Formation Framework
IME 1 for Ordained Priestly Ministry

Document 1: Qualities and Evidence
Introduction

This framework comprises of three sets of documents

- This document on qualities and evidence of how they are being inhabited
- A second document on developing an IME 1 formation curriculum
- A third document giving advice on reporting and assessment

Qualities rather than Criteria: In the grids which follow we have moved away from Criteria which are to be met to Qualities to be inhabited. This marks a different way of exploring a person’s potential call to train for ordained priestly ministry in the Church of England. Inhabiting a quality speaks more of a life-long process that is ever deepening and it might offer resonance with the ancient term ‘habitus’ which speaks of dispositions lived out through being immersed deeply in a wide variety of lived contexts and relationships, all of which shape our living and calling. The qualities are grounded in the Church of England’s Ordinals. There are seven Qualities: Love for God, Call to Ministry, Love for People, Wisdom, Fruitfulness, Potential and Trustworthiness. These qualities are explored in the context of a candidate’s relationship to Christ, the Church, the World and the Self. It is understood that there is a porosity between some of these relationships, especially between the Church and the World and also between Christ and Self.

The addition of a Trustworthiness quality: The grids which follow grow out of their companions in the Shared Discernment Framework. They are based around the six qualities which are examined in the discernment process but with the addition of one extra, that of Trustworthiness. Adding trustworthiness does two things. It makes explicit, at the IME 1 formation stage, all the work on personal integrity that began in the discernment stage including significant work on safeguarding. Secondly, it makes explicit the commitments which the Church of England is publicly making to only ordain ministers who are fit to practise. In that sense, it means that these grids are part of a Fitness to Practise framework. The focus on trustworthiness is included as one part of our response as a church to the light shone onto our safer recruitment and safeguarding practice. But it is wider than that and picks up other aspects both of character and of action that are integral to being fit to practise.

Trust and responsibility: In constructing these grids, we have become aware that there are instances where a candidate’s capacity to inhabit a quality is constrained, not by fundamental capacity issues in themselves, but because the structures in which we all operate mitigate against the candidate. For instance, in order for a candidate to evidence a capacity to embrace difference, the candidate needs to feel safe to do so. There needs to be a level of mutual responsibility and safety which is exercised. Power and gender dynamics may be at work which mean that the capacity of a person to embrace difference becomes impossible if the validity of their being different is not respected. These dynamics are vital to take into consideration when assessing this kind of evidence for a candidate to inhabit a quality.

A word about trust within the whole process: We hope that this formation framework will be reliable, transparent, rigorous and consistent. At the heart of the formation process is the trust invested by the Church in those of who you work in IME 1. You are trusted to know what you are doing and that you will use and interpret these grids to the best effect. This new framework will need time to be embedded and we will need to test out the workability of this material together as we use it. And just like with the discernment process, we shall want to review this after a couple of years to ensure that it remains fit for purpose.
The two grids and who they are for: The two grids grow out from that which the discernment process is developing. It is possible to see them as layers but may be even better to see them as a core grid and two concentric circles of periphery grids.

1) A Qualities grid which shows the 7 qualities in 4 domains (making 28 cells). This is the determinative grid as it contains the words and phrases that will be used in reporting the depth to which a candidate is inhabiting the qualities. It is intended to be simple and especially helpful as a candidate-facing document.

2) An Evidence (of qualities) grid which shows for each of the 7 qualities, examples of the types of evidence which may be sought to demonstrate the depth of inhabiting the quality. To use a metaphor – if the qualities grid is scripture, then this evidence grid is midrash. The examples of evidence are listed to show that they act as the servant of the words in the grey cells in the top line. The grey cells are the same phrases carried across from the Qualities grid. This evidence grid will be helpful for candidates but even more so for those in IME 1 who have to write reports/make assessments on candidates. This grid mirrors a document in the discernment process which DDOs use to work with candidates to find sufficient evidence for inhabiting the qualities.

In a separate document, there is a third grid – a Formation curriculum grid. This is essentially a document aimed at those in IME 1 who design formational programmes. It is a rich picture document which is meant to be permissive and not determinative. It draws together and draws out the rich wisdom implicit in the two layers above especially with regard to dispositions and to phrases from the ordinal. There is every possibility that each IME 1 provider might develop their own versions of this Formation curriculum grid.

How the grids have been constructed: The renewal of the formation framework has developed out of the renewal of the discernment framework. It is axiomatic to the whole way that the grids are to be used that the 7 qualities in 4 domains (forming 28 cells) are those which apply across the whole formational and ministerial journey. In a sense, to use the ancient phrase, everything else is commentary in the sense that it is about the kinds of evidence that will be helpful for the candidate to show, at each stage of their journey, that they are inhabiting those qualities. As you look at this work, we hope that you will see

- A strong basis in the 2014 Formation Criteria where the distinctions between disposition, knowledge and skills (to be, to know and to do) were employed. This 2020 version now draws out a focus on Potential and growth
- An attempt to try and bring together a formation framework that pays equal attention for example to formation of godly wisdom as it does to the capacity to lead worship and to the deep Biblical immersion that feeds ministry
- A commitment to both structural and written simplicity
- Making links with other resources such as the Ordinal which form part of the Church’s wider formational documents
- Sufficient connection between qualities and the commitments of the mission of the Church in a way that will not require the grids to be re-written when those particular commitments change year on year

Lifelong formation and progression: As with the 2014 Formation Criteria, these grids have been constructed to show the formational and discernment journey and growth during IME 1 and into IME 2. The Shared Discernment Process will result in an ordinand’s report coming to IME 1 providers which will be based around the qualities. This will enable those providers to build upon that formational growth during IME 1. And the same will be true for the process between IME 1 and 2 and
within IME 2. It has always been the case that certain qualities which candidates inhabit do not fundamentally change as they journey through the process – they may deepen or find expression in a new context. But it will still be important to look for evidence that the quality remains. As it will also be important to see new skills displayed. So the reports which accompany a candidate into IME 1 and then into IME 2 will offer a way of helping those providers see where the formational focus for a candidate needs to lie. The key to unlocking this whole process is that it is just that – a process of growth where we are looking together for signs of that growth or inhabiting.

Some more detail on how the two grids are intended to function

1) The Qualities grid with the 7 qualities in 4 domains is the determinative document and phrases within these cells form the basis of the reporting process at each stage of the formational journey. Since this grid has been agreed across the whole formational journey, it is now fixed for entry into IME 1 in 2022 and 2023 after which it will be reviewed.

2) The Evidence grid is aimed at both candidates and to those who write reports on them. It contains examples of the kinds of evidence needed to be gathered so that a report can be written at the end of IME 1 and 2 that the candidate has sufficiently inhabited the qualities to progress to the next stage of formation. Some points to note:

• The grey cells at the top with the bold words are determinative, nothing else is. It is they which guide the reporting process
• The cells which sit beneath these are sources of evidence to help fill out the grey cells. They are not learning outcomes and therefore they do not all need to be met. They are examples of evidence even if some might be almost always seen and others might often be seen. The grid is intended to cover the whole formational period of IME 1 and it will be up to providers to design from which parts of the formational programme these evidences are drawn
• Evidence for those being formed for Assistant level responsibility is denoted in italics in the places where it differs from Incumbent level responsibility
• This grid is intended to strike a balance of elements of a candidates’ ability to know, to be, to do and to grow – the same categories of evidence which have been used in the discernment process
• An attempt has been made to describe “understanding” in ways that are broader than the acquisition of knowledge by an individual. So there is prominence given to “the ongoing inhabiting of a living tradition together” in the grids in a way that we hope overcomes a tendency to see understanding as individual, static and abstract
• In some cells, a particular focus will be seen. Examples include: biblical and theological understanding in Love for God/Church; prayer and the inward journey in Love for God/Self; pastoral care in Love for People/Christ; and collaborative leadership skills in Wisdom/Church.
• Several of the boxes build on each other, for example collaborative leadership in Wisdom/Church and in Love for People/Church
• We have deliberately kept some of the phrases generic (eg: range of contexts) so that IME 1 providers can have the flexibility to choose what contexts might be appropriate rather than to have them prescribed.
• We have deliberately not woven into this grid any specific reference to current church commitments. This is not because they are unimportant but because we don’t want this layer to become dated or weighed down. Such commitments we hope are implicit in this evidence grid and IME 1 providers can make them explicit in their use of the Formation Curriculum grid
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Priest</strong></th>
<th><strong>Christ</strong></th>
<th><strong>Church</strong></th>
<th><strong>World</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Love for God</strong>&lt;br&gt;The candidate…</td>
<td>Is reliant on God - Father, Son and Holy Spirit - and lives out an infectious, life-transforming faith</td>
<td>Is rooted in Scripture, the worship of the Church and the living traditions of faith</td>
<td>Whole-heartedly, generously and attractively engages with God’s world</td>
<td>Is prayerful and studies the Bible</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Call to Ministry</strong>&lt;br&gt;The candidate…</td>
<td>Responds to the call of Christ to be a disciple</td>
<td>Understands the distinctive nature of ordained priestly ministry</td>
<td>Is committed to being a public and representative person</td>
<td>Articulates an inner sense of call grounded in priestly service</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Love for People</strong>&lt;br&gt;The candidate…</td>
<td>Welcomes Christ in others, listens, values and respects; cares for those in poverty and the marginalised</td>
<td>Builds relationships which are collaborative and enabling</td>
<td>Shows God’s compassion for the world</td>
<td>Has empathy and is aware of how others receive them</td>
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<td><strong>Wisdom</strong>&lt;br&gt;The candidate…</td>
<td>Is inquisitive, curious and open to new and lifelong learning</td>
<td>Shows leadership that enables thriving and healthy churches, handles conflict, and can lead in mission</td>
<td>Is robust and courageous and prepared to take risks</td>
<td>Is a mature and integrated person of stability and integrity</td>
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<td><strong>Fruitfulness</strong>&lt;br&gt;The candidate…</td>
<td>Embraces the different and enables others to be witnesses and servants</td>
<td>Shows the capacity to exercise sacramental, liturgical and an effective and enabling teaching ministry</td>
<td>Shares faith in Christ and can accompany others in their faith</td>
<td>Has resilience and stamina</td>
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<td><strong>Potential</strong>&lt;br&gt;The candidate has potential to…</td>
<td>Grow in faith and be open to navigating the future in the company of Christ and guided by the Holy Spirit</td>
<td>Manage change, and see the big picture</td>
<td>See where God is working in the world and respond with missionary imagination</td>
<td>Be adaptable and agile</td>
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<td><strong>Trustworthiness</strong>&lt;br&gt;The candidate…</td>
<td>Follows Christ in every part of their life</td>
<td>Leads maturely which promotes safe and harmonious Christian communities</td>
<td>Lives out their life as a representative of God’s people</td>
<td>Has a high-degree of self awareness</td>
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<td>Priest Diaconal ordination</td>
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<td>Incumbent</td>
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<td><strong>Love for God</strong></td>
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<td>Is reliant on God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit - and lives out an infectious, life-transforming faith</td>
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<td>Whole-heartedly, generously and attractively engages with God’s world</td>
<td>Is prayerful and studies the Bible</td>
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<tr>
<td>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</td>
<td>1. Shows a love for scripture and is learning to inhabit the diverse living tradition of its interpretation more deeply, drawing on that inheritance in different contexts and especially in their preaching</td>
<td>1. Is developing skills in drawing on the resources of scripture and theology to explore ethical issues, in their own lives, in the local community, and in the wider world</td>
<td>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</td>
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<td>2. Is growing in Christlike character in daily living for example in love, humility, patience, prayerfulness, and obedience</td>
<td>2. Can understand and engage with Christian beliefs and practices as they have developed across a range of contexts, including engaging with marginalised voices, to enable them to interpret that tradition today</td>
<td>2. Is developing skills in articulating responsibly God’s saving purpose for creation and humanity in the context of major issues facing the world and the local community</td>
<td>2. Is committed to the Daily Office or other forms of public daily prayer</td>
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<td>3. Has a well-developed pattern of life shaped on four foundational texts (Jesus’ summary of the law; the Lord’s Prayer; the Apostles’ creed; the Beatitudes)</td>
<td>3. Participates in a worshipping community and can make connections between this community and the history of liturgical belief and practice</td>
<td>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</td>
<td>3. Can engage 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</td>
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<td>4. Can describe how their faith is maturing through IME 1</td>
<td>4. Demonstrates the ability to apply the Bible and the tradition of faith in its catholicity, to specific issues in the contemporary church and society</td>
<td>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</td>
<td>4. Is committed to the study of scripture and theology as a resource for their ministry</td>
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<td>5. Demonstrates willingness to shape their life in response to the church’s tradition of faith in specific ways</td>
<td>5. Is actively engaged with and has a capacity to inspire others to be engaged with issues of justice, peace and the integrity of creation</td>
<td>5. Is able to show how the study of scripture has deepened their personal engagement with the Bible and the growth of their faith</td>
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### Call to Ministry

The ordinand... responds to the call of Christ to be a disciple.

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<td><strong>Call to Ministry</strong></td>
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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 IME 1, and describe its impact in daily decision-making
3. Can tell a story of personal growth in discipleship during training

| **1.** Is committed to their own growth as a disciple and to forming new disciples | **1.** Understands the practices of their own tradition within the Church of England and is able to engage generously and respectfully with those whose tradition and practice are different | **1.** Is developing an informed appreciation of the representative role of a minister in the Church of England and has had experience of practising this across a limited range of public settings | **1.** Can speak of the joys and challenges of ministry, and the way in which ministerial formation has promoted their flourishing and their developing relationship with Christ, whilst being able to speak honestly when this has been hard |

| **2.** Can speak about the call of Christ on their life (and that of their household) as it is emerging in IME 1, and describe its impact in daily decision-making | **2.** Can engage with the living tradition and breadth of ministries in the church and articulate the theological underpinnings of these ministries | **2.** Is developing the skills to communicate the hope of the gospel afresh to a wide audience | **2.** Continues to discern the call of God on their life and to develop an understanding of what being a priest will entail in the future |

| **3.** Can tell a story of personal growth in discipleship during training | **3.** Can articulate the emerging shape of their ministry and the way they are being formed as a priest during IME 1 | **3.** Is developing the understanding and skills needed to manage themselves and their family relationships in the context of the gifts and pressures of public ministry | **3.** 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 they can expect as they face it |

| **4.** Is developing in capacity to discern and foster the gifts of God’s people as | | | |
part of a commitment to the whole people of God

5. Understands the ongoing conversation around the history, diversity and contemporary challenges of the Church of England and the Anglican Communion and is willing to engage in it

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<td>Love for People The ordinand...</td>
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<td>Welcomes Christ in others, listens, values and respects; cares for those in poverty and the marginalised</td>
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<tr>
<td>1. Is developing empathy and wisdom in pastoral relationships so that they may learn from the diversity of God’s people</td>
<td>1. Demonstrates good listening skills in relationships with those inside and outside the church, including their own peers</td>
<td>1. Is evidencing a capacity to engage compassionately with people in the wider world that shows an ability to put people at their ease</td>
<td>1. Is aware of how others see them and of the need to manage expectations appropriately in ministry</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Can build healthy pastoral relationships which go beyond the superficial whilst respecting boundaries</td>
<td>2. Can build professional and trusting relationships with colleagues within IME contexts that enable mutual respect, flourishing and learning</td>
<td>2. Can share their faith in a specific act of missional engagement, and articulate how they might enable others to engage in mission in thought, prayer and action</td>
<td>2. Is growing in self-awareness and an ability to reflect on their strengths and vulnerabilities with honesty and openness</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Can understand and articulate the importance of safeguarding and knows what good practice in managing the care of children and vulnerable adults looks like</td>
<td>3. Can engage in reflective practice and show they have learnt from a range of pastoral and professional relationships</td>
<td>3. Evidences the desire and ability to work for peace and reconciliation in the world</td>
<td>3. Shows maturity and resilience in balancing the demands of formation, family and friends, and draws on healthy relationships to support them in the joys and challenges of life</td>
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<td>4. Is alert to the existence of various forms of prejudice, including racism,</td>
<td>4. Is aware that they are part of the worldwide Anglican Communion and</td>
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</table>
4. Demonstrates the disposition to resist evil, support the weak, defend the poor and intercede for the world in the church, and is learning how to challenge them, to support those who suffer from them and to create welcoming environments for all.

5. Is developing skills in enabling others to assume roles of responsibility, in drawing together teams of volunteers, and in mentoring and supervising others.

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<td>1. Is able to reflect alone - and with others - on their experiences in ministerial formation, to articulate what they have learnt and to demonstrate its impact in changed behaviours</td>
<td>1. Can make creative 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</td>
<td>1. Can understand the character (economic, social, cultural) of a context in which they have been placed and can respond in ways that correspond to the <em>misio Dei</em> and the five marks of mission</td>
<td>1. Demonstrates maturity in the relationship with their TEI staff, supervisors and tutors, balancing accountability with personal integrity</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Demonstrates a commitment to life-long learning, whether through academic study, reflective practice, or engagement with their personal development</td>
<td>2. Is developing visionary leadership gifts within a church setting, is able to exercise them with integrity, and can reflect critically on their own leadership preferences and demonstrate flexibility in adapting a leadership style to the context</td>
<td>2. Demonstrates the capacity to reflect for themselves and to act in accordance with their convictions</td>
<td>2. Can accept fair criticism with maturity and respond appropriately, with humility and good grace</td>
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<td>3. Demonstrates a capacity to live with unanswered questions and open-ended situations</td>
<td>3. Is developing leadership gifts within a church setting, is able to exercise them with integrity, and can reflect critically on their own leadership preferences and demonstrate flexibility in adapting a leadership style to the context</td>
<td>3. Is able to articulate their own stance on issues facing society, and to articulate that this is formed by their understanding of Christian faith</td>
<td>3. Can demonstrate the ability to acknowledge and live with their vulnerabilities and to manage strong emotional reactions</td>
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<td>4. Has demonstrated learning in a new and different context which has been outside their comfort zone such as a placement</td>
<td>4. Shows initiative, drive and creativity in implementing growth so as to encourage, enable and develop the leadership of others</td>
<td>4. Is developing qualities of leadership such that they can defend unpopular decisions if needed to</td>
<td>4. Demonstrates integrity in their dealings with others, including those in authority over them</td>
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<td>5. Is developing skills in enabling others to learn, in both informal and formal settings</td>
<td>4. Is developing the capacity to encourage, enable and develop the leadership of others</td>
<td>5. Can gather evidence of where they have seen others take well-judged initiatives in their leadership and respond appropriately</td>
<td>5. Demonstrates the capacity to hold the ring in terms of decision making when the buck stops with them</td>
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<td>Shares faith in Christ and can accompany others in their faith</td>
<td>Has resilience and stamina</td>
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<tr>
<td>1. Demonstrates appreciation of and willingness to engage with the views of others (both within the Church of England and ecumenically) who differ in theological position</td>
<td>1. Can make creative use of scripture and theology to resource their understanding of worship, especially sacramental worship, in its various forms across the breadth of the Church</td>
<td>1. Can speak with confidence and infectious enthusiasm about their own journey of faith and discipleship</td>
<td>1. Is working on a rhythm of life that has space for rest and re-creation</td>
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<td>2. Shows evidence of respectful engagement with the beliefs, practices and spirituality of a world faith community other than Christianity</td>
<td>2. Is developing aptitude in planning services and liturgies which are nurturing, and can lead worship with confidence across a limited range of services and contexts</td>
<td>2. Is able to listen attentively to individuals and the community so that they can discern the presence and activity of the Holy Spirit</td>
<td>2. Understands their own conscious and unconscious bias and has strategies to mitigate them</td>
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<td>3. Gives evidence of developing skills in enabling growth in others’ faith</td>
<td>3. Is developing gifts in preaching drawing on the resources of scripture and theology, and growing in</td>
<td>3. Shows how their IME 1 training is preparing them to encourage others</td>
<td>3. Can tell a story of their capacity to bounce back after disappointment</td>
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</table>

6. Is developing the capacity to learn from difficult conversations and to make any necessary changes to their behaviour as leader or member of a group

7. Is developing the ability to read and respond to power relationships in a group

5. This not needed for assistant level responsibilities
effectiveness in teaching the faith and discipleship

4. Is developing aptitude in communicating the faith to children and adults and enabling children and adults to grow in faith in their everyday faith, in the school, workplace or family

4. Has had experience of evangelism and mission and can reflect on lessons learned for future leadership, both from activities that were fruitful, and from those that were not, and can speak about how all of this connects to the mission of God

4. Can manage their time, showing the ability to prioritise under pressure

4. Has had experience of evangelism and mission and can reflect on lessons learned, both from activities that were fruitful, and from those that were not, and can speak about how all of this connects to the mission of God

5. Evidences capacity to communicate faith and practice in a new setting, with sensitivity to their audience

5. Understands how children and adults learn and the implications for preparing both for rites of initiation

5. Can manage their time, showing the ability to prioritise under pressure

### Priest Diaconal Ordination Incumbent

- **Christ**
  - Grow in faith and be open to navigating the future in the company of Christ
  - Reflect on their experience in a variety of fields of ministry

- **Church**
  - Manage change, and see the big picture
  - Manage their own and others’ use of authority, responding appropriately to the dynamics operating within the local church

- **World**
  - See where God is working in the world and respond with missionary imagination
  - Discern the presence and activity of God in situations

- **Self**
  - Be adaptable and agile
  - Assess their own personality, strengths and weaknesses,
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<tr>
<td>2. Enter IME 2 with trust and realism and grow into the new opportunities to which ministry will call them to</td>
<td>2. Support both traditional and new Christian communities, showing an appreciation of the role that each can play in the mission of God</td>
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<td>2. Be an articulate apologist for and interpreter of the faith in the public arena</td>
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<td>2. Be an effective communicator of faith in the public arena</td>
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<td>2. Enable with others the church’s mission and evangelism in contexts where it has little presence</td>
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<td>3. Enable and inspire others to grow in faith and discipleship</td>
<td>3. Identify where there needs to be change in the life of a church community, reflect on the implications for themselves and to have the negotiation skills to manage change effectively</td>
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<td>3. Enable and lead the church’s mission and evangelism in contexts where it has little presence</td>
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<td>3. Grow in self-awareness as a reflective practitioner, able to change their mind in the light of experience and practice</td>
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<td>4. Pursue, in partnership with others, new opportunities for being the church, evaluating wisely the risks involved while being appropriately courageous</td>
<td>4. Make good use of social media in mission</td>
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<td>4. Face the challenges of ministry, including its disappointments, with equanimity</td>
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<tr>
<td>Priest Diaconal Ordination Incumbent</td>
<td>Christ</td>
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<td>Trustworthiness</td>
<td>Follows Christ in every part of their life</td>
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<td>1. 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)</td>
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<td>2. Is able to accept the holy scriptures as revealing all things necessary for eternal salvation through faith in Jesus Christ</td>
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<td>3. Has demonstrated personal, ministerial and scholarly integrity in fulfilling the requirements of their training</td>
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<td>5. Can understand and articulate the importance of safeguarding and knows what good practice in managing the care of children and vulnerable adults looks like</td>
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<td>6. Has an awareness of the knowledge and skills that are required to fulfil the legal and administrative responsibilities of an ordained minister</td>
<td>6. Demonstrates understanding of the Church’s Fitness to Practice Framework and how this affects ongoing ministry</td>
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<td>7. Has a willingness to engage with the vision and values of the diocese in which they will be placed</td>
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<td>8. Demonstrates the capacity to be a charity trustee</td>
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