

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: Rev Dr Rebecca Barbara Aechtner; Age 34; Born in Vancouver, Canada.

The church you are serving:

Answer: The Priory Church of St Mary, Lancaster

Tell us about your family:

Answer: I am married to the Rev Dr Anderson Jeremiah, who is an Associate Priest at Lancaster Priory and works full time as the Lecturer in World Christianity at Lancaster University. I have two delightful daughters: Sundiya is 4 and is in reception at Scotforth St Paul's CofE, and Amali is 10 months old with one impressive tooth and can climb a flight of stairs in the blink of an eye! Between the four of us we hold 4 nationalities (British, German, Canadian, and Indian) and have families spread across 4 continents (North America, Europe, Asia and Australia).

Former job before entering ministry?:

Answer: I was an academic. I was an Associate Lecturer and Researcher in the Politics, Philosophy, and Religious Studies department at Lancaster University.

Why did you decide to get ordained?:

Answer: Because God called me. I have known the call of God to ordained ministry since I was 4, it just took me a decade to find the courage to listen and to pursue it.

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

Answer: I have enjoyed putting my theology into practice.

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

Answer: That God is faithful.

What is your hope for your future role?:

Answer: I am passionate about theology, ordained women's ministry, and ritual. I would hope to provide leadership that is rooted in tradition, in community, and in faith.

One thing about you people would be surprised about?:

Answer: I have been married three times (to the same man).

Your favourite quote:

**Answer: 'All will be well and all will be well and every kind of thing shall be well.'
(Julian of Norwich)**

Unfulfilled ambition?:

Answer: I have never pursued an ambition what was not in my capability to achieve. I am fulfilled.

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

Answer: I hope to utilise my academic and social knowledge to contextualise Vision 2026 in a meaningful way for my parish. I am currently working with the Wardens to engage with Vision 2026 more deeply and more widely.

What is your own vision for the church?:

Answer: My vision is to realise and to embody the great commission of Jesus Christ, to proclaim the Good News to the poor, freedom for the prisoners, the recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free and to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour (Luke 4).



How do you relax?:

Answer: I love naps, my family, and a good G&T.