



Jane Mellett

Currently at: Trócaire

Position: Laudato Si Officer

Graduated: 2001 & 2003

Degree(s): BATH 2001  
MTh 2003



## Alumni Profile

### Career Timeline

2003 - 2008 :  
Religious Education  
Teacher - St. Anne's  
School Southampton

2009 :  
Volunteer - Don  
Bosco Tumkur, India

2010 - Present:  
Parish Pastoral  
Worker, Dublin  
Diocese

2019 - Present:  
Laudato Si Officer at  
Trócaire

### What do you currently do?

I am currently working part time with Trócaire on a project called, 'Living Laudato Si'. So basically my role is to promote Laudato Si in parishes across Ireland and to encourage faith communities to get involved in the climate movement. It's a very interesting project and I'm very happy in it.

### Why did you choose to study at St Patrick's Pontifical University, Maynooth?

I was quite involved in my local parish throughout secondary school and I remember going to the open day in Maynooth which clinched the deal. I remember falling in love with the campus and thinking everyone was really friendly. Its strong reputation for theology and music also highly encouraged me to go there.

### How do you think a degree from SPPU prepared you for today's modern world?

Definitely the breadth of the theology programme, particularly the ethics and the moral theology modules covering such a wide range of

issues which I think definitely prepares you for the complexities of today's modern world. If you think broader than that though I found a personal growth happened through the different pastoral groups I was involved with as well. For example, the Maynooth Mission Outreach at the time, in which I was given the opportunity of going on two trips to India. I have worked there on many different occasions since, and it brought me into working on social justice issues, development, Trócaire and these experiences are very much rooted in those initial experiences at Maynooth and that's only one particular aspect of my time that had a huge influence on me and continues to do so. I also completed my postgraduate degree in New Testament Scripture which was a fantastic opportunity to delve deeper into a particular area of study. This has been extremely useful for me in my pastoral work and in the writing I do.

**What do you remember most from your time at St Patrick's Pontifical University, Maynooth?**

The sense of community I would have to say. I was very grateful to be on a small campus with this huge sense of community. Because we were in smaller classes we got to know one another so well and you strike up great friendships and then there's also the great interaction with your lecturers. The lecturers were always approachable and such experts in their field. At the time we were all exploring and wondering about certain issues in terms of spirituality. It was a space to share and to have all those conversations which is a really important space especially when you have just left secondary school.

**What advice would you give to someone who is considering a degree at SPPU?**

If somebody is wondering about theology and there's that constant niggling feeling about it, I would say, 'go for it,' because it is a sign for me of someone who wants to explore and is curious and it would never be a waste. A degree in theology can be a strong basis for so many career paths and your own personal life. If people are wondering about it go and visit the College, talk to the lecturers, talk to the alumni and really just take the leap because it will definitely not be a waste.

**And lastly, if you could describe your time at SPPU in a phrase or a few words, what would they be?**

Great memories, brilliant craic and my time at SPPU laid such a strong foundation for my future work



Above: Jane pictured with those she met whilst volunteering in India - 10 years in the difference!

Below: Pictured with Cardinal Tagle at the World Meeting of Families, 2018.

