

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

**Answer:** Jane Lee, aged 47. My home town was Chester-le-Street in County Durham but I have lived in Oswaldtwistle for the last 20 years.

**The church in Blackburn Diocese where you are serving:**

**Answer:** The Benefice of West Pendleside – Parishes of St Mary’s and All Saints Whalley, All Saints Pendleton and St Nicholas Heyhouses Sabden.

**Tell us about your family:**

**Answer:** I have been married to Tim for 20 years we met at university when we both studied at University of Teesside. I have two children Grace who is 16 years old and Jacob who is 15. I also have a chocolate brown Labrador called Bella who is 7 years old.

**Former job before entering ministry?:**

**Answer:** I was the Parish Administrator and Reader at my sending church St John the Evangelist with St Philips in Nelson. My previous jobs have included Weight Watchers Consultant, Marketing Manager and Dental Nurse.

**Why did you decide to get ordained?:**

**Answer:** I first had a sense of God calling me to ordained ministry when I was at New Wine Summer Conference in 2008. However, I thought this would not be feasible and so decided to look at becoming a Reader, but even as I was training I had a strong sense God was calling me to ordained ministry. I prayed and asked God to put someone in my path to confirm this and a few days later the vicar of the parish I was on placement in suggested that I should go forward for ordained ministry.

**What’s been the best thing about your training?:**

**Answer:** There has been many great things in my training. The amazing friends I have made on this journey, the knowledge and experience I have gained but most of all having experience of many different traditions within the church.

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

**Answer:** That if we are faithful to God and put our trust in him amazing things can happen. We can't do it in our own strength but with God anything is possible.

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

**Answer:** There has been so many influential people in my Christian life but it is my sister Julie who has been the most influential. She has been a great support and inspiration to me throughout my life.

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

**Answer:** As a curate serving in the Benefice of West Pendleside my hope is that I will be able to introduce more people to Jesus and to encourage people in their faith. I would also like to help people realise that we all have a ministry and we are all called to share our faith with others.

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

**Answer:** When I was at uni I was a big Take That fan and I once won a competition on Radio 1 to go and see them in concert. Unfortunately I didn't get to meet them!!!

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

**Answer:** Apart from being a wife and mother, the most significant achievement I have made was when I completed a 100k bike ride round London for charity. The ride took place during the night and I was shattered when we arrived back at Windsor Racecourse in the early hours of the morning!

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

**Answer:** Isaiah 40:31 but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint. This is a verse that has kept me going through so many ups and downs through my life. It means so much to me my ordination stole has a soaring eagle on one side of it.

**Do you have any unfulfilled ambitions?:**

**Answer:** I would love to go on a pilgrimage where you have to walk to get there, like the Santiago de Compostela or London to Canterbury.

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

**Answer:** I have a passion for helping people to grow in their faith, to realise their gifts and encourage them in the ministry that God is calling them to. I enjoy being a member and leading small groups which is a great place for people to grow in their discipleship, through Bible study, prayer and fellowship.

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

**Answer:** That the Church would be a place of welcome to all, to show them love of Christ and walk with them in good and bad times.

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

**Answer:** When I do have chance to relax I like to watch or read murder mysteries. I also like to cross stitch and also go for walks with my family and the dog.