**SERMON ASSSESSMENT**

*(2025-26 version)*

***Preaching is….***

**‘Discovering the word of the Lord from the Bible, for this group of people, at this particular time, and then delivering that word in the power of the Spirit, in ways that people can understand, so that they can respond in worship and service.’**

*Set out in Peter K. Stevenson, SCM Studyguide to Preaching (SCM Press, 2017), p. 19*

**The Anglican Diocese of Leeds’ Vision for LLMs is for them to be:**

Teachers of the Faith, Enablers of Mission and Leaders in Church & Society. The gaining of biblical and doctrinal knowledge, together with the development of their preaching, contributes to 60% of their initial two years of ministerial formation and development.

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| --- | --- |
| **Name of LLM Trainee** |  |
| **Name of Assessor** |  |
| **Location of Service** |  |
| **Time and Type of Service** |  |
| **Date of Sermon** |  |
| **Bible Readings** |  |

1. **In one sentence, please write down what the sermon/talk was about.**
2. **Overall, did the sermon make an impact on your:** *(Please* *indicate which answers apply*)
   * Mind (you learned something or understood it better) Yes / No
   * Heart (your emotions were touched by it) Yes / No
   * Will (you feel challenged to do something as a result of hearing it) Yes / No

**3.** **Did the preacher make good use of one or more of the Bible readings? How effective was their interpretation of Scripture?**

**4. Did the sermon:** *(Please write YES in one box for each question)*

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Well** | **Fairly Well** | **Not So Well** |
| 1. Grab your attention at the start? |  |  |  |
| 1. Hold your interest throughout? |  |  |  |
| 1. Feel appropriate to the context and congregation? (e.g. in the words used, the way it was presented) |  |  |  |
| 1. Sound well structured, with a clear wrap-up? |  |  |  |
| 1. Leave you with a sense of having heard something of God’s wisdom for your own life? |  |  |  |

**5. Please offer any comments on the way the preacher delivered the sermon, including, if relevant**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | **Brief comments:** |
| *eye-contact and body-language* |  |
| *audibility (volume and pace)* |  |
| *use of voice (variable / appropriate tone)* |  |
| *use of technology* |  |
| *use of illustrations, examples* |  |
| *use of humour* |  |
| *time taken (too long? too short? just right?) anything else* |  |

**6. What one thing would you like to encourage the preacher to work on developing or to do differently?**

**7. What one thing would you like to encourage the preacher to keep doing as they are?**

**8. What was the most positive thing for you about hearing this sermon?**

**9. Is there anything else you would like to add?**

**LLM Candidate Declaration**

*“I have read through this feedback and discussed it with my sermon assessor.”*

**E Signature:** **Date:**

*Once signed, please return to your sermon assessor for onward distribution. Thank you.*

**NOTES FOR SERMON ASSESSORS**

* The ministry of the Word is perhaps the most important aspect of Licensed Lay Ministry and a key part of the Leeds diocesan vision for LLMs (see boxed statement at the start of this assessment form). During Licensed Lay Ministry training it is important that LLM Trainees be given opportunity to preach, usually in their own parish, but occasionally in other contexts.
* Over the course of the (usually) two year training period it is hoped that each LLM Trainee will have six sermons formally assessed (approx. one per term).
* Assessors:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Term** | **Year 1** | **Year2** |
| Autumn | Training Incumbent | External Assessor |
| Spring | Training Incumbent or Placement Host | Training Incumbent or Placement Host |
| Summer | Training Incumbent | Training Incumbent |

* In addition, it is expected that they will receive encouragement from their home congregation. *Optional:* Members of a congregation could be given this assessment form to use informally – no need to send in to the LLM Administrator.

**Sermon Assessors** are asked to fill in this assessment form electronically within 5 days and email it to the LLM Trainee. Arrange a time to discuss/confirm, by phone/zoom, that your written assessment reflects your post-sermon feedback. Ask the Trainee to e-sign the declaration at the end of the form and return it to you. Once signed, please return it to the following people:

* LLM Trainee’s Hub Coordinating Formational Mentor (CFM)
  + Bingley Hub: Anthea Foy (LLM) [anthea.foy@leeds.anglican.org](mailto:anthea.foy@leeds.anglican.org)
  + Mirfield Hub: Rev’d Angela Dick [angedix110@hotmail.com](mailto:angedix110@hotmail.com)
* Ministerial Development Administrator (for filing in their student record) [jess.fort@leeds.anglican.org](mailto:jess.fort@leeds.anglican.org)
* Training Incumbent / Supervisor – ask LLM Trainee for contact details

The questions on the template are for your guidance - do not feel you must follow them slavishly but please be mindful of them.

**Please offer the LLM Trainee some feedback immediately after the sermon.** 10 to 15 minutes will normally suffice and please major on the good points – be an encourager!

Your written assessment should reflect your verbal comments, so you should talk through areas for improvement too. If a sermon is in your opinion particularly weak, don’t feel that you must comment on everything – just concentrate on what you perceive to be the one or two main points. There will be later opportunities to pick up other issues.

If you think your LLM Trainee needs particular help with preaching, please let their CFM know.

**Thank you for your contribution to LLM training.**