

Blackburn Prayers November 2020

Since March we have seen unprecedented events taking place in our country and around the world in response to the coronavirus outbreak.

A regular update for parishes continues to be sent from Bishop Philip and the Coronavirus Task Group; 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 after lockdown Bishop Philip wrote that, above all, we must give ourselves at this time to the work of prayer. As the pandemic persists, so our prayer also continues to be vital of course. That is why we are continuing to open with a special intention each day in Blackburn Prayers to help us to pray into the current crisis.

Meanwhile, this month we have all been invited by Bishop Julian to participate in a **'Call to Pray and Give'** from November 12-29. This is a Diocesan-led initiative to boost parish funds at the end of this very challenging year, to enable current levels of stipendiary mission and ministry to continue.

The hope is that at the culmination of 17 days of prayer (including times of fasting) on Advent Sunday - November 29 - each parish in the Diocese will allow an opportunity for gifts to be presented. That's why, as part of our preparation for and participation in the **'Call to Pray and Give'**, we have also included some specific additional prayer points for this month only.

Look out for more on our **'Call to Pray and Give'** initiative on the Diocesan website www.blackburn.anglican.org – including the opportunity to participate in *live online evening prayer* each night and led by a different member of the Bishop's Leadership Team on each occasion.

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 memory verses also 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 Youth/Children and Schools. And we have prayers for National Church Funded Projects in Blackpool, Blackburn and Preston.

If you have any comments, amendments or updates regarding Blackburn Prayers, please direct them to karen.ashcroft@blackburn.anglican.org in the first instance. Finally, 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

Sunday 1 November
Fourth Sunday before
Advent
All Saints Day

On the Feast of All Saints, give thanks for the gift of salvation granted to us through the saving work of Jesus Christ and modelled in the lives of all God's holy ones. Pray that as the second wave of Covid-19 sweeps across the nation, Christians may be bold to speak up for the hope we find in Jesus Christ.

Call to Pray and Give: In this month when we have our Call to Pray and Give, I ask Lord God that you will bless the time I freely and joyfully give to serve you. Help me to be generous in all ways.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Making Disciples - 1 Corinthians 10.13

No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

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: [Blackpool St Christopher and St Nicholas](#), Rev Martin Daniels; also in this Benefice St Nichola CofE Primary School

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: Pray for the Church of the Province of West Africa
The Most Rev Dr Jonathan Bau-Bau Bonaparte Hart - Primate and Metropolitan, Church of the Province of West Africa; Archbishop of the Internal province of West Africa and Bishop of Liberia.

Monday 2 November
Commemoration of the
Faithful Departed (All Saints
Day);
All Souls Day;
Daily Eucharistic Lectionary
week 31

On All Souls Day, pray for all those who have been bereaved recently that they may sense God's loving presence in the midst of their grief. Pray for those who support them both informally and formally that they might have the wisdom and compassion they need to listen and support each individual.

Call to Pray and Give: Generous and loving God, in this month when we have our Call to Pray and Give please accept and bless all the different ways I give to the life of your Church.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Making Disciples - 1 Corinthians 10.13

No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

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: [Blackpool St John](#), Rev Steve Haskett; also in this Benefice St John's CofE Primary School

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: Rochester (England) The Rt Rev James Langstaff; Rochester (The Episcopal Church) The Rt Rev Prince Singh; Kushtia (Bangladesh) The Rt Rev Samuel Sunil Mankhin (Primate)

Meeting: Bishop's Leadership Team

Tuesday 3 November

Richard Hooker, priest, teacher of the Faith, 1600;
Martin of Porres, friar, 1639

Pray for all who work in our hospitals. Those on the frontline, nurses, doctors, healthcare chaplains and allied health professionals and those who work behind the scenes to support their work, from the domestic and catering staff to laboratory workers, administrators and security staff. Pray that they would have courage and strength as they work, as well as empathy and compassion in all they do.

Call to Pray and Give: God You alone know my innermost thoughts. In this month when we have our Call to Pray and Give, please help me to be a generous person, always looking for opportunities to share what you've blessed me with. Amen

Bishop's Memory Verse: Making Disciples - 1 Corinthians 10.13

No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

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: [Blackpool St Mary Squires Gate](#), Rev Lindsay Pearson

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

Free State: The Bishop's Council

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Rockhampton (Australia) Vacant; Delhi (North India)

The Rt Rev Warris K. Masih; Kutigi (Nigeria) The Rt Rev Jeremiah Kolo

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

Wednesday 4 November

Pray for key workers who help to keep day to day life running from those who deliver post and food to those who enable the delivery of medicines and other vital supplies to our communities.

Call to Pray and Give: In this month when we have our Call to Pray and Give, I give thanks Lord for all the people who share with us the skills and talents they've been blessed with that enrich the life of the local church. I pray you will help me to give generously of my gifts too.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Making Disciples - 1 Corinthians 10.13

No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

Vision 2026: Pray for the Whalley Abbey Steering group as they work towards reopening the Abbey as a Centre for Christian Discipleship and Prayer in September 2021

Diocese: [Blackpool St Paul North Shore \(in plurality with\) Greenlands St Anne](#),

Rev Deborah Prest, Rev Jane Parker

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

Free State: For greater financial responsibility

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Rokon (South Sudan) The Rt Rev Francis Loyo Mori; Derby (England) The Rt Rev Libby Lane

Thursday 5 November

Pray for students and for our universities as they seek to meet unprecedented challenges in keeping students safe. Pray especially for students, those who are missing home and who are worrying if they will be able to see family members this Christmas.

Call to Pray and Give: In this month when we have our Call to Pray and Give, I ask Lord that you will help me to recognise the gifts you've blessed me with, and give me courage to share them in the service of your Church.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Making Disciples - 1 Corinthians 10.13

No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

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

Diocese: [Blackpool St Stephen on the Cliffs](#), Rev Canon Andrew Sage

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

Free State: For Mosamaria Aids Ministry

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Rorya (Tanzania) The Rt Rev John Adiemu; Derry and Raphoe (Ireland) The Rt Rev Kenneth Raymond Good; Dhaka (Bangladesh) The Most Rev Paul Shishir Sarker

Friday 6 November

Leonard, hermit, 6th cent.;
William Temple, archbishop,
teacher of the Faith, 1944

Pray for all those who exercise a lay leadership in the local church and for those who seek to witness to their faith in the workplace. Pray especially for those who have discovered new opportunities for service in the pandemic.

Call to Pray and Give: In this month when we have our Call to Pray and Give, we ask Lord Jesus, that you will help all in our churches to bless our communities in your name. Help us to give generously of our time, skills and money so that your Church can flourish and continue its work. I pray you will be our guide. Amen

Bishop's Memory Verse: Making Disciples - 1 Corinthians 10.13

No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

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: [Blackpool St Thomas](#), Rev David O'Brien, Rev Emma Swarbrick

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: Ruaha (Tanzania) The Rt Rev Joseph Mgomi; Europe (England) The Rt Rev Robert Innes; Europe (The Episcopal Church) The Rt Rev Mark D W Edington

Saturday 7 November

Willibrord, bishop, 739

Pray for all those who live and work in care homes or sheltered housing complexes. Pray for safety for all and that those who work to care for the residents would have compassion and wisdom as they work.

Call to Pray and Give: In this month when we have our Call to Pray and Give, I thank you Lord God for blessing me abundantly with good gifts, and I pray you would help me to share them with others.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Making Disciples - 1 Corinthians 10.13

No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

Blackpool Ministry Experience: Pray for the leaders of the Blackpool Ministry Experience and their co-ordinator Rev Linda Tomkinson, the mentors, the members of the committee and all at Diocesan offices who support them.

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

Diocese: Blackpool Trinity The Hospice in the Fylde, Rev Paul Berry

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: Rumbek (South Sudan) The Most Rev Alapayo Manyang Kuctiel; The Bahamas and The Turks and Caicos Islands (West Indies) The Rt Rev Laish Boyd; Kwara (Nigeria) The Most Rev Olusegun Adeyemi

Sunday 8 November

Third Sunday before

Advent

Remembrance Sunday

Pray for all who feel lonely, isolated or anxious because of the pandemic. Pray especially for those who are isolated from loved ones, for grandparents who long to see a grandchild, for those worried about elderly parents and for families who are under pressure.

Call to Pray and Give: In this month when we have our Call to Pray and Give, I give thanks Lord, that I'm able to give up my time to serve your church. Please bless all I do in your service.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Making Disciples - 1 Corinthians 10.13

No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

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

Diocese: [Layton St Mark and Staining St Luke](#), Rev Peter Lillicrap, Rev Matt Robinson; also in this Benefice Staining CofE Primary School

Braunschweig: The Local Ecumenical Partnership between Warton and Timmerlah

Free State: For the urban poor in the townships

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Pray for the Church in the Province of the West Indies The Most Rev Howard Gregory - Primate and Bishop of Jamaica and the Cayman Islands

Monday 9 November

Margery Kempe, mystic,
c.1440;
Daily Eucharistic Lectionary
week 32

Give thanks and pray for all research and laboratory staff as they process essential tests and develop new tests. Give them resilience as they strive to understand more about the virus. Inspire their thinking around new ways of approaching the virus.

Call to Pray and Give: In this month when we have our Call to Pray and Give, I'm so grateful for all the things you've given me Lord God. Help me to give to others, with the same generosity and joy as you give.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Making Disciples - 1 Corinthians 10.13

No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

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

Diocese: [Marton St Paul](#), Rev Lesley Atkinson; also in this Benefice Blackpool Baines Endowed Primary School and Children's Centre (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: The Free State (Southern Africa) The Rt Rev Dintoe Letloenyane

Tuesday 10 November

Leo the Great, bishop, teacher
of the Faith, 461

Pray for all those involved in ensuring communication networks function and those who work in administration to keep essential services running smoothly. Pray that they would feel valued in the vital work they do and to be able to work safely and diligently.

Call to Pray and Give: In this month when we have our Call to Pray and Give, I pray Lord that you will help me to count my many blessings, and to share generously of what I have been given.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Making Disciples - 1 Corinthians 10.13

No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

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

Diocese: [Mereside St Wilfrid](#), Rev Linda Tomkinson; also in this Benefice Blackpool St George's CofE Academy (Rev Lindsay Pearson is Chaplain)

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: Rumonge (Burundi) The Rt Rev Pedaculi Birakengana; Diocese on the Coast (Nigeria) The Rt Rev J Ebunoluwa Ogunele; Kwoi (Nigeria) The Rt Rev Paul Zamani

Wednesday 11 November

Martin, bishop, c.397

Pray for public health professionals and all in positions of influence that they would have wisdom and compassion as they analyse statistics and research. Pray that they would seek the common good in all complex and difficult decisions they need to make at this time.

Call to Pray and Give: As I prepare for our Call to Pray and Give, when I struggle to give generously Lord, please be my strength and help me to always trust in you.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Being Witnesses - Acts 17.30

While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent.

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: [Burnley Deanery Officers](#), Area Dean (vacant), Mrs Carol Waddington

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: Rupert's Land (Canada) The Rt Rev Geoffrey J Woodcroft; Dogura (Papua New Guinea) The Rt Rev Tennyson Bogar

Thursday 12 November

Pray for those who work in food production, food processing or distribution. Give thanks for those running and supporting food banks enabling those who are the most vulnerable to have enough to eat each day.

Call to Pray and Give: On this first day of our Call to Pray and Give, I pray Lord, that you would teach me your generosity, and help me to demonstrate it myself.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Being Witnesses - Acts 17.30

While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent.

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

Diocese: [Briercliffe St James](#), Vacant, Mr Alec Oldham (cw), Mrs Sheila Scott (cw); also in this Benefice Burnley St James' Lanehead CofE Primary School

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: Rutana (Burundi) The Rt Rev Pontien Ribakare; Doko (Nigeria) The Rt Rev Uriah Kolo; Dominican Republic (The Episcopal Church) The Rt Rev Moisés Quezada Mota

Meeting: Area Deans Meeting; Investment Committee

Friday 13 November

Charles Simeon, priest,
evangelical divine, 1836

Give thanks for those who through their talents inspire our worship through writing, music, visual and performing arts. Pray for energy and imagination for those who are maintaining worship, live or online, during the pandemic.

Call to Pray and Give: As we continue our Call to Pray and Give, I thank you Lord for our local church, thank you for our clergy, thank you for our church family, thank you for our building, thank you for bringing Your light to our community. I ask that you will help me to give generously towards your mission Lord.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Being Witnesses - Acts 17.30

While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent.

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

Diocese: [Burnley St Andrew with St Margaret and Burnley St James](#), Rev Aiden Edwards, Rev Timothy Kaye, Rev Paul Benfield

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: Ruwenzori (Uganda) The Rt Rev Reuben Kisembo; Dornakal (South India) The Rt Rev Vadapalli Prasada Rao

Meeting: Audit/Risk/Governance Committee; Diocesan Advisory Committee

Saturday 14 November

Samuel Seabury, bishop, 1796

Pray for those responsible for the Test and Trace programme in this country and for those doing similar work in other parts of the world. Strengthen them to address problems and help them to play to the full their part in bringing us through the crisis.

Call to Pray and Give: As we continue our Call to Pray and Give, today Lord I thank you that part of my giving pays for the training of new clergy in our Diocese so new generations can be led by ordained ministers.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Being Witnesses - Acts 17.30

While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent.

Blackpool Centre of Mission: Pray for the Ecumenical links across the Fylde coast as churches work together to reach the community through words and deeds.

Vision 2026: For God to raise up intercessors who are ambitious, insightful and who storm the gates of heaven.

Diocese: [Burnley St Catherine with St Alban and St Paul](#), Rev Roger Parker

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: Sabah (South East Asia) The Rt Rev Melter Jiki Tais (Primate); Down and Dromore (Ireland) Vacant

Sunday 15 November
Second Sunday before
Advent

Give thanks for those who stand up for justice in our communities and pray for all those who serve our communities, from the police, to those who collect the bins and keep public transport running to those elected to serve on our local and county councils.

Call to Pray and Give: As we continue our Call to Pray and Give, I ask Lord that you will bless the money that I freely and joyfully give for the ongoing mission of Your church. Thank you that some is spent to resource children's and youth ministry.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Being Witnesses - Acts 17.30

While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent.

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: [Burnley St Cuthbert](#) (in plurality with Brierfield St Luke), Vacant, Mrs Jennifer Swierc (cw), Mrs Janet Gilbert (cw)

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: Pray for the Church of Ceylon (Extra-Provincial to the Archbishop of Canterbury); The Rt Rev Dhiloraj Ranjit Canagasabey - Bishop of Colombo; The Rt Rev Keerthisiri Fernando - Bishop of Kurunegala

Monday 16 November

Margaret, queen,
philanthropist, 1093;
Edmund Rich, archbishop,
1240;
Daily Eucharistic Lectionary
week 33

Pray for families who are struggling to make ends meet, for people who have lost jobs and for those who do not know how they will feed their children. Pray for a spirit of generosity and compassion in our nation.

Call to Pray and Give: As we continue our Call to Pray and Give, today I'm thankful that part of my giving pays for training for our lay leaders and equips them to serve You. Thank you from each one of them.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Being Witnesses - Acts 17.30

While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent.

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: [Burnley St Mark](#), Rev Paul Benfield, Miss Sandra Moolgoaker (cw)

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: Sabongidda-Ora (Nigeria) The Rt Rev Augustine E Ohilebo; Dublin and Glendalough (Ireland) The Most Rev Michael Geoffrey St Aubyn Jackson

Meeting: Bishop's Appointments Team

Tuesday 17 November

Hugh, bishop, 1200

Pray for our communities: that they would be places of trust and friendship where there is an openness to hear the Gospel. Pray for all those who seek to build up community life.

Call to Pray and Give: As we continue our Call to Pray and Give I thank you Lord that I am able to contribute financially so that Your Gospel message can reach and bless communities across our region.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Being Witnesses - Acts 17.30

While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent.

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

Diocese: [Burnley St Matthew the Apostle \(Habergham Eaves\) with Holy Trinity](#), Rev Alex Frost, Rev Kat Gregory-Witham; also in this Benefice Holy Trinity CofE Primary School

Braunschweig: All working in church kindergartens

Free State: For Chaplains

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Saldanha Bay (Southern Africa) The Rt Rev Raphael Hess; Duk (South Sudan) The Rt Rev Daniel Deng Abot

Wednesday 18 November

Elizabeth, princess,
philanthropist, 1231

Pray for Christian healthcare workers, for chaplains and for all who seek to live out the Gospel in the healthcare profession.

Call to Pray and Give: As we continue our Call to Pray and Give, I give thanks Lord that my contribution to my local church helps to see your Kingdom Come. Bless our work, bless all the ways we give, and help us to always be generous. Amen

Bishop's Memory Verse: Being Witnesses - Acts 17.30

While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent.

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

Diocese: [Burnley St Peter](#) and [St Stephen](#), Rev Patrick Senior; also in this Benefice St Peter's CofE Primary School, St Stephen's CofE Voluntary Aided Primary School

Braunschweig: All preparing for confirmation in the Braunschweiger Landeskirche

Free State: For all victims of crime

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Salisbury (England) The Rt Rev Nicholas Holtam; Dunedin (Aotearoa NZ and Polynesia) The Rt Rev Steven Benford

Thursday 19 November

Hilda, abbess, 680;
Mechtild, béguine, mystic,
1280

Pray for national government, the cabinet and civil servants that they would make wise and compassionate decisions that protect the most vulnerable and build up our common life.

Call to Pray and Give: As we continue our Call to Pray and Give, thank you Lord for enabling me to give so my parish can share your Good News with those who need to hear it. Bless our mission Lord. Amen

Bishop's Memory Verse: Being Witnesses - Acts 17.30

While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent.

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: [Burnley West All Saints with St John Baptist](#), Rev Charlie Hill; also in this Benefice Wellfield Methodist and Anglican Church School

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: Sambalpur (North India) The Rt Rev Pinuel Dip; Dunkwa-on-Offin (West Africa) The Rt Rev Edmund Dawson Ahmoah; Durgapur (North India) The Rt Rev Sameer Isaac Khimla

Friday 20 November

Edmund, king, martyr, 870;
Priscilla Lydia Sellon, a
restorer of the religious life in
the Church of England, 1876

Pray for those without a permanent home, those living on the streets, sofa surfing or relying on hostels for a bed each night that they would find places where they could receive the support they need.

Call to Pray and Give: As we continue our Call to Pray and Give, please accept our offerings for the growth and advancement of your Church.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Being Witnesses - Acts 17.30

While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent.

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: [Holme in Cliviger St John the Divine with Worsthorne St John Evangelist](#), Rev Chris Casey; also in this Benefice Cliviger St John's CofE Primary School

Braunschweig: For new links between our secondary schools

Free State: For our linked parishes

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: San Diego (The Episcopal Church) The Rt Rev Dr Katharine Jefferts Schori; Durham (England) The Rt Rev Paul Butler

Saturday 21 November

Pray for the economy of our nation and our communities and for the Chancellor of the Exchequer and his team. Pray for all those whose businesses who are grappling with new ways of working and those who have lost or fear losing their livelihoods because of the pandemic.

Call to Pray and Give: As we continue our Call to Pray and Give, I pray Lord that my gifts will be wisely used to resource your mission and help Your Kingdom to come here in Lancashire.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – Philippians 4.13

I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

M:Power: Pray the M:Power materials continue to grow and develop in fresh ways that impacts the M:Power students. Pray for opportunities to share the M:Power approach with other Dioceses.

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: [Padiham with Hapton and Padiham Green](#), Rev Canon Mark Jones, Rev Kit Walker; also in this Benefice Hapton CofE and Methodist School, Padiham Green CofE Primary School, Padiham St Leonard's Voluntary Aided CofE Primary School

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: San Joaquin (The Episcopal Church) The Rt Rev David Rice; Dutse (Nigeria) The Rt Rev Markus Yohanna Danbinta; Kyoto (Japan) The Rt Rev Stephen Takashi Kochi

Meeting: Bishop's Council and Directors

Sunday 22 November

Sunday next before

Advent;

Christ the King

On the Feast of Christ the King, pray for all who live in fear of death and all who are gripped by anxiety or despair. May they find hope in King Jesus who reigns from the cross so as to overcome all the powers of darkness and set us free to serve him for ever.

Call to Pray and Give: As we continue our Call to Pray and Give Bless my contribution to church life Lord. Thank you that I can support your church financially.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – Philippians 4.13

I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

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

Diocese: [Chorley Deanery Officers](#), Rev David Arnold, Rev Canon Andrew Holliday, Mr Andrew Stokes, Mr Peter Mason

Braunschweig: All training for ministry at Braunschweig Theological Centre

Free State: For the Blackburn Link Committee

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Pray for the Church of Bermuda (Extra-Provincial to the Archbishop of Canterbury); The Rt Rev Nicholas Dill – Bishop of Bermuda

Monday 23 November

Clement, bishop, martyr,
c.100;

Daily Eucharistic Lectionary
week 34

Pray for all prisoners, prison officers, prison chaplains, governors and support staff. Pray too for the criminal justice system, magistrates and judges as they continue to administer justice in these challenging times.

Call to Pray and Give: As we continue our Call to Pray and Give Lord, keep me away from ungenerous thoughts. Help me to not hoard. Guide me towards joyful, open, worry-free giving, that comes from total trust in You. When I struggle, please help me O God.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – Philippians 4.13

I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

Vision 2026: 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: [Adlington St Paul](#), Rev David Arnold; also in this Benefice St Paul's CofE Primary School

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: Santiago (Chile) The Rt Rev Hector (Tito) Zavala; Santiago (Philippines) The Rt Rev Frenzel Ray P Piluden

Meeting: General Synod

Tuesday 24 November

Pray for all schools across the Diocese, their head teachers, teaching staff and support staff as they start a new school year. Give thanks for all the staff working with the Diocesan Board of Education. Continue to bless and inspire them as they provide resources for schools.

Call to Pray and Give: As we continue our Call to Pray and Give Help me to see the needs of those within my parish and this Diocese. Help me to be generous with what you've given me. Help me to love as you love. I pray you will bless my generosity and continue to teach me your ways.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – Philippians 4.13

I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

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

Diocese: [Appley Bridge All Saints](#) and [Parbold Christ Church](#), Rev Sue Timmins, Rev Prof Michelle Plant; also in this Benefice Appley Bridge All Saints CofE Primary School, Parbold Douglas CofE Academy

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

Free State: For the Fellowship of Vocation

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Sao Paulo (Brazil) The Rt Rev Francisco Cezar Fernandes; East Carolina (The Episcopal Church) The Rt Rev Robert Skirving

Meeting: General Synod

Wednesday 25 November

Catherine, martyr, 4th cent;
Issac Watts, hymn writer, 1748

Give thanks for our Cathedral Church, the Dean and Canons and its ministry to the Diocese as the mother church. Pray for wisdom and inspiration as they respond to the changing requirements in managing the pandemic and prepare for a weekend of ordinations of priests and deacons in our Diocese.

Call to Pray and Give: As we come towards the time for making our pledges as part of the Call to Pray and Give Father I give my time, my money and I use the skills and talents you've blessed me with to serve you.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – Philippians 4.13

I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

Vision 2026: 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: [Brindle St James](#), Rev David Ward; also in this Benefice St James' CofE Voluntary Aided Primary School

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

Free State: For the Anglican Women's Fellowship

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Sapele (Nigeria) The Rt Rev Dr Blessing Erifeta; East Kerala (South India) The Rt Rev V S Francis

Meeting: General Synod

Thursday 26 November

Give thanks for all the different ways we are able to keep in touch with each other and come together virtually. Pray that we continue to learn new ways to come together and support each other.

Call to Pray and Give: As we continue our Call to Pray and Give, I pray that when I give out of habit you will remind me to give out of love. When I find giving hard, please give me courage. When I worry about what's left, remind me to trust in You. Amen

Bishop's Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – Philippians 4.13

I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

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

Diocese: [Chorley All Saints](#), Rev Ed Straszak; also in this Benefice All Saints CofE Primary School and Nursery Unit

Braunschweig: All involved in the Synod of the Braunschweiger Landeskirche

Free State: For all Archdeacons and their respective Archdeaconries

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Saskatchewan (Canada) The Rt Rev Michael William Hawkins; East Ruwenzori (Uganda) The Rt Rev George Turyasingura; East Tennessee (The Episcopal Church) The Rt Rev Brian Lee Cole

Friday 27 November

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 despite the restrictions of the global pandemic.

Call to Pray and Give: As we come towards the time for making our pledges as part of the Call to Pray and Give, I ask Lord that you will show me how much to give. Help me to be generous. Help me to pray. Remind me always to turn to you for guidance and strength when giving is hard.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – Philippians 4.13

I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

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: [Chorley St George](#), Rev Mike Print; also in this Benefice St George's CofE Primary School

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

Free State: For all school Chaplains

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Saskatoon (Canada) The Rt Rev Christopher Harper; Eastern Himalayas (North India) Vacant

Saturday 28 November

Pray for northern England and especially for those communities that feel marginalised, overlooked or ignored. Pray for a fair distribution of resources and for a sense of national unity that we may work together to defeat the virus.

Call to Pray and Give: As we come towards the time for making our pledges as part of the Call to Pray and Give, I thank you Lord that you know everything about me. You know my struggles, you know my circumstances. You know what is generous. I pray that you will bless my offerings, and you will continue to guide me in my giving and especially in my response to the Call to Pray and Give.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – Philippians 4.13

I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

Preston Resourcing Parish: Everything rises and falls on leadership. Please pray that the character, competency and chemistry of our team will be nurtured, protected and flourish in a way which releases the potential of others.

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

Diocese: [Chorley St James](#), Rev David Phillips; also in this Benefice St James' CofE Primary School

Braunschweig: Deputy Bishop Thomas Hofer

Free State: For all involved in Ordination training

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Sebei (Uganda) The Rt Rev Paul Kiptoo Masaba; Eastern Kowloon (Hong Kong) The Rt Rev Timothy Kwok; Kyushu (Japan) The Rt Rev Luke Ken-ichi Muto

Sunday 29 November First Sunday of Advent

As Christians keep Advent Sunday, pray that in this holy season we might welcome into our hearts afresh the Christ who came as a child in Bethlehem and who will come again in glory to bring history to its consummation.

Call to Pray and Give: Father God, as we respond to the Call to Pray and Give, guide my giving and give wisdom to all our PCCs who decide how our giving is used. I pray they will lead wisely and that all these gifts given across our Diocese will resource your mission in our local parishes.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – Philippians 4.13

I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

Vision 2026: 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: [Chorley St Laurence](#), Rev Neil Kelley, Rev Mo Baldwin; also in this Benefice Chorley St Michael's CofE High School, Chorley St Laurence CofE Primary School

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: Pray for the Lusitanian Church (Extra-Provincial to the Archbishop of Canterbury); The Rt Rev Jorge Pina Cabral - Bishop of the Lusitanian Church

Monday 30 November
Andrew the Apostle

Pray that even in pandemic, Christians might use the days leading up to Christmas to point to the healing hope and the new life we find in Jesus Christ. Pray for churches who are planning events and activities over the next few weeks, that they may bear witness safely but confidently.

Call to Pray and Give: Father God, as we come to the end of the Call to Pray and Give, we pray that you will help us to continue to live generous lives and to give out of love for you and remember that, as David prayed, all things come from you, and of your own do we give you. We ask that all that is given will be used to further your work within our Diocese.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – Philippians 4.13

I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

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

Diocese: [Chorley St Peter](#), Rev Peter Smith; also in this Benefice St Peter's CofE Primary School

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: Sekondi (West Africa) The Rt Rev Alexander Asmah; Eastern Michigan (The Episcopal Church) The Rt Rev Todd Ousley

Clergy Moves: Retirement of Rev Duncan Clarke, Vicar of Leyland St Ambrose