



Year Two Theological Reflection – Some Guidance

As we approach the end of your first year in ordained ministry, you are now asked to submit a theological reflection that engages with some of the ministry that you have been doing.

At the end of Year 2, we ask for a reflection focussed around **Mission and Leadership**. This is deliberately broad, so you should find space to engage with something that you have been doing.

The reflection should offer the following:

- An analysis of what has happened, or what the current situation is;
- How you have worked, with others, in this area and the effect of this;
- What leadership you brought to the situation;
- What theological issues are at stake in this situation, and how your actions are seeking to engage with them.

One of the purposes of the reflection is to demonstrate that you have met the relevant sections of the Formation Qualities. In year 2 we are looking at the qualities of Fruitfulness and Potential. For convenience, I have placed the details of the sets of these qualities at the end of this note. When the qualities seek different evidence between those being formed for Assistant level responsibility or Incumbent level responsibility, a decision has been made as for the most suitable for this particular theological reflection.

Some guidance for this:

1. Please write between 2000 and 3000 words.
2. You are not being assessed on spelling and grammar, nor will you get a percentage or grade for this reflection.
3. There is no particular model of Theological Reflection we are expecting you to use.
4. It may be helpful to talk through the reflection with your Training Incumbent both while you are doing this, and with the end product. Your reflection may even originate with something you discuss in a supervision session!
5. Set the scope of your reflection large enough to meet all of the relevant areas of the qualities and the requirements of the Curacy Handbook. So, for example, reflecting on a single missional event may not be enough to demonstrate everything; whereas a reflection on leading an initiative engaging with the local community on a regular basis may provide enough material to work with.
6. The deadline for submitting this reflection is **31st July 2025**. Do please ask if you will need an extension.



Key Formation Qualities to consider in your reflection:

FRUITFULNESS

	At the end of IME Phase 2 the Curate ...
Christ	1. Demonstrates humility and openness to the views of others (both within the Church of England and ecumenically) who differ in theological position
	2. Gives evidence of practical engagement with those of a world faith community other than Christianity
	3. Has enabled growth in faith in individuals from whom they differ for example, in age, gender, class, and culture
Church	3. Communicates faith and practice in a variety of ways, with sensitivity to their audience
	4. Can evidence an engagement with both traditional and new Christian communities showing an appreciation of how both can play a role in the mission of God
World	1. Can speak with confidence and infectious enthusiasm about their own journey of faith and discipleship.
	3. Is able to listen attentively to individuals and the community so that they can help others discern the presence and activity of the Holy Spirit
	4. Has led others in evangelism and mission and can reflect on lessons learned, from those that were fruitful, and those that were not and how all of this connects to the mission of God
	5. Is an articulate apologist and interpreter of the faith in the public arena (for example in preaching at civic events, blogging, or speaking at enquirers or other open events such as pub theology)
Self	1. Has achieved a rhythm of life that balances ministry, family, friends and rest in a sustainable way within their curacy context
	2. Understands their own conscious and unconscious bias and has strategies to mitigate them
	4. Evidences the ability to prioritise under pressure and, where appropriate, to delegate tasks to others



POTENTIAL

	At the end of IME Phase 2 the Curate ...
Christ	1. Serve the church in an uncertain and unknown future
	2. Inspire others to grow in faith and discipleship
Church	1. Live with contingency, adapting to change in the church and leading others as a non-anxious presence
	2. Lead a church in growth with a capacity to evaluate risk and to act with courage
World	1. Lead a church in mission
	2. Plant a church or Fresh Expression, enabling others to lead and sustain its ministry
Self	1. Grow in self-awareness as a reflective practitioner with a capacity to change their mind in the light of experience and practice
	2. Face the challenges of ministry including its disappointments, with equanimity