

Please fill in an answer to each question. Keep your answers fairly brief, ideally 2/3 sentences maximum. Please write answers directly into this file where indicated.

Your name, your age and your home village, town or city (where you grew up):

Answer: Chris Dingwall-Jones, 29, Leicester

The church in Blackburn Diocese where you are serving:

Answer: St. Peter and St. David, Fleetwood.

Tell us about your family:

Answer: I'm married to Hannah, and we have a baby daughter, Agnes.

Former job before entering ministry?:

Answer: Drama lecturer and event technician.

Why did you decide to get ordained?:

Answer: I had planned to be a full-time academic, but God had other ideas.

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

Answer: Living, praying and working in a close knit and supportive community.

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

Answer: The importance of seeing prayer and work as interrelated, rather than separate tasks which need doing.

Can you name the most influential person in your Christian life to date and, briefly, say why?

Answer: St Francis of Assisi – his vision of a church fully focussed on God and fully focussed on the world at the same time has informed lots of my thinking and prayer. Special mention should also go to Rt Rev. Philip North, the current Bishop of Burnley who, when I attended his church in Camden, encouraged me when I was considering ordination, received me into the Church of England and celebrated at my wedding to Hannah!

What is your hope for your future role?:

Answer: To be there for the whole community, and communicate Jesus' love for all people, both in and outside the church, in worship and in work.

Name one thing about you people would be surprised about?:

Answer: My taste in music ranges from classical to metal to grime, with some odd electronica my wife refuses to listen to thrown in for good measure.

What would you say was your most significant personal achievement to date?

Answer: Completing my PhD in drama and mental health, while juggling three part-time jobs (including 12 hour night shifts building stages and rigging lights as an event technician).

Favourite quote (from the Bible or elsewhere). Also state briefly why it is your favourite:

Answer: "gaze upon [Jesus], consider Him, contemplate Him, as you desire to imitate Him" – from a letter from St. Clare of Assisi to St. Agnes of Prague. This sums up the Gospel for me: seeing Christ on the Cross and in the Sacraments can enable us, through His grace, to be a sign of Christ for others.

Unfulfilled ambition?:

Answer: To complete the Three Peaks Challenge (climbing Ben Nevis, Scafell Pike, and Snowdon in 24 hours) – last time I tried we were defeated by terrible weather on Snowdon at 4am!

How do you personally hope to support the ongoing Diocesan Vision 2026 Healthy Churches Transforming Communities at parish level?

Answer: By getting involved in the existing 'Mustard Seed' and 'Breaking Bread' projects, as well as actively looking for new opportunities to share the Gospel and nurture disciples.

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

Answer: A community centred around the Eucharist, equipping all people to serve the world and draw others into the presence of Christ.

How do you relax?:

Answer: Mostly by reading and listening to music. I'm looking forward to moving into my curacy house and having the space to bake bread and learn more about gardening.