



Your name, age and original home village, town or city (the place where you grew up):

Answer: Liz McLean; 39; Darwen, Lancashire.

The church in Blackburn Diocese where you are serving:

Answer: Fulwood Christ Church, Preston.

Tell us about your family:

Answer: I have been married to Aaron for 13 years and we have spent most of our married life living in Baxenden.

Former job before entering ministry?:

Answer: Prior to entering ministry training I was a Clinical Specialist Speech and Language Therapist for 18 years, specialising in Adult Neurology. For the past 10 months I have been working part time at Blackburn Cathedral as the Liturgy Administrator whilst training.

Why did you decide to get ordained?:

Answer: I had felt God's call into ministry for a long while and took time to search out what exactly this may look like through being involved in my local church. Eventually, Ordination became the obvious way forward.

What's been the best thing about your training?:

Answer: The opportunity to engage with theological study and to study alongside Ordinands and Readers from a wide variety of traditions within the Church of England.

What's the most important thing you have learned?:

Answer: How to *really* read the Bible!

Name the most influential person in your Christian life to date and, briefly, say why.

Answer: My husband, who I refer to as my 'haverim' ... a Jewish way of studying which learns through a conversational partnership of debate and questioning. We keep each other on our theological toes!

Say something about your future role and how you hope to serve:

Answer: I hope to be a person of Godly influence within the community I serve, in and outside of church buildings, bringing Christ's life-joy and peace to the people there.

What would people not know about you that would surprise them?:

Answer: I have 'green fingers' coming from a long line of gardeners and horticulturists.

What would you say was your most significant personal achievement to date, either in ministry or before you embarked on your training?

Answer: Passing my maths GCSE- the sense accomplishment and surprised relief I felt at the time has never left me or my family!

Favourite literary quote (it can be from the Bible or elsewhere) and why?:

Answer: 'All shall be well, and all shall be well and all manner of thing shall be well' Julian of Norwich. Her words have served me *well* through many an uncertain moment.

Do you have any unfulfilled ambitions?:

Answer: Yes, learning how to ride a bike. I'm not joking.

What will you do to support the ongoing Diocesan Vision 2026 Healthy Churches Transforming Communities at parish level?

Answer: I hope to encourage emerging leaders as I have a passion for seeing people find their gifts and fulfil their potential.

How would you express your own vision for the church?:

Answer: My vision is for greater partnerships between clergy and laity, parishes and communities so that all of God's gathered people are empowered to connect others with the love of Christ.

Finally, when you get the chance, how do you relax?:

Answer: I play the piano accompanied by the eloquent trills of my canary.