**Come & C 5 Marks Challenge**

**YEAR OF COME&C**

**DUBLIN AND GLENDALOUGH**

**2015-2016**

**Come & C 5 Marks Challenge**

The Come & C 5 Marks Challengeis a discipleship programme based on individuals completing activities or ‘challenges’ relating to one or more of the Five Marks of Mission of the Anglican Communion. It is linked to the year of Come & C in the diocese and it is designed to affirm different discipleship activities within the diocese and to encourage a deeper reflection on discipleship.

The idea of the Come& C 5 Marks Challengewas inspired by the example of Gaisce (the President’s Awards). To receive a Gaisce award, a recipient most engage in a combination of learning or service activities over a sustained period of time. The Come& C 5 Marks Challenge is based on the idea of recipients being engaged in some form of discipleship, but more important, reflecting on that experience in the light of God’s call to us to “Come and See” and to “Follow Me”. The criteria for each award reflect a strong emphasis on reflection.

**THERE ARE FIVE DIFFERENT CHALLENGES.**

On completion of a challenge, the participant is awarded with a ribbon pin from the Archbishop. The colour of the ribbon relates to each Mark. The Blue ribbon relates to the first Mark of Mission Tell - To Proclaim God’s Kingdom. The Yellow ribbon is for the second Mark of Mission Teach – To Teach, Baptise and Nurture. The Red ribbon is Tend - To Respond to Human Need. The Purple ribbon is Transform – To Transform Unjust Structures and the final Green ribbon is Treasure - To Safeguard Creation.

1. **BLUE CHALLENGE. Mark of Mission #1 To proclaim God’s Kingdom. (TELL)**

**Criteria for the recipient**

* Undertakes reflection on their own call to discipleship as a specific task.
* Shows an appreciation of what it means to be called, to answer the call “follow me”, to try to be “the light of the world” or the “salt of the earth”.
* TELLS this experience by either writing a short reflection linking a scripture passage with some event in their own life, or by witnessing to their call in a group sharing or in some public forum.

**Sample activities**

* To carry out the exercise in the Come&C reflection booklet for Mark of Mission #1 with a focus either on oneself or the parish.
* To choose another Scripture passage (e.g. from the Old Testament with the call of a prophet) or a Psalm reflecting on God’s call and reflect on its meaning.
* To reflect on an event when the recipient tried to share a faith experience with someone else – either successfully or unsuccessfully, and what they learned from the experience.
* To study some aspect of the Church tradition, either in the Creed, the history of the local parish or the diocese, the Church Calendar, and to write a short reflection on what this might mean for inspiring or deepening discipleship.
* Attend an ecumenical service during the Week of Christian Unity and reflect on the readings, hymns, etc. in the light of the call to discipleship.
* Recall an incident when you were challenged to explain your faith to someone else – what you did and how you felt about it
* To choose a scripture passage about discipleship and to write a prayer (collect or series of petitions) as a response to that passage.

**Evidence to be presented.**

* Reflection document of about 500 words by a person applying for the award.
* A citation of discipleship activity linked to a gospel passage presented by nominator and some indication that the nominee is willing to accept the award.
1. **YELLOW CHALLENGE. Mark of Mission #2. To teach, baptize and nurture. (TEACH)**

**Criteria for Recipient.**

* TEACHES others by being involved in some activity linked to the Church where they guide others to a deeper understanding of their own humanity as a basis for developing a faith perspective in their lives. This activity involved a commitment of at least three different sessions.
* Shows some understanding of this activity as part of discipleship.

**Sample Activities**

* Acts as a Youth Leader (a) in a parish group or (b) a summer camp.
* Is involved in a ministry linked to preparation of parents and sponsors for Baptism, Sunday ministry with children, adult catechesis.
* Does voluntary work in the Church as a reader, greeter, etc. to create an atmosphere in which others can learn.
* Is part of a study group which lasted for three or more nights where people take turns in presenting material. The individual presents material on at least one night and responds to others on two nights.
* Intentionally brings faith issues to bear on what might be regarded as secular work by others. This might involve a focused ethical dimension to work, or the practice of auditing the gospel values underlying decisions made.
* Is involved in the design and delivery of some faith teaching programme in the parish. Even though not involved in the actual teaching process, they have reflected on how to communicate the message and contributed to the design.
* Carry out the reflection on Mark of Mission #2 in the Come&C booklet or do one of the activities outlined in that section.

**Evidence to be presented.**

* A testimonial from some others of the individual’s engagement in at least three sessions (some sustained commitment).
* A short statement from the individual (a) describing the activity (about 200 words) and (b) how they saw this activity as ministry OR what they saw as the impact of their activity on others (about 200 words).
* For individuals being nominated for the award, the citation should outline the activities engaged in, the extent of the engagement and the impact of that engagement on others.

**COMBINED BLUE AND YELLOW CHALLENGE**

An individual might apply for a combined Blue and Yellow award by offering an extended reflection on their activity for the Yellow award, which would incorporate some reflection from the Blue award incorporating why they got involved in this activity and the effect it has on their own faith life. This might take the form of a witness to a link with scripture or their approach to prayer. It could also involve a plan for developing discipleship by outline hopes for future involvement and growth.

1. **RED CHALLENGE. Mark of Mission #3. To respond to human need. (TEND)**

**Criteria for Recipient.**

* TENDED to the human needs in others by being involved in some activity to help alleviate suffering and distress or to bring healing to broken relationships. This activity involved a commitment of at least three different sessions.
* Shows some understanding of this activity as part of discipleship.

**Sample Activities**

* Involvement in outreach activities with the Parish or with other social action groups (the Samaritans, Focus Ireland, etc).
* Volunteering in a soup kitchen or other such activity. Visiting people in hospital or those who are shut-in as part of a parish link.
* Mobilising others to raise funds in a response to human need – where the engagement was not just a one-off appeal but involved making people aware of the need and explaining how people might benefit from it.
* Carry out the reflection on Mark of Mission #3 in the Come&C booklet and apply the reflection to some engagement in the past.

**Evidence to be presented.**

* A testimonial from some others of the individual’s engagement in at least three sessions (some sustained commitment).
* A short statement from the individual (a) describing the activity (about 200 words) and (b) how they saw this activity as ministry OR what they saw as the impact of their activity on others (about 200 words).
* For individuals being nominated for the award, the citation should outline the human need addressed, the activities engaged in, the extent of the engagement and the impact of that engagement on others.

**COMBINED BLUE AND RED CHALLENGE**

An individual might apply for a combined Blue and Red award by offering an extended reflection on their activity for the Red award, which would incorporate some reflection from the Blue award detailing why they got involved in this activity and the effect it has on their own faith life. This might take the form of a witness to a link with scripture or their approach to prayer. It could also involve a plan for developing discipleship by outline hopes for future involvement and growth.

1. **PURPLE CHALLENGE. Mark of Mission #4. To transform unjust structures (TRANSFORM)**

**Criteria for Recipient.**

* Has shown a commitment to trying to understand the root causes of inequality within a community or a society and has sought to challenge unjust structures or to create new structures to deal with injustice. Has sought to TRANSFORM the life of those in need.
* Shows some understanding of this activity as part of discipleship.

**Sample Activities**

* To undertake a study of a particular crisis area in order to understand the forces of light and darkness at work, with a view to a decision on how best to promote resolution and reconciliation.
* To forge links with other groups who are working directly on situations of injustice with a view to supporting them and sustaining them in their work.
* To develop a resource that helps communicate the real plight of people suffering injustice and a way of supporting them towards a long-term solution
* To mobilise political awareness or activity about some issue of injustice (writing letters to newspapers, TD, etc), highlighting a possible positive intervention.
* Carry out the reflection on Mark of Mission #4 in the Come&C booklet and apply the reflection to some engagement in the past.

**Evidence to be presented.**

* A testimonial from some others or some other evidence of the individual’s engagement over the period of about one month (some sustained commitment).
* A short statement from the individual (a) describing the activity (about 200 words) and (b) how they saw this activity as ministry OR what they saw as the impact of their activity on others (about 200 words).
* For individuals being nominated for the award, the citation should outline the experience of injustice being addressed, the structures that were seen as contributing to that experience, the activities engaged in, the extent of the engagement and the impact of that engagement on others.

**COMBINED BLUE AND PURPLE CHALLENGE**

An individual might apply for a combined Blue and Purple award by offering an extended reflection on their activity for the Purple award, which would incorporate some reflection from the Blue award detailing why they got involved in this activity and the effect it has on their own faith life. This might take the form of a witness to a link with scripture or their approach to prayer. It could also involve a plan for developing discipleship by outline hopes for future involvement and growth.

1. **GREEN CHALLENGE. Mark of Mission #5. To safeguard creation. (TREASURE)**

**Criteria for Recipient.**

* Has shown a commitment to TREASURE creation by involvement in some project that builds up and celebrates creation or that tries to heal an area of creation that has been damaged or destroyed.
* Shows some understanding of this activity as part of discipleship.

**Sample Activities**

* Take part in some pilgrimage experience – Croagh Patrick in Mayo, Camino in Spain, Camino de Glendalough, visit five historic churches in Heritage Week, as a way of exploring and developing a relationship with creation.
* Involvement in some ecological project over a period of time. This might be Tidy Towns, a natural Garden Project, a recycling programme (akin to the Green Flag system for schools)
* Volunteering in some project to deal with damaged creation – clear up.
* Mobilise others to awareness or raise funds in a response to human need arising from ecological issues such as famine, floods, etc. – where the engagement was not just a one-off appeal but involved making people aware of the need and explaining how people might benefit from it.
* Carry out the reflection on Mark of Mission #5 in the Come&C booklet and apply the reflection to some engagement in the past.

**Evidence to be presented.**

* A testimonial from some others of the individual’s engagement (some sustained commitment).
* A short statement from the individual (a) describing the activity (about 200 words) and (b) how they saw this activity as ministry OR what they saw as the impact of their activity on others (about 200 words).
* For individuals being nominated for the award, the citation should outline the activities engaged in, the extent of the engagement and the impact of that engagement on others.

**COMBINED BLUE AND GREEN CHALLENGE**

An individual might apply for a combined Blue and Green award by offering an extended reflection on their activity for the Green award, which would incorporate some reflection from the Blue award detailing why they got involved in this activity and the effect it has on their own faith life. This might take the form of a witness to a link with scripture or their approach to prayer. It could also involve a plan for developing discipleship by outline hopes for future involvement and growth.

**APPLYING FOR A CHALLENGE**

1. An individual may apply for the Challenge. The application will state the Challenge they are applying for, and give evidence that they have completed a task related to the Mark of Mission associated with the Challenge. Criteria for the tasks are given below.
2. An individual may be nominated for the Challenge by the Rector of the Parish. The nomination will name a specific Challenge and will outline tasks that the individual has completed which reflect discipleship in the Mark of Mission associated with the Award. The criteria for the tasks are the same as for an individual applying for an award.

An individual may apply for up to five different Challenges. They may opt for one Challenge only, or they may focus their reflection on a combination of different Marks of Mission.

The individual is free to apply for the Challenge in any sequence they want, or to stop after one.

**ELIGIBILITY**

The Come & C 5 Marks Challenge is open to any individual who is currently engaged in Disciple or anyone that would like to become engaged in some form of Discipleship.

The Come & C 5 Marks Challenge is administered by Come & C 5 Marks Challenge Coordinator Caoimhe Leppard.

Individuals who wish to make application should send their application form to 5markschallenge@dublin.anglican.org .

If you have any queries about the suitability of an activity for an award, please e-mail your query to 5markschallenge@dublin.anglican.org .

Nominations for awards should be coordinated at Parish Level by the Rector. If you think someone in your parish deserves an award, please nominate them to the Rector. The Rector will submit nominations from the p­­­­­­­arish to 5markschallenge@dublin.anglican.org .

**RESOURCES**

Participants can use the Come & C Refection Pack to design their own activities. The Come & C Reflection Pack outlines a scriptural approach to each of the five Marks of Mission and gives an approach for reflecting on one of the passages as an individual or in a discussion group. These resources should be regarded as a “starter pack” that can be expanded and developed from the experience of participants. Scripture sources from the Old Testament, the Acts of the Apostles and the New Testament epistles, as well as other material, might be developed.

In describing possible activities in this pack, a number of suggestions are made. The aim is not to limit participation to these activities, but to suggest activities that might stimulate individuals to design a personal project or perhaps to take some regular activity they engage with and to see it in a new light under the lens of the five Marks of Mission.

**APPLICATION FORM**

NAME

ADDRESS

PARISH

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **AWARD** | **Nominated** | **Applying** |
| **BLUE** | **BLUE AWARD. Mark of Mission #1 To proclaim God’s Kingdom. (TELL)** |  |  |
| **YELLOW** | **YELLOW AWARD. Mark of Mission #2. To teach, baptize and nurture. (TEACH)** |  |  |
| **BLUE/****YELLOW** | **COMBINED BLUE AND YELLOW AWARD (TELL BY TEACHING)** |  |  |
| **RED** | **RED AWARD. Mark of Mission #3. To respond to human need. (TEND)** |  |  |
| **BLUE/****RED** | **COMBINED BLUE AND RED AWARD (TELL BY TENDING)** |  |  |
| **PURPLE** | **PURPLE AWARD. Mark of Mission #4. To transform unjust structures (TRANSFORM)** |  |  |
| **BLUE/****PURPLE** | **COMBINED BLUE AND PURPLE AWARD (TELL BY TRANSFORMING)** |  |  |
| **GREEN** | **GREEN AWARD. Mark of Mission #5. To safeguard creation. (TREASURE)** |  |  |
| **BLUE/****GREEN** | **COMBINED BLUE AND GREEN AWARD (TELL BY TREASURING)** |  |  |