

## **Spiritual Conversation 2023-24**



*Photo by Aaron Burden on Unsplash*

### **For whom is the course intended?**

There is increasing interest in the spiritual journey and how it relates to living faithfully in today's world. This speaks of a need for people skilled in spiritual conversation, living out this ministry in a variety of ways.

This course builds on the foundation course Growth in Prayer and Reflective Living and is a training programme for accompanying others on their inner journey, alongside continuing self-development. For some, this course may lead on to training in spiritual accompaniment/direction.

### **Entry requirements**

Applicants should have completed Growth in Prayer and Reflective Living or a comparable course, or have made the full Ignatian Spiritual Exercises. Consideration may be given to applicants with equivalent experience which includes knowledge of different ways of praying and basic Ignatian discernment.

If you apply for the course, you are expected to be receiving regular spiritual direction and to have this in place before the course begins. We may be able to help you find a spiritual director if necessary. It is also helpful if you have had experience of an individually guided retreat.

## Practice in spiritual conversation

If you are accepted on the course, you will be expected to engage in accompanying others on their spiritual journey. In practice, this means meeting for spiritual conversation with two people on a regular basis during the course, usually through your local contacts. These conversations will allow you to apply course learning and reflect on your experience, both with a tutor and in small groups.



*Photo by Luke Ellis Craven on Unsplash*

### Course content

Module 1 Introduction to Spiritual Conversation  
Listening Skills

Module 2 Personal Prayer - Ways of Praying

Module 3 Discernment according to St Ignatius

Module 4 Spiritual Conversation

### Method

The programme is experience-based and uses small groups, role plays, case studies, personal reflection, input and discussion as methods of learning.

There is one written assignment for each module.

### Attendance

Participants are expected to attend all sessions. If you miss a session due to illness or unforeseen events, you are expected to catch up with relevant content by liaising with another course participant.

**Mode of presentation** – a mixture of both online and in-person components for all participants

### The course contains two major components:

- regular Tuesday evening sessions online on Zoom
- four days in person – three of these at Christ Church, Morningside, Edinburgh and one at Link Church, Dunfermline. The in-person sessions are integral to the course and all participants will need to attend them.

## Dates

The sessions will take place on the dates below.

- Tuesday sessions take place on Zoom in the evening from 7 – 9.30pm
- Friday session in person 3pm to 9pm
- Saturday sessions in person 10am to 4pm

### 2023

Sep 26

Oct 3, 10, 24 and Sat 28 th

Nov 7, 14, 21, 28

Dec 5, 12 and Sat 2nd

### 2024

Jan 9, 16, 23, 30

Feb 6, 20 and Fri 23 rd and Sat 24 th

Mar 5, 12, 19, 26

Apr 16, 23, 30

May 7

## Course costs

The cost of the course is £720. A registration fee of £60, deductible from the total cost, is payable when an applicant is accepted. The balance may be paid in instalments. **Bursaries** may be available for this course. Please contact [training@epiphanygroup.org.uk](mailto:training@epiphanygroup.org.uk) to enquire about this.

Please contact us at the above email address if you would like to make a donation towards helping someone else to participate on the course.

## More Information

For more information or to make an informal enquiry about the course please contact [training@epiphanygroup.org.uk](mailto:training@epiphanygroup.org.uk)

## Applications

Download [SC Application form 2023-24](#)

Your application will be acknowledged by e-mail. (Please get in touch again if you haven't heard back from us in 7 days.) Confirmation will be sent nearer to the start of the course with final details. Applicants may be interviewed and/or references taken.



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