

The Bishop of Blackburn
The Rt Revd Julian T Henderson

28 March 2022
sent by email only

Regarding the Primary Visitations this year

Dear friends

I know how much you do for the mission of Christ in the diocese and write first and foremost to give you my sincere thanks for all that you have done in your parish over your term in office. Your practical support as well as your witness to the Gospel in your parish is greatly appreciated and more impactful than you may know. Many of you will have served as Churchwardens through some of the most difficult times to do so in living memory and the decisions you have made and steps you have taken will have protected people in your care and helped us unlock many aspects of our church life well as we come out of the pandemic.

I am writing to you today with news of the annual visitation which I am calling this year on my own behalf as it will be my last with you here in Blackburn.

This year there will be two Primary Visitations, one for each archdeaconry. They will take place as follows:

Lancaster Archdeaconry – 7:30pm on Wednesday, 8th June at Lancaster Priory.

Blackburn Archdeaconry – 7:30pm on Wednesday, 15th June at Chorley, St George.

As this will be one of my clearest opportunities to speak to important lay leaders before my retirement, the theme for this year's visitation will be something that I would like you to focus on long after my departure – the place of Scripture in church life. This has been central to my ministry in this diocese and will, I hope, be a foundation block in all that you do as church officers in Christ's service.

Some of you receiving this will be coming to the end of your term. Please do pass this invitation on to those who will be taking your place but also hear from me how grateful I am for your service in Jesus' name in your parishes.

Following this letter you will receive more information from our archdeacons' offices. I very much look forward to seeing you at the services.

As ever

