



Please fill in an answer to each question.

Keep your answers fairly brief, ideally 2/3 sentences maximum.

Your name, your age and your home town/city:

Answer: Sister Judith Smith (The Order of the Companions of Martha and Mary); 60; Tunstall, Carnforth

The church you are serving:

Answer: Hornby with Claughton and Whittington with Arkholme and Gressingham

Tell us about your family:

Answer: I am a member of a religious order and live and work in St Joseph's House of Prayer in Tunstall, Carnforth. There are two professed Sisters in the Order and we have four Associates and 15 Friends who support our work.

Former job before entering ministry?:

Answer: Course Director for Called to Serve; Blackburn Diocese Discipleship Course

Why did you decide to get ordained?:

Answer: Because I felt that God had called me through the words of Jeremiah 1: 4-8

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

Answer: As I began my training with a BA in Pastoral Theology it has been continuing to deepen my knowledge in areas of study already begun.

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

Answer: My experiences in rural ministry as at the time I did not know that I would be moving to minister in a rural parish a year before Ordination and that my curacy would also be in a rural benefice.

What is your hope for your future role?:

Answer: To walk alongside those in need, to share God's love with a new community of people and to continue to learn and grow in my relationship with our Lord Jesus Christ.

One thing about you people would be surprised about?:

Answer: That I am a Great, Great, Aunt.

Your favourite quote:

Answer: Behold I stand at the door and knock (Revelation 3:20)

Unfulfilled ambition?:

Answer: Going up in a hot air balloon

How do you hope to support the new Diocesan vision of 'Healthy Churches Transforming Communities' at parish level?

Answer: By encouraging congregations to be outward looking, to encourage lay involvement in the life of the church and to get involved with projects between church and society.

What is your own vision for the church?:

Answer: To see the church grow, not in terms of numbers but in how we proclaim the gospel, how we accept all no matter their faith, sexuality or gender and to see a great care for our young people and are older folk.

How do you relax?:

Answer: craft work – knitting, sewing, beadwork, card making. Holidays with my close circle of friends. Gardening