

# Evangelism

## Co-ordinator

David John Battrick BSG, Director of School and Diocesan Ministry Development Officer

## Overall Aim

This Ministry Skills Stream aims to help participants to (1) engage as evangelists in training, and (2) as people who can act within the life of the Anglican Church as catalysts for evangelism and as leaders of local evangelism projects.

## Learning Goals

On completion of this Ministry Skills Stream participants will be able to:

### A. As an evangelist:

- Outline their own journey of faith in such a way that it commends faith in Jesus Christ and a life within the Church to others;
- Provide an account of some of the key areas of Christian believing, and (1) be able to describe some objections from others to Christian faith, (2) be able to offer some responses to the objections;
- Name some of the resources available to assist them in their work of evangelism.

### B. As a catalyst for, and leader of local evangelism:

- Describe some understandings from the breadth of approaches to mission and evangelism in the Anglican Church;
- Describe a range of evangelistic methods, and evaluate the appropriateness of different methods in different situations;
- Develop strategies for commending the work of evangelism to members of the parish;
- Develop a realistic and focused evangelistic project suitable for their local parish.

## Dates of Stream

Saturdays: 9<sup>th</sup> April, 30<sup>th</sup> July and 19<sup>th</sup> November at Bishop Tyrrell Anglican College. Please check the NSTM website for further information and the programme for each day at [www.schooloftheology.net](http://www.schooloftheology.net)

## Successfully Completing Your Ministry Skills Stream

In order to successfully complete this ministry skills stream, you will be required to:

- attend all sessions throughout the programme, or have received permission to be absent from one session only prior to the session taking place, and satisfied the stream leader that aspects covered in that session have been studied in another form;
- actively participate as required in sessions;
- submit the assessed task on the date on which it is due.

## Topics

The topics to be covered in the nine sessions will include:

- Anglican understandings of mission and evangelism;
- Key areas of Christian believing;
- Contemporary objections to faith;
- Sharing faith through personal story;
- Strategies, approaches and processes to local evangelism;
- Examples of practical evangelism;
- Fresh Expressions of Church: opportunities and objections;
- Evangelistic resources.

The content in the second and third days will be developed in response to the needs articulated by group members during the first day.

## Assessed Task

Participants will be required to complete two assessed tasks:

1. On 30<sup>th</sup> July each participant will speak to the group for no more than 5 minutes (and no less than 4 minutes), outlining their own journey of faith in such a way that it commends faith in Jesus Christ and a life within the Church to others.

Whilst this is not a role play exercise, participants will be asked to imagine that the group to whom they are presenting are not members of the Church. Participants will therefore need to be very careful about the language that they use.

The level of personal sharing in this exercise is to be determined by each of the participants as they prepare for the task, but should not disclose at an inappropriate level. Participants are reminded that the object of the task is to commend faith and not simply to share their own personal experiences.

This is an individual exercise and participants should not plan to make a joint presentation with anyone else in the group.

2. On 19<sup>th</sup> November each participant will present to the group a proposal for an evangelistic project in their own parish, for no more than 5 minutes (and no less than 4 minutes).

Participants will be expected to describe the project (its aims/intentions, core features, timeframe and cost), outline the process that has been designed, discuss which groups are being intentionally targeted by the project with reference to the context of the participants' parish, describe the follow-up that will be offered afterwards, and identify the training that will be required for parishioners who will participate as members of the team.

Whilst participants will not be required to undertake the project unless they wish to do so, the project should be achievable in their local parish.

Participants may choose to work in a group with up to two other participants or to work on their own. If participants choose to work in a group their presentation should last no more than 5 minutes multiplied by the number of participants in the group (and no less than four minutes multiplied by the number of participants in the group).

## Bibliography

### Mission Studies

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| Bloom, Myer                            | 2007 | Does God Live in the Suburbs? What Ordinary People Believe<br>Briar Hill, Victoria: Indra Publishing   |
| Bosch, David J.                        | 2007 | Transforming Mission:<br>Paradigm Shifts in Theology of Mission<br>Maryknoll, New York: Orbis Books  |
| Donovan, Vincent J.                    | 1982 | Christianity Rediscovered<br>London: SCM Press   |
| Nussbaum, Stan                         | 2005 | A Reader's Guide to Transforming Mission:<br>A Concise, Accessible Companion to David Bosch's Classic Book<br>Maryknoll, New York: Orbis Books |
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| Vinay, Samuel &<br>Sugden, Chris (Ed.) | 1999 | Mission as Transformation:<br>A Theology of the Whole Gospel<br>Regnum Books International   |

### Evangelistic Method

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| Copely, Bob Moffett &<br>Smith, Jim | 1984 | A Guide to Evangelism<br>Basingstoke, Hants: Marshalls Paperbacks   |
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| Cray, Graham (ed.) | 2004 | Mission-Shaped Church:<br>Church Planting and Fresh Expressions of Church in a Changing Context<br>London: Church House Publishing |
| Drane, John        | 2000 | The McDonaldization of the Church: Spirituality, Creativity and the Future of the Church<br>London: Darton, Longman and Todd Ltd.  |

### **Fresh Expressions of Church**

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|--|------|--|
| Cray, Graham, Mobsby, Ian & Kennedy, Aaron (Ed.) | 2010 | Ancient Faith, Future Mission:<br>New Monasticism as Fresh Expression of Church<br>London: Canterbury Press              |
| Croft, Stephen & Mobsby, Ian (Ed.)               | 2009 | Ancient Faith, Future Mission:<br>Fresh Expressions in the Sacramental Tradition<br>London: Canterbury Press             |
| Croft, Stephen (Ed.)                             | 2008 | Mission-Shaped Questions:<br>Defining Issues for Today's Church<br>London: Church House Publishing                       |
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| Ward, Pete                                       | 2002 | Liquid Church:<br>A Bold Vision of How to be God's People in Worship and Mission - a Flexible, Fluid Way of Being Church |

### **Contemporary Reflections on Mission**

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| Jackson, Bob         | 2005 | The Road to Growth: Towards a Thriving Church<br>London: Church House Publishing                        |
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### **Understanding Christian Believing**

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| Thompson, Jim   | 1997 | Why God? Thinking Through Faith<br>London: Mowbray Publishing                               |
| Williams, Rowan | 2007 | Tokens of Trust:<br>An Introduction to Christian Belief<br>London: Canterbury Press Norwich |

### **Illustrations of Objections to Faith**

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