

Blackburn Prayers April 2020

The past two weeks have seen unprecedented events taking place in our country and around the world in response to the coronavirus outbreak. A Daily Update for parishes is being sent from Bishop Philip and the coronavirus task group; they are also available each day on the main [coronavirus advice page](#). Bishop Philip wrote in yesterday's Daily Update that, above all, we must give ourselves at this time to the work of prayer. That is why you will notice we have now introduced a special intention each day in Blackburn Prayers to help us to pray into the current crisis. Meanwhile, if you have not subscribed to receive our Daily Prayers email into your inbox, now may be the time to do so. Simply [click the link here](#).

We also continue to share Bishop Julian's Bible verses to meditate on and memorise each month as part of his 'Bishop's Bible Challenge' to encourage the spiritual discipline of learning Bible verses by heart. More information about the Bible Challenge [here](#). We also continue with Vision 2026 prayers reflecting Making Disciples, Being Witnesses, Growing Leaders and Youth/Children and Schools and prayers for our National Church Funded Projects in Blackpool, Blackburn and Preston.

Any comments, amendments or updates regarding Blackburn Prayers, direct them to karen.ashcroft@blackburn.anglican.org For more about parishes in this month's edition, click on the links taking you to either their own website or their A Church Near You site.

Key: cw = churchwarden of vacant parish

Wednesday 1 April

Frederick Denison Maurice,
priest, teacher of the faith,
1872

During the coronavirus outbreak we pray for all hospital nurses, doctors and allied health professionals working to care for the most unwell, that they would have courage and strength as they work, empathy and compassion in all they do.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Making Disciples - 2 Corinthians 8.7

Now as you excel in everything - in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in utmost eagerness, and in our love for you - so we want you to excel also in this generous undertaking.

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 our hearts will equip us in our daily life.

Diocese: Accrington [St Andrew](#), [St Mary Magdalen](#) and [St Peter](#) and Church Kirk: Vacant, Mr Pete Blackburn (cw), Mr John Fisher (cw), Miss Lorna Kenyon (cw), Mrs Pat Pickavance (cw), Mr Peter Crook (cw), Mr Derrick Brockbank (cw): Schools – St Christopher's CofE High School, St Mary Magdalen's CofE PS, St Peter's CofE PS, St Nicholas CofE PS

Braunschweig: The link between Blackburn Diocese and the Braunschweiger Landeskirche

Free State: The Bishop of the Free State, **Bishop Dintoe** and his family

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Mbhashe (Southern Africa) The Rt Rev Elliot Williams

Wernyol (South Sudan) The Rt Rev Gabriel Kuol Garang

Thursday 2 April

During the coronavirus outbreak we pray for all community workers in health and social care as they care for and support vulnerable people in our communities. Pray for their safety and that they would have compassion and wisdom as they work.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Making Disciples - 2 Corinthians 8.7

Now as you excel in everything - in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in utmost eagerness, and in our love for you - so we want you to excel also in this generous undertaking.

Vision 2026: For Ruth Hassall, our Director of Discipleship, as she continues getting to know the parishes; supporting them in developing confident Christian disciples

Diocese: [Altham](#) with [Clayton-le-Moors](#): Rev Toby Webber: Schools – St James CofE PS, All Saints CofE PS

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

Free State: The Cathedral Church of St Michael and St Andrew and its Dean, **the Very Rev Lazarus Mohapi**

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Meath and Kildare (Ireland) The Most Rev Patricia Louise Storey

West Ankole (Uganda) The Rt Rev Johnson Twinomujuni

West Buganda (Uganda) The Rt Rev Henry Katumba-Tamale

Friday 3 April

During the coronavirus outbreak we pray for all schools across the Diocese, their headteachers, teaching staff, support staff and those who work to keep the school open.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Making Disciples - 2 Corinthians 8.7

Now as you excel in everything - in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in utmost eagerness, and in our love for you - so we want you to excel also in this generous undertaking.

Vision 2026: For Carolyn Barton, our Vision Coordinator as she continues to get to know the parishes and seeks to support them in implementing Vision 2026

Diocese: [Baxenden St John](#): Rev Tom Donaghey: School - St John's CofE PS

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

Free State: The Bishop's Council

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Medak (South India) The Rt Rev A.C. Solomon Raj
West Lango (Uganda) The Rt Rev Alfred Acur Okodi

Meeting: Diocesan Advisory Committee

Saturday 4 April

During the coronavirus outbreak we pray for all laboratory and research staff as they process essential tests and develop new tests. Give them resilience as they strive to get ahead of the pandemic and inspire their thinking around new ways of approaching the virus.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Making Disciples - 2 Corinthians 8.7

Now as you excel in everything - in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in utmost eagerness, and in our love for you - so we want you to excel also in this generous undertaking.

Vision 2026: For Whalley Abbey as it becomes a Centre for Christian Discipleship, and for God to call into being a small community of prayer, resident and dispersed, praying for the Abbey and the Diocese.

Diocese: [Haslingden St James with Grane St Stephen and Stonefold St John](#)

(in plurality with) [Musbury St Thomas](#): Rev David Stephenson: Schools – St James' CofE PS, St John's Stonefold CofE PS

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

Free State: For greater financial responsibility

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Melbourne (Australia) The Most Rev Philip Leslie Freier

West Missouri (The Episcopal Church) The Rt Rev Martin Field

**Sunday 5 April
Palm Sunday**

During the coronavirus outbreak we pray for public health professionals that they would have wisdom and compassion, seeking the common good in all complex and difficult decisions they need to make at this time.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Making Disciples - 2 Corinthians 8.7

Now as you excel in everything - in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in utmost eagerness, and in our love for you - so we want you to excel also in this generous undertaking.

Vision 2026: For a deepening of the prayer life of our churches, and for those planning Pathways to Prayer events around the Diocese this year.

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

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

Free State: For Mosamaria Aids Ministry

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Pray for the Church of the Province of the Indian Ocean.

The Most Rev James Richard Wong Yin Song - Archbishop, Province of Indian Ocean and Bishop of the Seychelles

**Monday 6 April
Holy Week**

During the coronavirus outbreak we pray for those who are being asked to self-isolate that they would sense the care of their community around them and sense God's peace in the middle of the uncertainty.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Making Disciples - 2 Corinthians 8.7

Now as you excel in everything - in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in utmost eagerness, and in our love for you - so we want you to excel also in this generous undertaking.

Vision 2026: For churches using the Generosity, Gift and Grace course, that many will catch a fresh vision of how generous giving to their local church can impact their community for Christ.

Diocese: Oswaldtwistle ([Immanuel](#), [All Saints](#) and [St Paul](#)): Rev Capt Martin Joss: Schools – St Andrew's CofE PS, St Paul's CofE PS

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

Free State: For the link between our two Dioceses

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Meru (Kenya) The Rt Rev Charles Mwendwa
West Malaysia (South East Asia) The Most Rev Ng Moon Hing
Idaho (The Episcopal Church) The Rt Rev Brian Thom

**Tuesday 7 April
Holy Week**

During the coronavirus outbreak we pray for all who have a role in maintaining cleanliness and hygiene, from hospital cleaners, to those who clean our streets, from those who manage our household waste to those who manage the waste from hospitals. That they would feel valued in the vital work they do and to be able to work safely and diligently.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Making Disciples - 2 Corinthians 8.7

Now as you excel in everything - in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in utmost eagerness, and in our love for you - so we want you to excel also in this generous undertaking.

Blackpool Ministry Experience: Pray that our BME participants would continue to search out God's plan for their lives beyond the Blackpool Ministry Experience when they leave in July.

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

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

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

Free State: For the President of the Republic of South Africa

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Mexico (Mexico) The Rt Rev Carlos Touche-Porter
West Tennessee (The Episcopal Church) The Rt Rev Don Johnson
Ideato (Nigeria) The Most Rev Caleb Maduoma

Meeting: Financial Assistance Group

Wednesday 8 April
Holy Week

During the coronavirus outbreak we pray for all those individuals who are ill, that they would be kept safe, sense God's love surrounding them and recover speedily.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Making Disciples - 2 Corinthians 8.7

Now as you excel in everything - in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in utmost eagerness, and in our love for you - so we want you to excel also in this generous undertaking.

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

Diocese: [Blackburn Christ Church with St Matthew](#): Rev Canon Andrew Raynes, Rev Munawar Din: School – St Matthew CofE PS

Braunschweig: The Local Ecumenical Partnership between Warton and Timmerlah

Free State: For the urban poor in the townships

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Michigan (The Episcopal Church) The Rt Rev Bonnie Perry

West Texas (The Episcopal Church) The Rt Rev David Reed

Thursday 9 April
Maundy Thursday

During the coronavirus outbreak we pray for relatives and friends of those who are sick, that they would sense that peace that passes all understanding in the midst of the turmoil of worry and self-isolation.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Making Disciples - 2 Corinthians 8.7

Now as you excel in everything - in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in utmost eagerness, and in our love for you - so we want you to excel also in this generous undertaking.

Vision 2026: For plentiful workers of all backgrounds for the plentiful harvest fields across Lancashire.

Diocese: Blackburn [St Aidan](#) and [St Luke, St Mark and St Philip](#): Rev Cath Brooks, Rev Barbara Pack: Schools – St Aidan's Mill Hill CofE Academy, St Luke's and St Philips CofE PS, St Wilfrid's CofE Academy, Wensley Fold CofE Primary Academy

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

Free State: For Fr Joshua Skee, the Free State Link Officer

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Milwaukee (The Episcopal Church) The Rt Rev Steven Miller

West Virginia (The Episcopal Church) The Rt Rev William Michie Klusmeyer
Western Izon (Nigeria) The Rt Rev Edafe Emamezi

Friday 10 April
Good Friday

During the coronavirus outbreak we pray for those grieving the death of a loved one, that they would find the support they need.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Making Disciples - 2 Corinthians 8.7

Now as you excel in everything - in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in utmost eagerness, and in our love for you - so we want you to excel also in this generous undertaking.

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

Diocese: [Blackburn St Gabriel](#): Rev Stephen Corbett: School – St Gabriel's CofE PS

Braunschweig: Growth in links in the area of Social Responsibility

Free State: For those engaged with the Church Schools in Welkom and Bloemfontein

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Minna (Nigeria) The Rt Rev Daniel Abu Yisa
Western Kansas (The Episcopal Church) The Rt Rev Michael Milliken

Saturday 11 April
Easter Eve

During the coronavirus outbreak we pray for local councils and local councillors that they would have the resources and the wisdom to work in ways that build up and support their local communities.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Being Witnesses - 2 Peter 3.9

For I am not ashamed of the gospel; it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who has faith, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

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: [Blackburn St Mary the Virgin with St Paul](#): Very Rev Peter Howell-Jones, Rev Dr Rowena Pailing, Rev Canon Andrew Horsfall

Braunschweig: The theological discussions between our two Dioceses

Free State: For the Parish Clergy, the Self-Supporting ministers and Lay Ministers

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Minnesota (The Episcopal Church) The Rt Rev Brian Prior

Western Kowloon (Hong Kong) The Rt Rev Andrew Chan

Idoani (Nigeria) The Rt Rev Ezekiel Dahunsi

Sunday 12 April
Easter Day

During the coronavirus outbreak we pray for the nation that on this day when we celebrate the Lord's resurrection, we would have a real sense of hope and deepening sense of God as our refuge and stronghold

Bishop's Memory Verse: Being Witnesses - 2 Peter 3.9

For I am not ashamed of the gospel; it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who has faith, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

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

Diocese: [Blackburn St Silas](#): Rev Sheelagh Aston: School – St Silas CofE PS

Braunschweig: All who are involved in the next Kirchentag in Dortmund 2019

Free State: For the work of the Mothers' Union

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem and the People of the Land of the Holy One

Monday 13 April
Easter Week

During the coronavirus outbreak we pray for those who work in food production, food processing or distribution.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Being Witnesses - 2 Peter 3.9

For I am not ashamed of the gospel; it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who has faith, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

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

Diocese: Blackburn [St Stephen](#) and [St James](#): Rev Sarah Gill, Rev Joanne Macholc: Schools – St James CofE PS, St Stephen's CofE PS

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

Free State: For the St Agnes Guild

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Mishamikoweesh (Canada) The Rt Rev Lydia Mamakwa

Western Louisiana (The Episcopal Church) The Rt Rev Jacob W Owensby

Ife (Nigeria) The Rt Rev Olubunmi A Akinlade

Ife East (Nigeria) The Rt Rev Oluseyi Oyelade

Tuesday 14 April
Easter Week

During the coronavirus outbreak we pray for Bishops Julian, Philip and Jill and Archdeacons Mark and David as they lead the Diocese and support the parishes through this time.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Being Witnesses - 2 Peter 3.9

For I am not ashamed of the gospel; it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who has faith, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

Blackpool Centre of Mission: Pray for all the local agencies we partner with on Grange Park. @thegrange, His Provision, Blackpool coastal Housing, Grow Blackpool, Community Policing, Residents Group (Friends of Grange), Boundary School and Children's Centre.

Vision 2025: For God to raise up intercessors who are ambitious, insightful and who storm the gates of heaven.

Diocese: [Blackburn The Redeemer](#): Rev Richard Marshall, Rev Christ Anderton: School – The Redeemer CofE PS

Braunschweig: All involved in the work for the Foundation of Ecumenical Learning, including those serving in Blackpool

Free State: For the Guild of St Bernard Mizeki

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Mississippi (The Episcopal Church) The Rt Rev Brian Seage

Western Massachusetts (The Episcopal Church) The Rt Rev Douglas Fisher Ifo (Nigeria) The Rt Rev Nathaniel Oladejo Ogundipe

Wednesday 15 April
Easter Week

During the coronavirus outbreak we pray for all those whose businesses have been shut down and those who have lost or fear losing their livelihoods because of the pandemic.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Being Witnesses - 2 Peter 3.9

For I am not ashamed of the gospel; it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who has faith, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

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: [Darwen St Barnabas](#): Rev David Bacon: School – St Barnabas CofE Primary Academy

Braunschweig: Growth in links between University Chaplaincies in our two Dioceses; Growth in school partnerships between our two Dioceses

Free State: For the judiciary based in Bloemfontein

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Missouri (The Episcopal Church) The Rt Rev Wayne Smith

Western Mexico (Mexico) The Rev Ricardo Joel Gómez Osnay

Thursday 16 April
Easter Week

During the coronavirus outbreak we pray for those who feel overwhelmed by the uncertainty of the pandemic.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Being Witnesses - 2 Peter 3.9

For I am not ashamed of the gospel; it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who has faith, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

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: [Darwen St Cuthbert with Tockholes St Stephen](#): Rev Nicholas Davis: Schools – St Cuthbert's CofE PS, St Stephen's Tockholes CofE PS

Braunschweig: Growth in links between youth workers in our two Dioceses

Free State: For the Archbishop of the Province of Southern Africa

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Mityana (Uganda) vacant

Western Michigan (The Episcopal Church) The Rt Rev Whyne Hougland

Western New York (The Episcopal Church) The Rt Rev William Franklin

**Friday 17 April
Easter Week**

During the coronavirus outbreak we pray for national government, the cabinet and civil servants, that they would face the current pandemic with courage, make wise and compassionate decisions that protect the most vulnerable.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Being Witnesses - 2 Peter 3.9

For I am not ashamed of the gospel; it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who has faith, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

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

Diocese: [Darwen St Peter](#): Rev Canon Fleur Green: School – St Peter's CofE PS

Braunschweig: All working in church kindergartens

Free State: For Chaplains

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Mombasa (Kenya) The Rt Rev Alphonse Mwaro Baya

Western Newfoundland (Canada) The Rt Rev John Organ

Western North Carolina (The Episcopal Church) The Rt Rev José Antonio McLoughlin

**Saturday 18 April
Easter Week**

During the coronavirus outbreak we pray for your community, that it might be a place of trust and friendship.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Being Witnesses - 2 Peter 3.9

For I am not ashamed of the gospel; it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who has faith, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

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

Diocese: [Feniscliffe St Francis](#) and [Fenisowles Immanuel](#): Rev David Roscoe: School – St Francis CofE PS,

Braunschweig: All preparing for confirmation in the Braunschweiger Landeskirche

Free State: For all victims of crime

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Monmouth (Wales) The Rt Rev Cherry Vann

Western Tanganyika (Tanzania) The Rt Rev Sadock Makaya

Igbomina (Nigeria) The Rt Rev Emmanuel Adekola

**Sunday 19 April
Second Sunday of
Easter**

During the coronavirus outbreak we pray for all care homes, the residents and staff, that they may sense God's love and care for them in the midst of self-imposed isolation.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Being Witnesses - 2 Peter 3.9

For I am not ashamed of the gospel; it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who has faith, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

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: [Knuzden St Oswald](#): Rev Dr Anne Morris: School – St Oswald's CofE PS

Braunschweig: All who teach RE in state schools within the Braunschweiger Landeskirche

Free State: For those engaged in youth work across the Free State

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Pray for the Church of Church of Ireland

Monday 20 April

During the coronavirus outbreak we pray for foodbanks and all those groups and individuals who will be providing food for someone today.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Being Witnesses - 2 Peter 3.9

For I am not ashamed of the gospel; it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who has faith, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

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: [Lower Darwen St James](#) and [Over Darwen St James](#) and [Hoddlesden St Paul's](#): Rev Canon Tim Horobin, Rev Dr Alice Cole: Schools – Lower Darwen St James CofE PS, Darwen St James CofE PS, Hoddlesden St Paul's CofE PS

Braunschweig: For new links between our secondary schools

Free State: For our linked parishes

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Montana (The Episcopal Church) The Rt Rev C. Franklin Brookhart

Wiawso (West Africa) The Rt Rev Abraham Kobina Ackah

Igbomina - West (Nigeria) The Rt Rev Olajide Adebayo

Meeting: Bishop's Appointments Team

Tuesday 21 April

During the coronavirus outbreak we pray for all the young people who are unable to meet together at church, as part of uniformed organisations, youth groups or other groups.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – Daniel 12.3

Those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever.

M:Power: Pray for the M:Power team and Bishop Philip as the process of recruiting for the 20/21 intake of student begins. Pray that we will call out the urban leaders to be beacons across this Diocese.

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, Nick McKee, our Vocations Team, our Assistant Directors of Ordinands and our Examining Chaplains.

Diocese: North and East Blackburn ([St Michael and All Angels](#) and [St Thomas with St Jude](#)), Rev Nicholas Heale: Schools – St Michael with St John CofE PS, St Thomas' CofE PS

Braunschweig: All who work at Braunschweig Theological Centre

Free State: For **Canon John Hall**, Commissary to the Bishop of the Free State

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Montreal (Canada) The Rt Rev Mary Irwin-Gibson

Willochra (Australia) The Rt Rev John Stead

Ijebu (Nigeria) The Rt Rev Ezekiel Awosoga

Ijebu - North (Nigeria) The Rt Rev Solomon Kuponu

Meeting: Diocesan Mission and Pastoral Committee; Property Committee; Finance Committee

Wednesday 22 April

During the coronavirus outbreak we pray for those who are struggling with their mental health as a result of the pandemic that they would find a sense of peace and affirmation.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – Daniel 12.3

Those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever.

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

Diocese: [Blackpool Deanery Officers](#): Rev Peter Lillicrap, Miss Margaret Hayhurst, Mrs Diane Dennett, Mrs Rita Templeton, Rev Clive Lord

Braunschweig: All training for ministry at Braunschweig Theological Centre

Free State: For the Blackburn Link Committee

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Moosonee (Canada) The Rt Rev Thomas Corston
Winchester (England) The Rt Rev Tim Dakin

Thursday 23 April

George, martyr, patron of England, c.304

During the coronavirus outbreak we pray for those who feel their lives are on hold that they may retain a sense of hope.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – Daniel 12.3

Those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever.

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: [Anchorsholme All Saints](#): Rev Anthony Barnshaw

Braunschweig: Chair of the Braunschweig Link Committee in Blackburn Diocese

Free State: For the Cathedral Staff and members of the Diocesan Office

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Moray, Ross and Caithness (Scotland) The Most Rev Mark Strange (Primate)

Windward Islands (West Indies) The Rt Rev C Leopold Friday

Wondurba (South Sudan) The Rt Rev Matthew Taban Peter

Meeting: Bishop's Budget Team

Friday 24 April

Mellitus, bishop, 624;
Seven Martyrs of the
Melanesian Brotherhood,
2003

During the coronavirus outbreak we pray for the Archbishops of Canterbury and York and the central governance structures of the church that they would have wisdom in their decision making and strive in all they do to enable and empower all people of faith.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – Daniel 12.3

Those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever.

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

Diocese: [Bispham All Hallows](#): Rev Canon Dr Simon Cox, Rev Jim Crawford, Rev Dr Tom Woolford: School – Bispham Endowed CofE PS

Braunschweig: Ralph Ohainski, Chair of the Blackburn Link Committee in Braunschweig

Free State: For the Fellowship of Vocation

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Morobo (South Sudan) The Rt Rev James Kenyi Elia

Worcester (England) The Rt Rev John Inge

Saturday 25 April

Mark the Evangelist

During the coronavirus outbreak we pray for the Cathedral, the Dean, Chapter and Canons and its ministry to the Diocese as the mother church.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – Daniel 12.3

Those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever.

Vision 2026: Pray for the Youth Provision Development Team's engagement with churches across the Diocese to empower, instil confidence and enable growth in leaders and youth ministries.

Diocese: [Blackpool Holy Cross South Shore](#), Vacant, Mrs Jacqueline Gunn (cw), Mr Alan Asher (cw)

Braunschweig: All who work in the RE-Institute (ARPM) at Wolfenbüttel

Free State: For the Anglican Women's Fellowship

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Morogoro (Tanzania) The Rt Rev Godfrey Sehaba

Wulu (South Sudan) The Rt Rev Zacharia Mangar Apeti

Ijesa North East (Nigeria) The Rt Rev Joseph Olusola

Sunday 26 April
Third Sunday of Easter

During the coronavirus outbreak we pray for those without a permanent home, living on the streets, sofa surfing or relying on hostels for a bed each night.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – Daniel 12.3

Those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever.

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

Diocese: [Blackpool Holy Trinity South Shore](#) (in plurality with) [Blackpool St Peter South Shore](#): Rev Tracy Charnock, Rev Emma Swarbrick

Braunschweig: All involved in the Synod of the Braunschweiger Landeskirche

Free State: For all Archdeacons and their respective Archdeaconries

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Pray for the Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and The Middle East

The Most Rev Michael Lewis – Archbishop, Jerusalem and the Middle East and Bishop of Cyprus and the Gulf

Monday 27 April

Christina Rossetti, poet,
1894

During the coronavirus outbreak we pray for all prisoners, prison officers, prison chaplains, governors and support staff.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – Daniel 12.3

Those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever.

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: [Blackpool Christ Church with All Saints](#): Rev Adrian Wolton, Mrs Caroline Hayball (cw), Mrs Lee Gascoigne (cw)

Braunschweig: Bishop Christoph and all who work in the Landeskirchenamt (Diocesan Offices) at Wolfenbüttel

Free State: For all school Chaplains

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Mount Kenya Central (Kenya) The Rt Rev Timothy Gichere

Mount Kenya South (Kenya) The Rt Rev Timothy Ranji

Mount Kenya West (Kenya) The Rt Rev Joseph Kagunda

Tuesday 28 April

Peter Chanel, missionary,
martyr, 1841

During the coronavirus outbreak we pray for all those who work in the hospitality or leisure industry.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – Daniel 12.3

Those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever.

Preston Resourcing Parish: "Make the most of every opportunity – because the days are evil." Pray as we seek to build on the student drop-in experiment we trialled in December. Students are hungry – spiritually and physically!

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: [Blackpool St Christopher and St Nicholas](#): Rev Martin Daniels: School – St Nicholas CofE PS

Braunschweig: Deputy Bishop Thomas Hofer

Free State: For all involved in Ordination training

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Mount Kilimanjaro (Tanzania) The Rt Rev Stanley Elilekia Hotay

Wusasa (Nigeria) The Rt Rev Ali Buba Lamido

Ijesha North (Nigeria) The Rt Rev Isaac Oluyamo

Wednesday 29 April

Catherine of Siena, teacher
of the faith, 1380

During the coronavirus outbreak we pray for all parish clergy and those who hold office within each parish that they would have the strength, imagination and wisdom to enable each community to know it is prayed for, cared for and loved.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – Daniel 12.3

Those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever.

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

Diocese: [Blackpool St John](#): Rev Steve Haskett: School – St John's CofE PS
Braunschweig: All who work in the RE-Institute (ARPM) at Wolfenbüttel
Free State: For Bishop Tom and Bishop Paddy, former Bishops of the Diocese.
Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Mpumalanga (Southern Africa) The Rt Rev Daniel Kgomosotho
Wyoming (The Episcopal Church) The Rt Rev John Smylie

Thursday 30 April

Pandita Mary Ramabai,
translator, 1922

During the coronavirus outbreak we pray for all those involved in ensuring communication networks function.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – Daniel 12.3

Those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever.

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

Diocese: [Blackpool St Mary South Shore](#): Vacant, Mrs Michelle Broughton (cw)
Braunschweig: Growth in links between parishes and Dioceses in England and Germany

Free State: For all engaged in national and local politics

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Mpwapwa (Tanzania) The Rt Rev Jacob Erasto Chimeledya
Yambio (South Sudan) The Most Rev Samuel Peni
Yangon (Myanmar) The Most Rev Stephen Than Myint Oo (Primate)