

Blackburn Prayers October 2021

In the last 18 months we have seen unprecedented events taking place in our country and around the world in response to the coronavirus outbreak. Updates continue to be sent from Bishop Philip and the Coronavirus Task Group as often as required; those updates are also available on the main [coronavirus advice page](#) where you will also find other useful information and links onwards to further guidance.

In one of the earliest task group updates Bishop Philip wrote that, above all, we must give ourselves at this time to the work of prayer. As the pandemic continues, prayer also continues to be vital of course. If you have not already subscribed to receive our Daily Prayers email into your inbox, please consider doing so. Simply [click the link here](#).

Bishop Julian's Bible verses continue, to meditate on and memorise each month as part of his ongoing 'Bishop's Bible Challenge' which is encouraging the spiritual discipline of learning Bible verses by heart. More information about the Bible Challenge [here](#). We also continue with Vision 2026 prayers reflecting the Vision key themes of Making Disciples, Being Witnesses, Growing Leaders and inspiring Youth/Children and Schools. We have prayers for National Church Funded Projects in Blackpool, Blackburn and Preston; and we also pray for the Licensed Lay Ministers (LLMs) in our parishes.

We are now asking for people in our parishes to actively report 'Answers to Prayer' to us as an encouragement to all. For current responses [click here](#) to go to the 'Answers to Prayer' page on the Diocesan website. If you have an answer to prayer for sharing, please email beingwitnesses@blackburn.anglican.org with your name, parish and short report of 50-75 words max. Prayer answered can also be submitted anonymously if you prefer - please advise of this when emailing.

If you have any comments, amendments or updates regarding Blackburn Prayers, please direct them to karen.ashcroft@blackburn.anglican.org in the first instance. For more about the parishes in this month's edition, click on the links taking you to either the parish website or its 'A Church Near You' site.

Key: cw = Churchwarden of Vacant Parish
llm = Licensed Lay Minister

Friday 1 October

Remigius, bishop, 533;
Anthony Ashley Cooper (Earl of Shaftesbury), social reformer, 1885

Bishop's Memory Verse: Making Disciples – 1 John 1.9

If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Vision 2026: That many church members will be inspired by Bishop Julian's challenge to try learning Bible verses by heart and that, having God's Word stored in their hearts, it will equip them in their daily lives.

Diocese: [Ribchester St Wilfrid](#) (in plurality with) [Hurst Green and Mitton](#), Rev Canon Brian McConkey; also in in this Benefice, Ribchester St Wilfrid's CofE VA Primary School

Braunschweig: The link between Blackburn Diocese and the Braunschweiger Landeskirche.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of Freetown – The Church of the Province of West Africa (West Africa Province)

Saturday 2 October

Bishop's Memory Verse: Making Disciples – 1 John 1.9

If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Vision 2026: For our parishes in their work to support and develop confident Christian disciples.

Diocese: [Langho St Leonard](#), Rev Tracy Swindells, Mrs Janet Parker; also in this Benefice, Langho and Billington St Leonard's CofE Primary School

Free State: Pray for Bishop Dintoe and his family as he leads the Diocese of the Free State at a time of great difficulty due to the pandemic and its impact, particularly on the poor, in South Africa.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of Gahini – Eglise Anglicane du Rwanda

Sunday 3 October Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity Harvest Thanksgiving Dedication Festival Proper 22

Bishop's Memory Verse: Making Disciples – 1 John 1.9

If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Mission Partners: Stephen and Lisa Haskett ask for our prayers for the Harvest Appeal as they seek to purchase new equipment and facilities for the largest of their partner children's homes.'

Vision 2026: For Vision Champions across the Diocese as they support their parishes in implementing Vision 2026.

Diocese: [Read St John and Simonstone St Peter](#), Vacant, Mr Peter Collinge (cw), Mr John Aizlewood; also in this Benefice Read St John's CofE Primary School, Simonstone St Peter's CofE Primary School

Braunschweig: Growth in links between Blackburn Cathedral and the Braunschweiger Dom.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Church in Wales

Monday 4 October Francis of Assisi, friar, deacon, 1226 Daily Eucharistic Lectionary week 27

Bishop's Memory Verse: Making Disciples – 1 John 1.9

If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Vision 2026: Pray for the Director of Whalley Abbey, Rev Adam Thomas and the Whalley Abbey Community as they provide our Centre for Christian Discipleship and Prayer.

Diocese: [Rishton St Peter and St Paul](#), Vacant, Mrs Diane Schaefer (cw), Mrs Diana McEntyre (cw); also in this Benefice Rishton St Peter's and St Paul's CofE Primary School

Free State: Pray for Fr Lazarus, Dean of Bloemfontein cathedral and remember particularly the confirmation classes there as they prepare for the service later in the year.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of Gambella – The Episcopal/Anglican Province of Alexandria

Meeting: Bishop's Leadership Team; Bishop's Budget Team

Tuesday 5 October

Bishop's Memory Verse: Making Disciples – 1 John 1.9

If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Vision 2026: We pray for deepening prayer life across the whole Diocese.

Diocese: [Salesbury St Peter](#), Vacant, Mrs Janet Haworth (llm), Mrs Sue Grime (cw), Dr Diane Foote (cw); also in this Benefice, Salesbury CofE Primary School

Braunschweig: The Local Ecumenical Partnership between Poulton, Carleton and Singleton and Flöthe.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of Gambia – The Church of the Province of West Africa (West Africa Province)

Wednesday 6 October

William Tyndale, translator, martyr, 1536

Bishop's Memory Verse: Making Disciples – 1 John 1.9

If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Vision 2026: That many will catch a fresh vision of how generous giving, to their local church, can impact their community for Christ.

Diocese: [Waddington](#), Rev Christopher Wood; also in this Benefice, Waddington and West Bradford CofE VA Primary School

Free State: Pray for school chaplain Deon Lombard and for his work at St Andrew's Boys School in Bloemfontein. Remember also the staff and students at the school as they work and worship together.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of Garissa – The Anglican Church of Kenya

Clergy Moves: Rev Sheelagh Aston, instituted as Vicar of Blackburn St Silas

Thursday 7 October

Bishop's Memory Verse: Making Disciples – 1 John 1.9

If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Blackpool Ministry Experience (BME): Pray for the new Blackpool Ministry Experience participants as they settle into their placements, studies and community. Pray that they will have opportunities to share their faith with those living in the surrounding areas.

Vision 2026: For those who offer the ministry of spiritual direction, and for those looking for a spiritual director or companion.

Diocese: West Pendleside ([Pendleton](#); [Sabden](#); [Whalley](#)), Rev Jonathan Carmyllie, Rev Jane Lee, Ms Lynne Smith (Ilm); also in this Benefice, Whalley CofE Primary School

Braunschweig: The link between the Lancaster City Parishes and the Goslar City Parishes.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of Gasabo – Eglise Anglicane du Rwanda

Friday 8 October

Bishop's Memory Verse: Making Disciples – 1 John 1.9

If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Vision 2026: For men, women and children across Lancashire to hear the gospel in their own language.

Diocese: [Whalley Abbey](#), Rev Adam Thomas

Free State: Pray today for Rev John Hall, who has been Link officer in this Diocese for 25 years this September and continues to lead the Link Committee as they seek to grow the link between the two Dioceses.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of Gboko – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) (Abuja Province)

Meeting: Diocesan Advisory Committee

Saturday 9 October

Denys, bishop, and companions, martyrs, c.250;

Robert Grasseteste, bishop, philosopher, scientist, 1253

Bishop's Memory Verse: Making Disciples – 1 John 1.9

If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Vision 2026: For plentiful workers of all backgrounds, for the plentiful harvest fields across Lancashire and for intercessors who are ambitious, insightful and who storm the gates of heaven.

Diocese: [Whitewell St Michael](#), Vacant, Mr Nick Millward (cw)

Braunschweig: The link between St Luke, Brierfield and Delligsen.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of George – The Anglican Church of Southern Africa

Meeting: The Diocesan Young Vocations Breakfast at St Cuthbert's, Fulwood and particularly for LJ and Tom who are leading it.

Sunday 10 October
Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity
Harvest Thanksgiving
Proper 23

Bishop's Memory Verse: Making Disciples – 1 John 1.9

If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Mission Partners: Our Church Mission Society partners, Alan and Lex, would welcome your prayer for their ongoing work in local schools and communities in Cambodia. Recovery from the effects of Covid is a long process in these areas that were already poverty-stricken.

Vision 2026: For a visitation of the Holy Spirit on Lancashire to light beacons in every community.

Diocese: [Accrington Deanery Officers](#), Rev David Arnold, Rev Stephen Brown, Mrs Denise Taylor, Mrs Wendy Papworth, Mrs Gwen Greenwood

Free State: Hold all those working for and volunteering with Mosamaria Aids Ministry in the Free State in your prayers. Trudie Harrison is the Programme Coordinator there and has guided the charity for a number of years.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Church of the Province of West Africa

Monday 11 October
Ethelburga, abbess, 675;
James the Deacon, companion of
Paulinus, 7th century
Daily Eucharistic Lectionary week 28

Bishop's Memory Verse: Being Witnesses – Isaiah 55.6

Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near.

Vision 2026: For it to become normal for every parish to be planting congregations and churches to fulfil the Anglican ambition to be a 'Christian presence in every community' across Lancashire.

Diocese: [Accrington St John with Huncoat St Augustine](#), Rev Hugh Scriven, Mrs Christine Ritson; also in this Benefice, Accrington St John with St Augustine CofE Primary School

Braunschweig: The parish link between St Mary's Clitheroe and Schandelah and Gardessen.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of Georgia – The Episcopal Church (IV Province)

Tuesday 12 October
Wilfrid, bishop, missionary, 709;
Elizabeth Fry, prison reformer, 1845;
Edith Cavell, nurse, 1915

Bishop's Memory Verse: Being Witnesses – Isaiah 55.6

Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near.

Vision 2026: For our church communities to enable people to encounter the love of Jesus in word and in action.

Diocese: [Accrington Christ Church](#), Rev Paul McNally, Mrs Gail Whittaker (Ilm), Mr Mick Whittaker (Ilm)

Free State: Pray for Chaplain Grant Trewern and for all he does for the staff and students at St Michael's Girls School in Bloemfontein.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of Gippsland – The Anglican Church of Australia (Victoria Province)

Clergy Moves: Rev Andrew Dykes, licensed as Resourcing Church Leader (Assistant Curate) of Blackpool St John

Wednesday 13 October
Edward the Confessor, king, 1066

Bishop's Memory Verse: Being Witnesses – Isaiah 55.6

Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near.

Vision 2026: For all future baptism and confirmation candidates to be fired up to be beacons of faith in their schools, workplaces and communities.

Diocese: [Accrington St Andrew](#), [St Mary Magdalen](#) and [St Peter](#) and Church Kirk, Rev David Arnold, Rev Jordan McDermott; also in this Benefice, St Christopher's CofE High School, St Mary Magdalen's CofE Primary School, St Peter's CofE Primary School, Church St Nicholas CofE Primary School

Braunschweig: The parish link between Euxton and Wolfenbüttel (Church of Reconciliation/St James/Gross Stöckheim).

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of Gitega – The Anglican Church of Burundi

Thursday 14 October

Bishop's Memory Verse: Being Witnesses – Isaiah 55.6

Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near.

Blackpool Centre of Mission: Pray for the long-term financial sustainability of the Centre of Mission and for individuals and churches to consider supporting it.

Vision 2026: For us to be mindful of the gifts of God's Creation – earth, water, air, our fellow creatures and that we come together with all that God has made into a common home, a place of thankfulness and peace.

Diocese: [Accrington St James and St Paul](#), Vacant, Rev Kevin Logan, Mr Tony Hindle (Ilm), Mr Andrew Crowe (cw), Mr Gordon Whewell (cw), Mr Terence Jones (cw); also in this Benefice, Accrington Benjamin Hargreaves VA cofE Primary School, Accrington Green Haworth CofE Primary School

Free State: Pray today for all involved in treating and supporting those suffering with or because of Covid. Remember particularly in your prayers those living in townships who may struggle with reduced income and close living conditions.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway – The Scottish Episcopal Church

Meeting: Financial Assistance Group 2

Friday 15 October

Teresa of Avila, teacher of the faith, 1582

Bishop's Memory Verse: Being Witnesses – Isaiah 55.6

Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near.

Vision 2026: Give thanks for all who exercise leadership in our Diocese, for clergy and lay leaders. Pray that they may have the faithfulness, the wisdom and the joy that they will need to lead churches that transform their local communities in the name of Jesus Christ

Diocese: [Altham](#) with [Clayton-le-Moors](#), Rev Toby Webber; also in this Benefice, Altham St James CofE Primary School, Clayton-le-Moors All Saints CofE Primary School

Braunschweig: The Local Ecumenical Partnership between Warton and Timmerlah.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of Gloucester – The Church of England (Canterbury Province)

Saturday 16 October

Nicholas Ridley and Hugh Latimer, bishops, martyrs, 1555

Bishop's Memory Verse: Being Witnesses – Isaiah 55.6

Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near.

Vision 2026: Pray that all might hear God's call in their life and be ready to respond with faithful obedience. Pray that all Christians may feel equipped to live out their faith in the family, the workplace and in their local communities.

Diocese: [Baxenden St John](#), Vacant, Dr Patricia Wilkinson (Ilm), Mrs Diane Clough (cw); also in this Benefice, St John's CofE Primary School

Free State: Remember in your prayers those with responsibility for the difficult financial situation. Pray particularly for those directly impacted by the lack of regular income experienced by parish priests.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of Gogrial – The Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan (Northern Bahr el Ghazal Province)

Meeting: Diocesan Synod

Sunday 17 October

Twentieth Sunday after Trinity
Harvest Thanksgiving

Proper 24

Bishop's Memory Verse: Being Witnesses – Isaiah 55.6

Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near.

Clergy with PTO: Bless, O Lord, all clergy in our Diocese who are retired with Permission to Officiate. Grant them your continued wisdom and strength to serve. We are thankful for the many ways they provide invaluable support as we work together making disciples, growing leaders, being witnesses and inspiring children and young people for Jesus Christ.

Vision 2026: Pray for more lay leaders in our congregations.

Diocese: [Haslingden St James with Grane St Stephen and Stonefold St John](#) (in plurality with) [Musbury St Thomas](#), Rev Judith Balkwell, Rev Andrew Holmes; also in this Benefice, Haslingden St James' CofE Primary School, Haslingden St John's Stonefold CofE Primary School

Braunschweig: For new parish links to be built and old ones renewed.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Church in the Province of the West Indies

Clergy Moves: Retirement of Rev Keith Fenton

Monday 18 October
Luke the Evangelist

Bishop's Memory Verse: Being Witnesses – Isaiah 55.6

Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near.

Sisters of the Order of the Companions of Mary and Martha: Pray for Sister Judith and Sister Sue at St Joseph's House, Tunstall living a vowed life of prayerful presence and hospitality. Give thanks for their faithful witness to the gospel and bless all who visit there seeking peace and refreshment.

Vision 2026: Pray for more vocations to the priesthood and to the religious life, especially for vocations amongst young adults.

Diocese: [Laneside St Peter](#), Rev Stephen Brown

Free State: Give thanks for Fr Joshua Skee, Link Officer in the Free State and for all members of the Link Committee in South Africa.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of Goma – Province de L'Eglise Anglicane Du Congo

Tuesday 19 October

Henry Martyn, translator, missionary, 1812

Daily Eucharistic Lectionary week 29

Bishop's Memory Verse: Being Witnesses – Isaiah 55.6

Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near.

Vision 2026: Pray for all whose leadership is hidden or unacknowledged and for those who are yet to discover the gifts that the Holy Spirit has given them.

Diocese: [Oswaldtwistle](#), Rev Capt Martin Joss, Rev Carole Garner, Mrs Heather Aspbury (IIm), Miss Judith Addison (IIm); also in this Benefice, Oswaldtwistle St Andrew's CofE Primary School, Oswaldtwistle St Paul's CofE Primary School

Braunschweig: For growth in links between us in the area of social responsibility.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of Gombe – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) (Jos Province)

Wednesday 20 October

Bishop's Memory Verse: Being Witnesses – Isaiah 55.6

Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near.

Vision 2026: Pray for lay and ordained leaders who are struggling, for those who have lost the joy of ministry or who feel despondent or overwhelmed by the challenges that face them. Pray that they draw strength from a deeper awareness of the power of God in their lives.

Diocese: [Blackburn with Darwen Deanery Officers](#), Rev Canon Fleur Green, Rev Canon Andrew Horsfall, Canon Susan Witts, Miss Anne Carus, Mrs Elaine Williams

Free State: Pray for all the links between parishes here and in the Free State. Pray also for Helen Ballard who holds the brief for nurturing these links and for her plans to grow the links particularly between lay people.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of Grafton – The Anglican Church of Australia (New South Wales Province)

Thursday 21 October

Bishop's Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – 2 Timothy 1.7

For God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

M:Power: Pray as the dark nights draw in and winter approaches for the outer estate work across the Diocese. As the church ministers into the needs of the area.

Vision 2026: Pray for all charged with the responsibility of discerning vocation in others in the local church and across the Diocese. Pray for our Director of Vocations, Revd Nick McKee, our Vocations Team, our Assistant Directors of Ordinands and our Examining Chaplains.

Diocese: [Blackburn Christ Church with St Matthew](#), Rev Canon Andrew Raynes; also in this Benefice, Blackburn St Matthew's CofE Primary School

Braunschweig: For growth in school partnerships between our two Dioceses.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of Grahamstown – The Anglican Church of Southern Africa

Meeting: Investment Committee

Friday 22 October

Bishop's Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – 2 Timothy 1.7

For God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

Vision 2026: Pray for parents that they have confidence and are equipped to raise children who have a living relationship with God.

Diocese: [Blackburn St Aidan](#) and [St Luke, St Mark and St Philip](#), Rev Cath Brooks, Rev Jason Gardner, Rev Barbara Pack; also in this Benefice, Blackburn Mill Hill St Aidan's CofE Primary Academy, Blackburn St Luke and St Philip's CofE Primary School, Blackburn St Wilfrid's CofE Academy, Wensley Fold CofE Primary Academy

Free State: The South African High Court and Judiciary are located in Bloemfontein. Pray that they might act with a sense of themselves being under God's judgement and mercy and that they might carry out their duties according to His law.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of Guadalcanal – The Anglican Church of Melanesia

Saturday 23 October

Bishop's Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – 2 Timothy 1.7

For God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

Vision 2026: Pray for children and young people that they are able to identify their gifts and recognise God's calling on their lives, allowing them to passionately serve and lead others.

Diocese: [Blackburn St Andrew Livesey](#) (in plurality with) Blackburn St Barnabas, Vacant, Dr Geralde Bancroft (cw), Mrs Janet Smith (cw); also in this Benefice, Blackburn St Barnabas and St Paul's CofE Primary School

Braunschweig: Following a successful 2021 Kirchentag held online, please pray for all aspects of planning for the next Kirchentag in 2023; and particularly that delegates are able to joyfully gather together in person again.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of Guatemala – Iglesia Anglicana de la Region Central de America

Sunday 24 October Last Sunday after Trinity Bible Sunday Dedication Festival Proper 25

Bishop's Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – 2 Timothy 1.7

For God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

Mission Partners: Pray for 'Graham and Fiona' working in a hospital and a college, in a least-reached part of Africa. Much of their work involves removing obstacles (rocky soil) and walking alongside people who want to grow into a fuller understanding of the love of God in Jesus.

Vision 2026: Pray for young people's faith, rooted in Jesus Christ, to be nurtured, disciplined and shared within their communities.

Diocese: [Blackburn St Gabriel](#), Mrs Barbara Foster (IIm), Mr Paul Adritt (IIm); also in this Benefice, St Gabriel's CofE Primary School

Free State: Pray today for the Mosamaria Ministries project which encourages the consistent and timely taking of Antiretrovirals in the community. This project saves lives but is often short of funding and workers often go without full pay.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Extra-Provincial Churches

Monday 25 October

Crispin and Crispinian, martyrs, c.287
Daily Eucharistic Lectionary week 30

Bishop's Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – 2 Timothy 1.7

For God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

Vision 2026: Pray for the Inspiring Youth Learning Community, that churches across the Diocese will grow in confidence to enable and grow new youth ministries.

Diocese: [Blackburn St Mary the Virgin with St Paul](#) (Cathedral and Parish Church), The Very Rev Peter Howell-Jones, Rev Canon Rowena Pailing, Rev Canon Gary O'Neill

Braunschweig: The work of the Meissen Commission, working for full and visible unity between our two churches.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of Guildford – The Church of England (Canterbury Province)

Meeting: Bishop's Appointments Team

Clergy Moves: Rev Canon Fleur Green, instituted as Vicar of Broughton St John Baptist

Tuesday 26 October

Alfred, king, scholar, 899;
Cedd, abbot, bishop, 664

Bishop's Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – 2 Timothy 1.7

For God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

Vision 2026: Pray for all schools and academies to be beacons of faith in their communities.

Diocese: [Blackburn St Silas](#), Rev Sheelagh Aston; also in this Benefice, St Silas' CofE Primary School

Free State: Give thanks for the Girls Friendly Society, Girls Brigade, Sunday Schools and all clubs and societies which nurture girls and young women in the faith.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of Guinea – The Church of the Province of West Africa (West Africa Province)

Wednesday 27 October

Bishop's Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – 2 Timothy 1.7

For God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

Vision 2026: Pray for all schools and academies to encourage and equip pupils to be courageous advocates for the Gospel, fighting injustice locally and globally.

Diocese: [Blackburn St Stephen](#) and [St James](#), Rev Sarah Gill, Rev Joanne Macholc; also in this Benefice, St Stephen's CofE Primary School, St James' CofE Primary School

Braunschweig: All involved in the work for the Foundation of Ecumenical Learning.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of Gujarat – The (United) Church of North India

Thursday 28 October

Simon and Jude, Apostles

Bishop's Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – 2 Timothy 1.7

For God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

Preston Resourcing Parish: 98% of people in Preston don't regularly attend a church. We are here for the 98% - that is where we want to see growth. Pray that we will retain our focus and that the Holy Spirit will reveal Jesus to the 98%.

Vision 2026: Pray for our chaplains in schools and universities, that they may be a Christian presence in education, witnessing to the transforming effect of Jesus on people's lives and encouraging the exploration of the Gospel.

Diocese: [Blackburn The Redeemer](#), Rev Christopher Anderton, Mr Geoff Hutchinson, Mr John Ashcroft; also in this Benefice, Blackburn The Redeemer CofE Primary School

Free State: Pray for Canon Joan Marsden, for her work at Sunflower House in Bloemfontein and also in her work around the world relating to hospice care.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of Central Gulf Coast – The Episcopal Church (IV Province)

Friday 29 October

James Hannington, bishop, martyr,
1885

Bishop's Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – 2 Timothy 1.7

For God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

Vision 2026: For the teams giving support to parishes through HR, finance, safeguarding, communications, legal and governance, as they share their knowledge and skills for the benefit of mission as we unlock.

Diocese: [Darwen St Barnabas](#), Vacant, Mr Kenneth Lee (Ilm), Mrs Lilian Duffy (Ilm), Mr Andrew Hudson (cw), Mrs Vivienne Kenyon (cw); Darwen St Barnabas CofE Primary Academy

Braunschweig: Growth in links between University Chaplaincies in our two Dioceses.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of Gusau – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) (Kaduna Province)

Saturday 30 October

Bishop's Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – 2 Timothy 1.7

For God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

Vision 2026: For the support provided to clergy and their families to have suitable homes from which to be leaders in mission.

Diocese: [Darwen St Cuthbert with Tockholes St Stephen](#), Rev Nicholas Davis; also in this Benefice, Darwen St Cuthbert's CofE Primary School, Tockholes St Stephen's CofE Primary School

Free State: Pray for the Area Deans and Archdeacons who facilitate the smooth working of so many aspects of the Diocese and support the churches and clergy.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of Guyana – The Church in the Province of the West Indies

Sunday 31 October

Fourth Sunday before Advent
All Saints' Day

Bishop's Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – 2 Timothy 1.7

For God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

Vision 2026: For the whole community in Clayton House, the Diocesan offices, who through their varied ministries support the work of all the churches and church schools in the Diocese of Blackburn.

Diocese: [Darwen St Peter](#), Vacant, Mrs Janet Upton (Ilm), Mr John Brotherton (cw); also in this Benefice, Darwen Holy Trinity VC School, Darwen St Peter's CofE Primary School

Braunschweig: For opportunities for people in our two Dioceses to meet virtually with each other when travel is not possible.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Episcopal/Anglican Province of Alexandria