

## Media Questionnaire: Jordan Bentliff

Your age and also your original home village, town or city (i.e. the place you grew up):

**Answer:** 29. Moston, Manchester

The church and location in Blackburn Diocese where you are serving:

**Answer:** All Saints and Saint George's, Chorley

Tell us a bit about your family:

**Answer:** Me and my wife, Becky, have been married for eight years this July, we've known each other since we were 17 and now have a 2 year-old daughter, Maisie. Becky works in publishing and we both share a love of reading.

If applicable, what was your former job before entering ministry?

**Answer:** I worked in local Co-ops for many years and spent three years as a youth worker before exploring ordination.

Tell us something about your journey towards ordination?

**Answer:** I have loved working in a housing estate in Sheffield, seeing people overcome economic boundaries and come to know Jesus.

What has been a) the most important thing you have learned and b) the most inspiring thing you have experienced during your training? (They can be different!)

**Answer:** I feel like I have learned a lot of practical things about leadership, particularly about encouraging others in their own abilities. I have seen some amazing people turn their lives around since encountering Jesus.

As parishes continue to recover following the trauma of the pandemic, please give us some insight into how your parish is moving forward at this time (you could reflect how people have adapted and changed in the way they 'do church', including online, as part of this response).

**Answer:** We have found an increased focus on church gatherings outside of the traditional Sunday morning service.

What are some of the personal challenges and opportunities you face in your ministry in the coming year?

**Answer:** As a church-planting curate I am excited to see what God will do in light of our financial challenges and I also hope that through the ministries we are taking part in, we will see more people come to Christ.

What do you view as your most significant personal achievement? (This may be connected to your ordination training of course or it could be something else from another aspect of your life.)

**Answer:** For me, the little victories sometimes mean more than numerically successful events, seeing somebody who can't read and write start to explore their faith or seeing drug addicts recover and change their lives, have been things to see over the past couple of years. I also loved to see some young families coming to our Christingle service after engaging with tots and toddler groups.

When he was announced recently as the next Bishop of Blackburn, Bishop Philip said: *"I am committed to continuing the growth of the church in Lancashire, helping to build joyful Christian communities. I would love to see the Church of England in Lancashire being an ever-stronger voice for justice, especially for the poorest. And I believe children and young people need to be at the very heart of all that we do."*

How would you seek to support the Bishop in fulfilling these aims?

**Answer:** I hope to work to help set up new, sacramental congregations in the poorest communities of Lancashire, and thus far have spent most of my effort working with younger people. Younger people are so much more willing and excited to engage start something new.

Tell us something people don't know about you that might surprise them?

**Answer:** I have never been to a zoo.

Finally, when you get the chance, what do you do you chill out and relax?

**Answer:** Gardening.