**Ministry Journal – Reflective Practice in Ministry  
(Template 1: Pastoral Cycle / ‘Progressive Theological Reflection’)**

*This form is designed to help you reflect systematically on your experience of ministry in order to help integrate learning and practice. It can be printed and used as it is, used as a template on your computer, or adapted to your own needs. Not all the questions will be relevant for every situation.*

*This template is structured on the model of ‘Progressive Theological Reflection’ outlined in Judith Thompson,* SCM Guide to Theological Reflection *(SCM 2008, p 55-56).*

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| **Date / time:** |  | **Place:** |  |
| **The event:** | | | |
| Date / time: Location:  Nature of event:  Describe briefly what happened:  Describe your own role:  How did you feel about the event / your role within it? | | | |
| **What were the main issues / questions which this event raised for you?** | | | |
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| **Building a richer understanding of what happened:** | | | |
| Eg understanding about the context; Understanding from the perspective of others involved or affected; understanding using various disciplines or bodies of knowledge (eg social sciences, psychology) | | | |
| **Building a theological understanding** | | | |
| What insights from the faith tradition (eg from scripture, theological writing, historic tradition) help to build a theological understanding on what happened? How might God see this event as an observer or participant? What difference does it make to see from a faith perspective? | | | |
| **Now return to the original situation** | | | |
| How do these perspectives change your initial understanding of the situation? | | | |
| **Finally ..** | | | |
| What are the implications for future practice? What specifically might you do differently in a similar situation, and why? Is there anything you need to do now? | | | |
| **Any other questions to note or follow up?** | | | | |
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| **Books / resources to note** | | | | |
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| **This reflection relates to the following Formation Criteria:** | | | | |
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