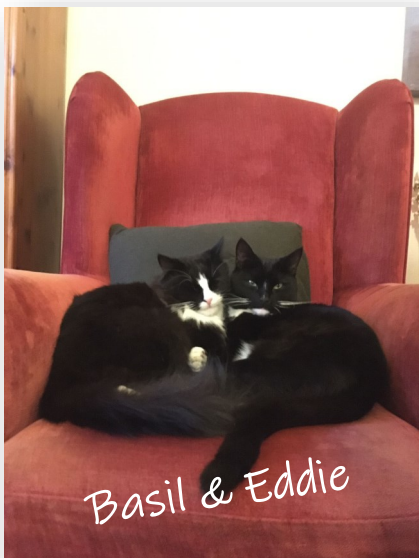


Grace, our ordinand (trainee vicar)

Hi! My name is Grace, I've just started at Cranmer Hall in Durham as an ordinand (trainee vicar). I'm super excited to be on placement with John and to be able to be apart of your churches. I grew up in Essex where I got up to a whole host of different things from being the 'grotesque mother' in a staging of Pink Floyd's concept album 'The Wall' to dressing up as a giant orange for our church's' Christingle service. In 2014 I left to go to Royal Holloway, University of London – which isn't actually in London! It is in a small but brilliant town called Egham near Windsor.

I studied a BA in Drama and Theatre and carried on into a MA in Theatre Directing. It was during my MA that God gave me back a dream that I had when I was 8 years old, that I wanted to be a vicar – more precisely the Vicar of Dibley. I then started working for my church in Egham to explore this call. What a 6 years it was, too many stories to tell of God's goodness in that time and how hard it was to leave when God was calling me to come to the North East. I'm so glad he has!



I can't get over the beauty of the vistas here, the inspiring history of the buildings, the majesticness of the cathedral and so many lovely people. I have a really close knit family and this is the farthest any of us has lived away so I miss them and my baby niece especially. However, they are all excited to come up to visit lots and explore this part of the UK.

I'm the proud Mum of two gorgeous cats, Basil and Eddie – I've never known such cuddly cats. They are however living with my parents at the moment so I miss them dearly. One of my favourite worship songs at the moment is 'Promises' by Maverick City (contemporary band from America), because it reminds us that the promises we see God make all through the bible are still

true today. That God will 'do just what he says', that he is 'my hope and firm foundation', his 'faithfulness to us never runs out'. It inspires me to pray audacious prayers of the promises I see in scripture and I hope I can share in praying these prayers for your churches too.