



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

Answer: Susan Salt age 54 years, born and brought up in Sale, Cheshire

The church in Blackburn Diocese where you are serving:

Answer: Currently at St Michael's with St Mark, Preston going to Fellside Parish, North Preston

Tell us about your family:

Answer: Married to Neil, part time vicar of Grimsargh. Two children, Kathryn, 19 studying History at Lancaster University and AJ, 17 who is being home schooled and hopes to be a tattoo artist.

Former job before entering ministry?:

Answer: Medical Director, Trinity Hospice, Blackpool and Consultant in Palliative Medicine at Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

Why did you decide to get ordained?:

Answer: God kept nagging me and after 20 years of being a Lay Reader I gave in and agreed to test my vocation....and here I am.

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

Answer: Studying with a wide variety of people from all sorts of background from all across the North West. Sharing our experiences has been fascinating, challenging and inspiring.

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

Answer: That if we take the time to listen to each other we can learn as much from each other as from books, regardless of the context. (And that I am hopeless at spelling theological words!)

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

Answer: My elderly cousin Margot who we visited a couple of times a year when I was growing up. She was an amazing Christian woman who had time for everyone. She was always interested in me and what I was doing and as the youngest child with triplet brothers that inspired me to be the best I could be. I later discovered that she prayed for me regularly.

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

Answer: To enable and empower the people I meet and walk alongside to be the best they can be and to grow in their faith.

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

Answer: I ran the London Marathon four years ago to raise money for the Hospice and to prove to myself I could. My family nick named me the running pink marshmallow – as I am short and round and got very red when running.

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

Answer: Other than my family; helping to develop palliative care services across the Fylde Coast both in the hospital and community and helping to lead a Hospice rated as outstanding by the CQC

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

Answer: “When we honestly ask ourselves which persons in our lives mean the most to us, we often find that it is those who, instead of giving much advice, solutions or cures, have chosen rather to share our pain and touch our wounds with a gentle and tender hand. The friend who can be silent with us in a moment of despair or confusion, who can stay with us in an hour of grief and bereavement, who can tolerate not knowing, not curing, not healing and face with us the reality of our powerlessness, that is the friend who cares.

Henri Nouwen - Out of Solitude

Do you have any unfulfilled ambitions?:

Answer: To go to South America

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

Answer: I hope that I will be someone who encourages and enables those I meet to be themselves and grow in faith. I have agreed to have a go at early morning milking on a couple of the farms – you never know where that might lead!

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

Answer: To be a space where all are welcome and where the love of God is encountered in ways that are relevant and transforming for everyone. It is not about a building it is about a group of Christians building community wherever they are. A community that is alive and full of hope, despite the pressures around them, whether at the kitchen table or the local pub.

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

Answer: I sew and knit, walk in the countryside, write poetry (badly) and listen to music