

# COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE

communicate@blackburn.anglican.org



**A short bonus pre-Christmas edition of Communications Update to share our Bishops' annual Christmas messages and trail their New Year messages which will be available online from next Thursday (December 27). There is also a reminder to participate in the national Church of England online campaign #FollowTheStar if you haven't been doing so already! Have a wonderful Christmas and a peaceful new year.**

**Ronnie Semley, Diocesan Communications Manager**

## Bishops' Christmas messages

The Christmas messages from Bishop Julian, Bishop Philip and Bishop Jill are available now to read and to watch on YouTube. All the links you need [are available to access on this page](#) of our Diocesan website. Please share the YouTube versions of the messages widely on social media with family and friends if you can, as well as playing them at your Christmas services. On December 27 the Bishops' New Year messages will also be uploaded to the news pages of [www.blackburn.anglican.org](http://www.blackburn.anglican.org) so watch out for them.

## Take part in #FollowTheStar

The Church of England's massive Christmas digital campaign this year is #FollowTheStar. Find resources and more information [here](#). It's a great opportunity to use our collective power as the church nationally, and via [www.achurchnearyou.com](http://www.achurchnearyou.com), to attract attention on social media and encourage people to go to church and hear the Good News about Jesus Christ. Tomorrow night (December 21) is the 'night of the stars' and there will be massive media blitz centred round special services at Canterbury and Durham Cathedrals while parishes are encouraged to post pictures of stars inside, outside and around their churches on social media at the same time. Use the handles @cofelancs @churchofengland and the hashtag #FollowTheStar for retweets and shares.

HEALTHY CHURCHES TRANSFORMING COMMUNITIES