

**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:** Hannah Boyd, 36, Marske-by-the Sea near Middlesbrough

The church you are serving:

**Answer:** St Mark's Layton and St Luke's Staining

Tell us about your family:

**Answer:** I have been married to Stephen for 12 years and we have two beautiful daughters Grace who is 7 and Olivia who is 3.

Former job before entering ministry?:

**Answer:** I was a primary school teacher in Blackpool.

Why did you decide to get ordained?:

**Answer:** In short because God told me to! I didn't want to be ordained at all and fought against it for a long time, I even trained to be a Reader so that I didn't have to be ordained. This was mainly because I loved teaching and didn't want to give it up and I enjoyed being able to serve in Church at the same time as teaching. Eventually I decided to go through the vocations process just so that God would give me a no and I could get on with being a teacher. It didn't work out like that and when I received the official 'yes' I realised that this was what God wanted me to do and that I needed to be obedient to this calling on my life and to use my gifts to serve him in the Church.

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

**Answer:** Being part of the pioneering cohort at St Mellitus North West has been an incredible experience; praying and learning together and watching the college grow, as well as being connected and very much a part of the wider St Mellitus family. I have loved our focus on praying for the transformation of the North West and have loved having the experience of working in a church on placement alongside studying theology so that I am able to reflect on what I am learning and its application in a church setting almost instantly.

This year I have enjoyed being part of the IME groups learning from the experiences of other curates and reflecting with them on the experiences I have had in my deacon year.

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

**Answer:** That God calls priests to a life of prayer and being with him not just doing. That this is vital but really tricky to put into practice when juggling life as a deacon in a busy parish alongside having a young family.

What is your hope for your future role?:

**Answer:** to be able to give people opportunity, anywhere and everywhere, to experience God's presence, to know his love and care for them and to encounter something of the difference and transformation he can bring to lives. To be able to share Jesus with people who do not yet know him and to encourage, nurture and support them on a lifetime's journey of discipleship.

One thing about you people would be surprised about?:

**Answer:** Despite appearing to be super organised I have a very bad habit of losing things especially keys!

Your favourite quote:

**Answer:** 'Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.' Ephesians 3:20&21

Unfulfilled ambition?:

**Answer:** To travel around the world.



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

**Answer:**

In my parish I have worked with my incumbent to develop a strategic plan and vision of the work of the churches which ties in with the Vision, there have been many varied opportunities to be a witness for Jesus in all kinds of meetings, outreach events and opportunities. Being part of the Crossroads Mission in Blackburn and going with Bishop Geoff to Durham as part of the Talking Jesus mission have given me lots of opportunity to be a witness to Jesus as well as encouraging Christians in their own personal discipleship.

What is your own vision for the church?:

**Answer:** For the church to be a place where all are welcomed and accepted and where together people learn and discover what it means to follow Jesus and live life in abundance. I am passionate about discipleship and long for church to be a family where all are being supported and growing as disciples to live out our calling in the varied places that God puts us in.

How do you relax?:

**Answer:** I love to spend time with my family and friends, exploring the outdoors or maximizing my Blackpool Zoo membership card, I love to go running and recently completed a 10 mile run to raise money for the Church building work.