



MA Prize in mission, evangelism and church planting 2022

Are you an MA student at a theological college in the UK working on research around the themes of mission, evangelism and church planting?

Have you recently graduated with an MA thesis in this field?

Is your theological college connected to one of the [50 national Member Churches](#) of Churches Together in England?

Churches Together in England (CTE), alongside the Mission Research Network, is looking for high quality, recently passed MA theses to add to a small but growing repository of MAs and PhDs which will be made available on our website. Students can submit their work directly to CTE, or Theological Educational Institutions can propose the work of some of their best MA candidates.

The prize consists of a £100 cash gift and an opportunity for the MA to appear in an edited format (6,000 words) in the journal [Ecclesial Futures, published by Wipf and Stock](#).

We are looking for MA work that potentially falls into the categories below, following the *Ecclesial Futures* outlines (with any empirical work focusing on the UK context):

- Longitudinal studies in congregational development over three or more years.
- Diagnoses of why different churches flourish or die.
- Ethnographic studies of the cultural changes required in 'flourishing' churches.
- How local churches can learn to experiment and fail well, such that they learn.
- How might a whole denomination transform itself towards embodying the mission of God?
- Astute, hermeneutically aware bible scholarship on the future of the contemporary church.
- Implications for theological education of the local church 'as the hermeneutic of the gospel'.
- Contextual studies of transformative churches from wide-ranging places – from the deeply secular to say, animist/shamanist contexts and everything in between.

- What kind of leadership is required for the local church to embody the mission of God?
- What does a local church need to know before it can engage in mission?
- Systemic studies of local churches and the systems that support them.

We are also interested in receiving MA work that has a broader remit around mission and evangelism but the work must focus on the UK context.

The judging panel is made a member of the Mission Research Network, Revd Dr Canon Nigel Rooms (CMS); and two trustees of CTE Dr Elizabeth Joy (Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church) and a Victoria Turner (URC/PhD student in World Christianity at Edinburgh)

As a guideline, to be considered for the prize the submission will normally have received a mark of high 60s into the 70s.

Criteria for Applicants

- You will have completed a post-graduate degree at Master's level with a dissertation in one of the fields specified above
- You will have received the official notification of the dissertation mark during 2021/22.

The Committee reserves the right not to award a prize in any given year, as well as the right not to designate a runner-up. The Committee's decisions are final.

Process for Applicants

To apply, email ben.aldous@cte.org.uk

- 'MA Prize 2022' in the subject line.
- Your name, address, telephone number and e-mail.
- The name of the course you studied and the institution where you studied.
- The title of your dissertation.
- The mark awarded for your dissertation.

Send your email by the deadline for submissions of the 29th April 2022. To the email please attach a Word Document or PDF containing

- The title of the dissertation and the abstract
- The Thesis itself

Churches Together in England is the national ecumenical instrument supporting and encouraging churches from a wide range of traditions to work together in unity. Our vision is to create the space in which fruitful collaboration and mutual understanding can grow, so that we as churches work more closely together in our great task of sharing in God's mission and making the gospel of Christ known in our nation. Find out more at www.cte.org.uk

The Mission Research Network is a co-ordinating group of CTE and brings together scholars and practitioners from across CTE's national Member Churches. The network desires to create a robust, vibrant, critical and independent mission research community in the UK to resource God's Church in mission.

Ecclesial Futures publishes original research and theological reflection on the development and transformation of local Christian communities and the systems that support them as they join in the mission of God in the world. We understand local Christian communities broadly to include traditional 'parish' churches and independent local churches, religious communities and congregations, new church plants, so-called 'fresh expressions' of church, 'emergent' churches and 'new monastic' communities.

BIAPT - The British and Irish Association for Practical Theology is an active forum for practitioners, teachers and researchers in the broad field of practical theology. It was founded in 1994, and has grown through its broad-based networks and successful annual conferences to a membership of nearly four hundred in Britain, Ireland and further afield. BIAPT is one of the key sponsors of the journal [Practical Theology](#) (formerly Contact).