, Main.

This term, Fr. Brendon Megannety will be found mornings in his office in Main, most afternoons in a temporary office in the Old Book Store (future Chaplaincy Centre) and sometimes just loitering in the library! The Non-Roman Catholic Chaplaincy

So far this year the non-Roman Catholic end of the Chaplaincy has not been very active other than in counselling and in activities in churches off campus. This term, though, we hope to get some other ventures off the ground; we expect to arrange a trip for interested students to the medium security Institution in Springhill, N.S. in order to find out what life is like in our prisons so that they may be able to relay the information they will pick up to the campus community as a whole. You will hear more about this

as time goes on.

Those activities are most easily begun whose impetus comes from the community whom they are designed to serve. So, if you have any ideas about the future direction of the Chaplaincy-what you would like to see done, what issues you would like to see approached (social, religious, political, etc) how you would like to become involved-do drop around to see your Chaplain either at his office or at 106 Blanchard. Whatever we decide to do, the more ideas expressed the better will be our sense of direction for the future.

The Chaplain is a member of the clergy of a traditional religious institution (he is an Anglican priest) and is attempting to live life as a Christian. He makes the Sacraments, Teaching and the other services of the Church available to those disposed to receive them. But this is not to say that persons of other religious convictions are excluded from participation in the chaplaincy programmes. If you are not committed to any religion, if you are a follower of another religion or philosophy, you are welcome to join

our activities. We would welcome your presence and be interested in having dialogue with you. We all are seeking Truth; each of us has a measure of Truth (none of us has it all) and we can each learn from one another.

A final word about your friendly neighbourhood Chaplains! We do not see ourselves as a combination of Ann Landers, Solomon and Billy Graham. Our idea is simply to make ourselves available to anyone on campus who wishes to come by for a chat. Students really should try to rid themselves of the idea that they must have a "problem" before coming to see a Chaplain. We simply feel ourselves to be a part of the campus community, available to anyone and everyone, Protestant, Catholic, Jew, Muslim, whatever--anyone who feels the inclination to drop by.

The Chaplains at Carleton University in Ottawa have a neat way of summing up what they feel they are all about. They have a little poster which reads: "No one has ever seen God--not even the Chaplains at Carleton University. But we're looking."

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JANUARY 21, 22, 23