



"The health of any Church can generally be inferred from the vibrancy of its worship and the reality of its message, and in both of these regards, the ministry of Readers makes a vital contribution. CITI is delighted to be associated with this exciting new expression of training for those who are called in this important way."

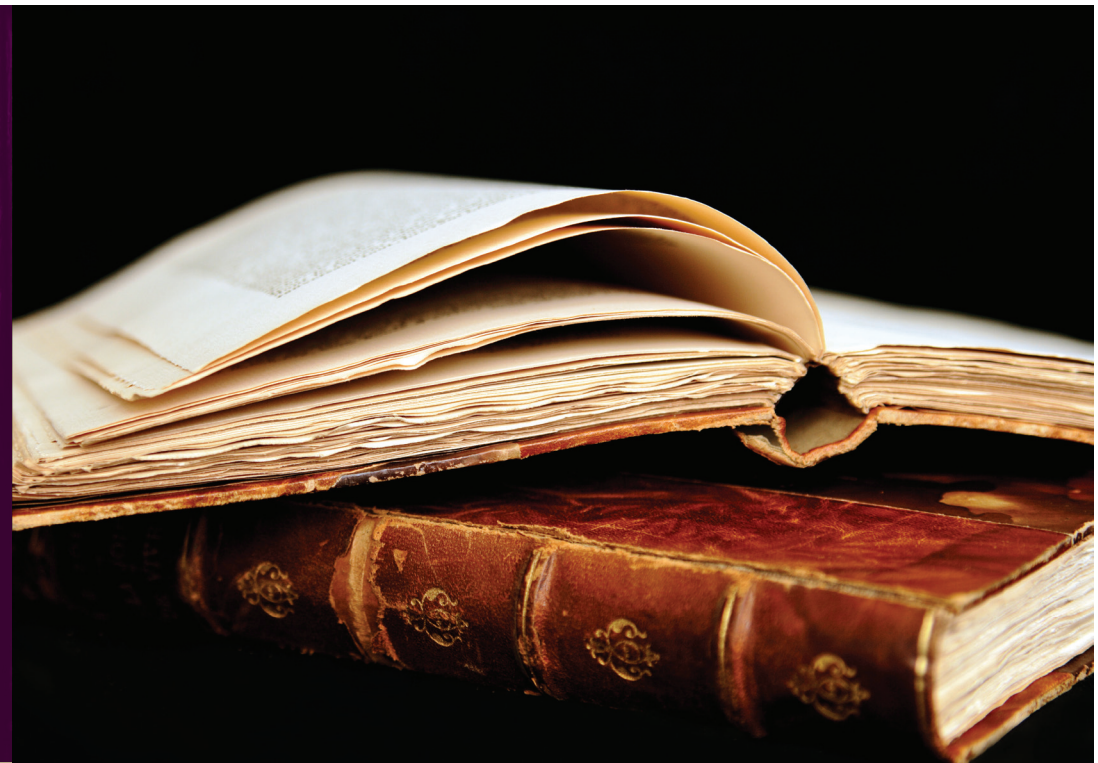
Reverend Dr Maurice Elliott  
Director, Church of Ireland  
Theological Institute



"Ministry in the 21st century is demanding and stretching. Discernment in selection and excellence in training are top priorities for any expression of ministry, not least Reader Ministry in the Church of Ireland. This new course and model of training will equip readers for fruitful ministry and effective service. I warmly commend this initiative."

The Right Reverend Kenneth Clarke  
Bishop of Kilmore, Elphin and Ardagh  
Church of Ireland

Church of Ireland  
Theological Institute



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Church of Ireland  
Theological Institute

# Readers' Course

Spring 2012



# Structure of the Reader's Course Training

## PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATE IN MINISTRY

Module 1 - **Ministry and Mission** - March 2012 - October 2012

Module 2 - **Biblical Studies** - October 2012 - June 2013

Module 3 - **Matrix of Christian Belief** - June 2013 - March 2014

These modules will be taught by a combination of distance learning and through contact hours in the Day Conferences.

## FORMATION FOR MINISTRY

The other subjects, **Homiletics, Liturgy, Church History** and **Spirituality**, will be delivered through the Day Conferences only and supplemented locally.

## INTRODUCTORY WEEKEND

2 - 4 March 2012

## DAY CONFERENCES

9 June 2012

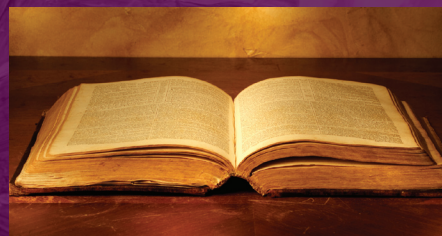
13 October 2012

9 February 2013

8 June 2013

12 October 2013

8 February 2014



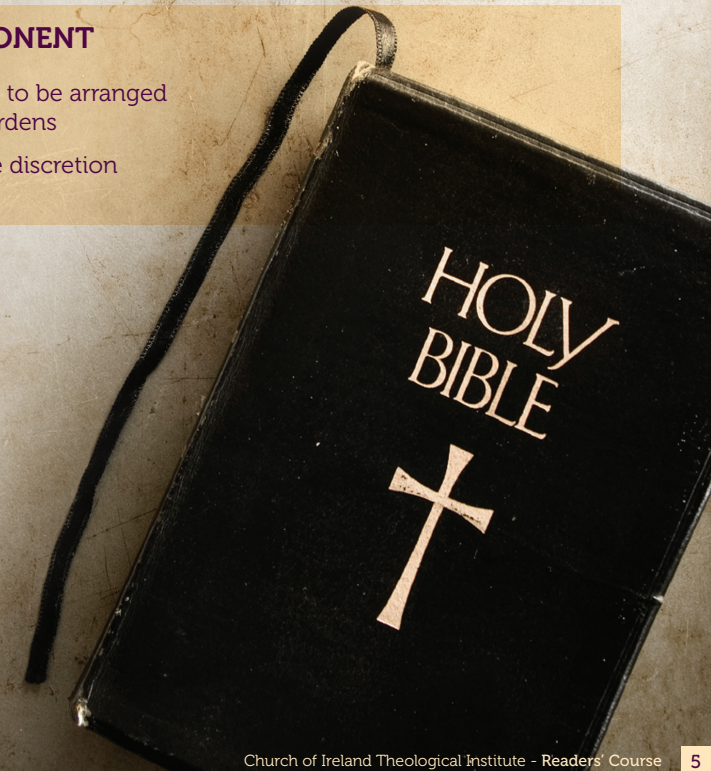
## TEMPLATE FOR THE 6 DAY CONFERENCES:

Timetable	Subjects	Assessed Work
9.30 - 10.30	Spirituality	One piece of reflective writing in each year
11.00 - 12.30	Professional Certificate Teaching related to subjects	Assignments completed through St. John's Nottingham
1.30 - 2.30	Homiletics	Assignments and Practical Work completed through CITI
2.45 - 3.45	Liturgy	Assignments and Practical Work completed through CITI
4.15 - 5.15	Church History	Assignments and Practical Work completed through CITI
5.30	Chapel	Attendance and Participation
6.00	Dinner	

## DIOCESAN COMPONENT

Monthly tutorial input - to be arranged locally by Diocesan Wardens

Practical sessions at the discretion of the local diocese



# Application form

## FOR CANDIDATE READER (DIOCESAN)

PART 1

CHURCH OF IRELAND

DIOCESE OF .....

Full name: .....

Address: .....

Tel: ..... Email: .....

Date of birth: ..... Occupation: .....

When and where confirmed? .....

How often do you receive Holy Communion? .....

Details of education - school(s), college, qualifications, etc: .....

Have you previously made any special study of the Christian faith? .....

Name of the parish where you attend: .....

Do you or have you previously served in a church or held office in a church?  
Please give details: .....

How long have you been thinking about becoming a Reader? .....

Please state briefly your reasons for desiring to become a Reader in the Church  
of Ireland: .....

In regard to selection for training the following necessary Reader characteristics have been identified:

### SPIRITUALITY

A disciplined devotional life which includes prayer and scripture reading.

### THEOLOGICAL REFLECTION

A willingness to engage with scripture, tradition, faith and experience.  
A person should have the intellectual ability to undertake theological study.

### PASTORAL SENSITIVITY

A compassion for people and the ability to be able to relate to people.  
An ability to sustain relationships and openness to others. The support and understanding of family and friends. Rooted in a local context and community.

### LEADERSHIP

To have served in some form of leadership in the local context.

### WORSHIP AND PREACHING

To recognise the strengths and weaknesses of preaching they have experienced. To recognise the importance of word and sacrament.

### WORSHIP AND LITURGY

To have experience of Church of Ireland liturgy and worship. Have participated regularly in Holy Communion and have a disciplined corporate devotional life.

### COMMUNICATING THE FAITH

To reflect upon how they discovered, learnt and came to appropriate faith.  
To recognise the priority and importance of communicating the faith clearly and consistently in word and deed.

### VOCATION

An awareness of a call to Reader ministry and a recognition of the tension evident in vocation between reluctance and willingness. A willingness to explore this call and seek the discernment of the wider church.