



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

**Answer:** Barbara Pack, aged 56 and I have lived most of my life in and around the Preston/Chorley area.

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

**Answer:** I will be serving in the Joint Benefice of St. Aidan Mill Hill with St. Luke, St. Mark and St. Philip, Blackburn.

**Tell us about your family:**

**Answer:** I have one grown up daughter and a tabby and white cat called Oliver.

**Former job before entering ministry?**

**Answer:** I was a professional musician, piano teacher and Primary School Teacher.

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

**Answer:** I always thought my calling was to be an organist and worship leader, but God had other ideas. I just had to be obedient and follow what God was calling me to be. I have given up lots of things in order to follow this calling.

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

**Answer:** I have deepened my understanding of Biblical texts and been able to examine them with new eyes.

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

**Answer:** I have learned more about myself through personal reflection and how God can transform you. I have also learned a lot about how we can reach out to the communities we are part of and bring the message of the gospel to them.

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

**Answer:** A dear friend and former parish priest who encouraged me to follow God's calling and has supported me in prayer and love through the challenging and many hours of study throughout my training and during my Deacon year.

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

**Answer:** To make Christ's presence known within the community I will be serving through meeting people where they are and walking alongside them showing the love of Christ.

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

**Answer:** I used to be a football referee taking charge of male and female football teams in the Preston, Burnley and Lancaster areas.

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

**Answer:** Performing Mozart's K488 piano concerto in Budapest.

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

**Answer:** Jer:29:11 'For I know the plans I have for you, declared the Lord'. These were the words that started me on my journey to ordination.

**Do you have any unfulfilled ambitions?**

**Answer:** To visit the Holy Land and learning to fly a Jumbo Jet.

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

**Answer:** To go out into the community and spending time talking to people about the love of Christ through my actions and words. I want to encourage others to take on leadership roles to help the church grow in the community and building relationships through encouraging others to learn more about the Gospel message and the love of Christ.

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

**Answer:** To see the church reaching out to those who do not yet know Christ, transforming the communities in which we live by meeting people where they are and sharing their lives with them; holding them through the good and bad times and showing we as a church care about them and making them feel welcomed.

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

**Answer:** I enjoy playing the piano and listening to music, and also spending time walking in the mountains of Scotland.