



## Year Three Theological Reflection – Some Guidance

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As we approach the end of your third 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 3, we ask for a reflection focussed around **Worship and Discipleship**. 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 3 we are looking at Love for God, Call to Ministry and Wisdom. For convenience, I have placed the details of the sets of 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 that 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 one service of worship may not be enough to demonstrate everything; whereas a reflection on developing worship around being a follower of Christ may provide enough material to work with.
6. The deadline for submitting this reflection is **24th April 2026**. Do please ask if you will need an extension.



Key Formation Criteria to consider in your reflection:

## LOVE FOR GOD

	At the end of IME Phase 2 the Curate ...
<b>Christ</b>	1. Shows a vibrant faith that can speak about their own joys and disappointments, experience of change or failure and is able to interpret how grace is at work in their life
	3. Has a well-developed pattern of life based on four foundational texts (Jesus' summary of the law; the Lord's Prayer; the Apostles' creed; the Beatitudes)
<b>Church</b>	2. Has led a variety of services of worship with authority, confidence and imagination
	3. Can apply the Bible and tradition of faith to specific issues in the contemporary church and society critically and reflectively
<b>World</b>	1. Can articulate God's saving purpose for creation and humanity in the context of major issues facing the world and local community
	3. Can draw on the resources of disciplines other than theology and of reflection upon their own experience and that of others, and integrate these with the insights of theology
	4. Can share the good news of Jesus Christ, and has experience of mission and evangelism and of watching for the signs of God's kingdom
<b>Self</b>	1. Nurtures their private prayer life with regular spiritual practice with others (eg: spiritual accompaniment, quiet days, retreats, cell groups, prayer triplets) and can speak about the accountability and challenge experienced in such relationships
	2. Engages with different approaches to prayer and spirituality as they are found across the Anglican tradition and the wider church in a range of cultural contexts.

## CALL TO MINISTRY

	At the end of IME Phase 2 the Curate ...
<b>Christ</b>	1. Is committed to their own growth as a disciple and to forming new disciples
	2. Can speak about the call of Christ on their life (and that of their household) as it is emerging in their curacy and describe its impact in daily decision-making



<b>Church</b>	1. Can articulate the shape of their ministry and the way they have been formed as a priest during their curacy
<b>World</b>	1. Has developed an informed appreciation of the representative role of a minister in the Church of England and has had experience of practising this across a
	2. Evidences skills to communicate the hope of the gospel afresh to a wide audience
<b>Self</b>	2. Can speak of the joys and challenges of ministry, and the way in which ministry has promoted their flourishing and their developing relationship with Christ, whilst being able to speak honestly when this has been hard
	4. Displays a willingness to accept the costliness of ordained ministry, while growing in awareness of the proper limits to that costliness and of the support that they can expect as they face it
	5. Can recognise, draw out and nurture the vocation of others, including those with a call to authorised or ordained ministry

## WISDOM

	<b>At the end of IME Phase 2 the Curate ...</b>
<b>Christ</b>	2. Demonstrates a commitment to life-long learning, whether through academic study, reflective practice, or engagement with their personal development, and including engagement with the insights of others who are different from them and marginalised voices
	5. Demonstrates skills in enabling both children and adults to learn, in both informal and formal settings
<b>Church</b>	1. Demonstrates appropriate and authentic leadership within the church setting with integrity and are able to reflect on their own leadership preferences and demonstrate flexibility in adapting their leadership style to the context
	2. Can make creative and critical use of the resources of scripture and theology and contemporary perspectives on leadership and organisations to inform discipleship, leadership and community formation in the changing contexts of the Church of England
<b>World</b>	1. Can discern God's mission in the setting in which they serve by reflective discernment through God's Spirit and by responding in ways reflecting the 5 marks of mission
	2. Demonstrates the capacity to reflect for themselves and to act in accordance with their convictions



<b>Self</b>	1. Demonstrates maturity in the relationship with their training incumbent and other senior colleagues, balancing accountability with personal integrity
	4. Demonstrates integrity in their dealings with others, including those in authority over them, and those for whom they have pastoral responsibility