



Diocese of Down and Dromore

EVANGELISTS

**How, then, can they call on
the one they have not
believed in? And how can
they believe in the one of
whom they have not
heard?...**

...And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can anyone preach unless they are sent?

This exciting course is open to adults of any age who have a heart for reaching others with the gospel, but it would suit best those who are currently involved as volunteers or workers in some form of outreach ministry. It is run in collaboration with St. John's College, Nottingham and New Wine Ireland.

The course runs over a period of two years, starting in January 2020 and finishing in December 2021. On average the commitment is 8 to 10 hours per week split between studying/assignments and doing evangelism.

Theological study together with a practical portfolio is undertaken and students who successfully complete will be awarded a **Certificate in Christian Studies**. This consists of 4 prescribed modules (below) and a 5th to be agreed between you and the course facilitator.

Training Weekends

These cover specific themes in evangelism and provide practical opportunities, including preaching.

24 - 25 January 2020 Induction Weekend

A full introduction to the course plus a preaching workshop.

24 - 25 April 2020 Healing Ministry

A practical introduction to healing.

16 - 18 October 2020 Doing Mission

Principles and practicalities of preparing evangelistic events and a full week of mission.

12 - 14 March 2021 Missional Expressions of Church

Taking a fresh look at different expressions of church to reach and transform a community.

21 - 23 May 2021 Ministry in Different religious and Cultural Contexts

Learning from Christians ministering in a cross-cultural setting.

19 - 21 November 2021 Youth and Children

Learning good models of evangelism with children and youth.

New Testament Introduction

This unit covers Jesus' life and message in the Gospels along with Acts and Paul's theology.

Old Testament Introduction

This unit gives a good overview of the Old Testament story and themes.

Church and Ministry

This unit includes a practical project and considers issues in how contemporary church is changing.

Evangelism

Ministry in the context of your personal experience, local community and God's mission.

The Life of the Evangelist Unit

The course also includes an exciting 'Life of the Evangelist' core unit, which is skills based, with 12 learning outcomes on practical ways in which faith can be shared with others. This unit will not only teach and encourage you in a variety of skills but also help you to discover those areas of evangelism in which you are most suited for your future ministry.

This is a significant part of the course and assumes your involvement in evangelism over the duration of the course. It involves:

- **A portfolio**
- **Training weekends**
- **An assessed mission**



The Evangelist's Portfolio

This key element will enable you to grow more effective as an evangelist. Students gather evidence of the evangelism they are doing during the course and submit it for assessment against 12 Learning Outcomes.

Learning outcomes are a list of what you ought to be able to do by the end of this training. Each learning outcome will be assessed by the gathering of evidence (such as reports) that becomes your Evangelist's Portfolio.

What are the learning outcomes?

- LO1 Be able to lead someone to Christ when they are ready, conveying the gospel facts and challenges appropriately.
 - LO2 To preach, with or without notice, the gospel facts evangelistically, and in a manner appropriate to the recipients' setting and background so that those who are ready are drawn to Christ.
 - LO3 To attain a level of skill in a range of techniques for communicating the gospel evangelistically.
 - LO4 Exercise leadership skills in a team situation.
 - LO5 Assess the mission strategy required for different church environments.
 - LO6 The ability to turn mission strategy into appropriate mission activity.
 - LO7 Sustain their own spiritual life in demanding situations.
 - LO8 Teach others how to make their lives an effective witness for Christ.
 - LO9 Reach a particular group (social, culture, age) with the Christian message in a particularly effective way.
 - LO10 Relate sensitively to a wide spectrum of personalities and cultural backgrounds and ages.
 - LO11 To be able to make an appropriate response to people who are suffering psychologically, spiritually or physically.
 - LO12 To be able to nurture new Christians.
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Support

Your church

As part of the application process, we ask you for a letter of reference from your church leader. We suggest you discuss it with him / her at an early stage and seek their support for the duration of the course. You will need some good opportunities in your home church to engage in practical evangelism to complete your portfolio. It would be good to see if you can present what you'll be doing to your church's governing body to seek their prayer, support, and financial help.

Support group

We would encourage you in a more informal way to draw together a support group of 2-4 trusted friends who will pray for you but also keep you accountable.

Monthly Gatherings

Each month we gather all the students together for an evening of worship, ministry and teaching. These have proven to be a great time of support and provide an opportunity for students to share their experiences with each other. These are also opportunities to check progress with the academic work and the Learning Outcomes.

Learning Support

St. John's College will provide you with a tutor to help you with your theological assignments and assessors who will help you progress with your portfolio. Support will also be provided for study skills at the training weekends.

Finance

The total cost of the course is **£2,496**

This covers the costs for all academic modules (including key resources) and the training weekends. This amount can be paid monthly.

Successful candidates will be awarded one third (£832) of this amount. We encourage applicants to seek financial support from their local church towards the remaining amount.

The Application Process

Application forms are available on request from (see below). Please also discuss your potential application with your church leader as a letter of support will be required from them.

For application forms or more information please contact Andrew Brannigan on 07950 846621 or andrew@downanddromore.org

Assessed Mission

We encourage all students to undertake one assessed mission during the course with the aims of:

- Enabling the student to learn by theological reflection
- Giving the student a practical setting in which to hone his/her evangelistic gifts
- Enabling students to function in a leadership role
- Relating to local churches other than your own in mission.



**Deadline for applications:
Friday 1st December 2019**