



*Take Lord, and receive  
all my liberty, my memory,  
my understanding, and my entire will,  
all that I have and possess.  
You have given all to me.  
To you, O Lord, I return it.  
All is yours,  
dispose of it wholly according to your will.  
Give me your love and your grace,  
for this is sufficient for me.*  
*Ignatius of Loyola*

## **The Society of Jesus in Scotland**

Over the last few years the Jesuit community in Glasgow and Edinburgh has engaged in a process of discernment in depth about our mission in Scotland. That process has now been concluded by the Jesuit Provincial .

The process has confirmed that we should maintain our presence in Glasgow and Edinburgh and that we should continue to focus our efforts on the five works which we have maintained hitherto: St Aloysius Parish, Garnethill and Sacred Heart Parish Lauriston, St Aloysius College, the Ignatian Spirituality Centre Glasgow and the Edinburgh Jesuit Centre

We are most grateful to all those who have assisted us in that process and taken part in numerous conversations which have led to a significant outcome in the Strategic Framework for the Jesuits in Scotland.

# Strategic Framework for the Jesuits in Scotland

The Jesuits have been in Edinburgh and Glasgow since 1859, serving the Church and the people of Scotland. In these challenging times we desire and are committed to continuing that service to the Church reading the signs of the times and responding to God's call.

**Vision...** as a description of the ideal which we are seeking to realise ...

A world alive with the presence of God, where Christ is known, loved and served in our brothers and sisters

**Mission...** as a statement of why we exist ...

For the greater glory of God and the common good, the mission of the Jesuits in Scotland is to help people discern the presence of God and respond to Christ's call.

Society's Universal Apostolic Preferences ... as clear coordinates for our work and mission ...

1. Showing the way to God: through the Spiritual Exercises and discernment;
2. Walking with the excluded - the poor, the outcasts of the world, those whose dignity has been violated, in a mission of reconciliation and justice;
3. Journeying with youth: accompanying young people in the creation of a hope-filled future;
4. Caring for our common home - collaborating, with Gospel depth, for the protection and renewal of God's Creation.

**Principles ...** what makes what we do and who we are

1. Discerning: we use the rich tradition of the Spiritual Exercises and Ignatian spirituality to discern God's presence and his will for us and others
2. Acceptance: we trust that God is at work in all people and situations, so we will be open and seek to put good construction on what we see and reconcile differences
3. Collaboration: with each other and partners in mission
4. Beauty: what we do and what people see will be attractive, and this quality will be evangelical

We see the principles as how we practise synodality.

**Activities ...** what can we do that are the best expressions of our vision, mission and principles?

1. Give Spiritual Exx, retreats, SD and discernment (including for the dioceses) and training
2. Service to those on the margins as a concrete expression of our faith: Refugee Language School
3. Seek the magis in our sacramental ministry (liturgy, preaching, confessions), including ministry to priests
4. Provide support, accompaniment and formation for young people (young adults groups, St Aloysius College)
5. Providing courses and talks for adults on matters of Catholic and Christian faith and life