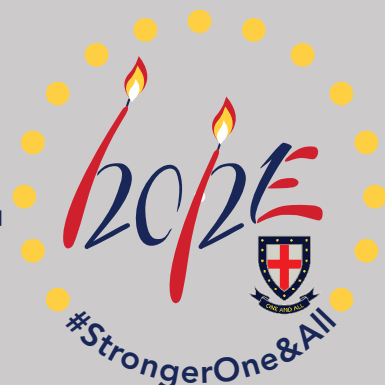




ST STITHIANS COLLEGE PATH of HOPE + LIGHT



CHAPEL



Foundation stone laid 11th August, 1953

Chapel opened 7th November, 1954

The Trust money bequeathed by the Founders of the College, Collins and Mountstephens, who were practical Christians and staunch Methodists, was not sufficient to include a Chapel in addition to all other buildings and developments.

However, the Trustees decided that without a Chapel the purpose of the Foundation of the College – to establish an educational institution with a background of liberal and religious thought – could not be achieved. They therefore proceeded with the building of the Chapel and launched an Appeal for Funds at the Official Opening of the College and the laying of the Chapel Foundation Stone on 11th August 1953.



By the time the Chapel was opened on 7th November 1954, almost a third of the required £21,00 had already been raised by the small community that constituted the St Stithians family at the time. The balance of the funds was contributed by the wider Saints community.

The Chapel has been enhanced over the years. The focal Good Samaritan window was donated by the former Chairman of Council, Ray Bradley in memory of his father. Funds from the 40th anniversary fete in 1993 contributed to the stained-glass windows designed by Paul Blomkamp. The pipe organ was acquired from the Mayfair West Dutch Reformed Church that was being demolished. This organ was built in Holland in 1935. The pews were extended in 1990 and the gallery and choir stalls added in 1999 to accommodate the expanding numbers in each school.

The College is fortunate to have been ministered to by many Chaplains, each leaving their own unique mark on the life of the College.

The Chapel is the spiritual centre of the College. It is here that welcoming and transitional ceremonies for all students are held and where many students have been confirmed into the Christian faith over the years. It is also the chapel of choice for weddings, baptisms and memorial services for the majority of the Saints community as well as the venue for many musical performances. Memorable nativity plays, Christmas carol services and Easter services for visiting sports teams are part and parcel of the St Stithians story.

Sources:

Macfarlane, W (2003) To serve the future hour. Sandton: St Stithians College

Various documents from the Archive

Our thanks to St Stithians College Archivist, Dr Mary Reynolds for researching and collating this information.

Thy Kingdom come.
Thy will be done on earth,
As it is in heaven.

