

Blackburn Prayers May 2021

In the last year 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 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. That is why we are continuing to open with a special intention each day in Blackburn Prayers. Meanwhile, 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

Saturday 1 May **Philip and James, Apostles**

Pray for all care homes, their residents, and staff that they may sense God's love and care for them in the midst of the ongoing challenges and restrictions around family visiting.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Making Disciples – 2 Corinthians 9.7

Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

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: [Knuzden St Oswald](#), Rev Dr Anne Morris

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

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of British Columbia – The Anglican Church of Canada (BC and Yukon Province)

Sunday 2 May
Fifth Sunday of Easter

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: Making Disciples - 2 Corinthians 9.7

Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

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

Diocese: [Lower Darwen St James and Over Darwen St James and Hoddlesden St Paul's](#), Vacant, Rev Dr Alice Cole, Ms Sharon Collins (IIm), Miss Susan Lloyd (IIm), Mrs Valerie Lucas (IIm), Mr Mike Gerrard (cw), Mrs Cath Gerrard (cw), Mrs Linda Winder (cw), Mrs Jacqueline Brine (cw), Mrs Elaine Williams (cw); also in this Benefice Lower Darwen St James' CofE Primary School, Darwen St James CofE Primary Academy, Hoddlesden St Paul's CofE Primary School

Free State: Pray for the Lay Ministry and Servers Guilds as they support clergy in the worshipping life of the church.

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

Monday 3 May

Pray for those who feel their lives are on hold or feel overwhelmed by the pressures of the pandemic and its impact on them, their families or livelihood; that they may retain a sense of hope.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Making Disciples - 2 Corinthians 9.7

Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

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

Diocese: North and East Blackburn ([St Michael and All Angels with St John and Holy Trinity](#) and [St Thomas with St Jude](#)), Rev Nicholas Heale

Braunschweig: All working in church kindergartens

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of Central Buganda – The Church of the Province of Uganda

Tuesday 4 May
English saints and martyrs of the Reformation Era

Pray for all those who are getting married in the coming months, those supporting them and those, in each parish, helping them prepare.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Making Disciples - 2 Corinthians 9.7

Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

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

Diocese: [Blackpool Deanery Officers](#), Rev Peter Lillicrap, Rev David O'Brien, Mrs Diane Dennett, Mrs Janet Rimmer, Mrs Rita Templeton

Free State: Give thanks for the work of 'Green Anglicans' who, with their links to Tearfund and the Anglican Church in Southern Africa, help young people and students find their voice in tackling the issues that matter to them.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of West Buganda – The Church of the Province of Uganda

Wednesday 5 May

Pray for public health professionals that they would have wisdom and compassion, seeking the common good, in all complex and difficult decisions that they continue to make at this time.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Making Disciples - 2 Corinthians 9.7

Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

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

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

Braunschweig: All preparing for confirmation in the Braunschweiger Landeskirche

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of Buhiga – The Anglican Church of Burundi
Meeting: Bishop's Leadership Team

Thursday 6 May

On Election Day, give thanks for local councils and local councillors and their willingness to serve their local communities. Pray 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: Making Disciples - 2 Corinthians 9.7

Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

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

Diocese: [Bispham All Hallows](#), Vacant, Rev Jim Crawford, Mrs Jane Carter (cw), Miss Margaret Cook (cw), Mrs Diane Dennett (Ilm), Mrs Annie Riley (Ilm), Mr John Riley (Ilm), Mr Keith Stevenson (Ilm), Mrs Linda Whitworth (Ilm); also, in this Benefice, Bispham Endowed CofE Primary School

Free State: Pray for the Mothers' Union as they continue their work in support of women and families around the world, but particularly for their work in the churches across Bloemfontein.

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

Friday 7 May

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 be able to work safely and diligently.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Making Disciples - 2 Corinthians 9.7

Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

Blackpool Ministry Experience (BME): Pray for the ongoing recruitment process for the next intake of the Blackpool Ministry Experience to be starting in September 2021.

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

Diocese: [Blackpool Christ Church with All Saints](#), Rev Adrian Wolton

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

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

Saturday 8 May

Julian of Norwich, spiritual writer, c.1417

Pray for all laboratory and research staff as they continue to process essential tests and monitor the safety and effectiveness of the vaccination programme. Give them resilience as they strive to understand and manage the global pandemic.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Making Disciples - 2 Corinthians 9.7

Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

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

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

Free State: Pray for Helen Ballard as she works linking parishes here in Blackburn with parishes in the Free State. Pray that these links may be fruitful and bless people on both sides of the link.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of Bukedi – The Church of the Province of Uganda

Meeting: Bishop's Council and Directors

Sunday 9 May

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Pray for Bishops, Julian, Philip and Jill, Archdeacons Mark and David, and also Dean Peter as they lead the Diocese and support the parishes as we move to unlocking and resetting parish ministry.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Making Disciples - 2 Corinthians 9.7

Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

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

Diocese: [Blackpool Holy Trinity South Shore](#) (in plurality with) [Blackpool St Peter South Shore](#), Rev Tracey Charnock, Mr Fred Bridges (Ilm)

Braunschweig: For new links between our secondary schools

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Anglican Church of Kenya

Monday 10 May
Rogation Day

Pray for all community workers in health and social care as they care for and support vulnerable people in our communities. Pray particularly for those voluntary organisations supporting their work through food banks, good neighbour projects and telephone support.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Making Disciples - 2 Corinthians 9.7

Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

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

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

Free State: Give thanks for the joyful attitude to giving in the churches in Bloemfontein. As we think of how some churches dance to the offering plate, may we be challenged to give joyfully of what God has given us.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of Bunbury – The Anglican Church of Australia (Western Australia Province)

Meeting: Audit/Risk/Governance Committee

Tuesday 11 May
Rogation Day

Give thanks for the work of schools, colleges and universities as they support children and young adults to navigate the complexities wrought by the pandemic.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Being Witnesses – John 3.16

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

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: [Blackpool St John's](#), Vacant, Mr Howard Deane (cw), Mr David Bannister (cw), Dr Bill Ward (Ilm); also, in this Benefice, Blackpool St John's CofE Primary School.

Braunschweig: All who work at Braunschweig Theological Centre

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

Wednesday 12 May
Rogation Day

Gregory Dix, priest, monk, scholar, 1952

Pray for those who work in food production, food processing or distribution as they manage the complexities of Brexit as well as producing food in a Covid secure way.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Being Witnesses - John 3.16

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

Mission Partners: Pray for 'Graham and Fiona' returning to their work, 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: For our church communities to enable people to encounter the love of Jesus in word and in action. Pray for the Diocesan #Thy Kingdom Come All Age service today as people commit to pray for five people to come to faith.

Diocese: [Blackpool St Mary South Shore](#), Rev Lindsay Pearson

Free State: Pray for the boys and girls at St Andrew's School, Welcom. Pray for their teachers and all who support learning and worship in that place.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of Bunyoro-Kitara – The Church of the Province of Uganda

Thursday 13 May
Ascension 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.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Being Witnesses - John 3.16

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

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: [Blackpool St Paul North Shore](#) (in plurality with) [Greenlands St Anne](#), Rev Deborah Prest, Rev Jane Parker, Mr Iain Thomson (Ilm)

Braunschweig: All training for ministry at Braunschweig Theological Centre

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of Busan – The Anglican Church of Korea

Friday 14 May
Matthias the Apostle

Pray for all hospital nurses, doctors, healthcare chaplains and allied health professionals working to care for the sickest people that they would have courage and strength as they work and empathy and compassion in all they do.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Being Witnesses - John 3.16

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

Blackpool Centre of Mission: Pray for Blackpool Deanery as the Centre of Mission partners in developing the Deanery Mission Action Plan. Pray for good relationships across the Deanery particularly in encouraging Vision Champions. Pray for the development of outreach and opportunities into new ways to serve the Fylde coast community.

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

Diocese: Lytham St Anne Clifton Hospital and the Blackpool Deanery, Rev Clive Lord

Free State: Pray for those who work in the Diocesan offices. Give them wisdom and energy as they work to further your kingdom in the Diocese.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of Busoga – The Church of the Province of Uganda

Meeting: Diocesan Advisory Committee

Saturday 15 May

Pray for all those who are sofa surfing or living on the streets that they would find the support and help they need to keep safe and find constructive ways out of their current circumstances.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Being Witnesses - John 3.16

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

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 need to lead churches that transform their local communities in the name of Jesus Christ.

Diocese: [Marton St Paul](#), Rev Lesley Atkins, Mr Ian Rushton (Ilm); also, in this Benefice, Blackpool Baines Endowed Primary School and Children's Centre, a CofE Primary Academy.

Braunschweig: Growth in links between the Education Departments of our two Dioceses.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of Central Busoga – The Church of the Province of Uganda

Sunday 16 May
Seventh Sunday of Easter
Sunday after Ascension Day

Pray for those who feel overwhelmed by the uncertainty of the pandemic that they would find places and people who can meet their needs.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Being Witnesses - John 3.16

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

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: [Mereside St Wilfrid](#), Rev Linda Tomkinson; also in this Benefice Blackpool St George's School, a CofE Academy

Free State: Pray for Kelebogile Ditema as she leads the work for Mosamaria Aids ministry at St Patrick's in Bloemfontein.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Anglican Church of Korea

Monday 17 May

Pray for national government, the cabinet and civil servants as they balance the need to protect the most vulnerable with re-opening the economy; the complexity of the decisions that this will entail as they plan to ease Covid restrictions further.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Being Witnesses - John 3.16

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

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

Diocese: [Burnley Deanery Officers](#), Rev Chris Casey, Mrs Carol Waddington, Mr Bob Clayfield

Braunschweig: All who are involved in the link committees for our two Dioceses

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

Meeting: House of Bishops (date tba)

Tuesday 18 May

Pray for our communities that they would be places of trust and friendship as households start to mix indoors and entertainment venues re-open.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Being Witnesses - John 3.16

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

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

Diocese: [Briercliffe St James](#), Vacant, Rev Timothy Kaye, Mrs Andrea Bettany (cw), Mr Christopher Holdsworth (cw); also, in this Benefice, St James' Lanehead CofE Primary School

Free State: Pray for all men who are part of the Bernard Mizeki Guild in the churches in the Free State. Pray as they meet to support each other and the churches. Give thanks for all they do in the support of the clergy in those churches.

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

Meeting: House of Bishops (date tba); Diocesan Safeguarding Advisory Panel

Wednesday 19 May

Dunstan, archbishop, monastic reformer, 988

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

Bishop's Memory Verse: Being Witnesses - John 3.16

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

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 St Andrew with St Margaret and Burnley St James](#), Rev Aiden Edwards, Rev Paul Benfield

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

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

Meeting: House of Bishops (date tba)

Clergy Moves: Rev David Arnold, moving from Vicar of Adlington St Paul to being Vicar of Accrington St Andrew, St Mary Magdalen and St Peter and Church Kirk. He is also leaving as Area Dean of Chorley to become Area Dean of Accrington

Thursday 20 May

Alcuin, deacon, abbot, 804

Pray for foodbanks and all those groups and individuals who will be providing food for someone today.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Being Witnesses - John 3.16

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

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

Free State: Pray today for South African Archbishop Thabo. Pray that he leads with truth and love and works always for the furthering of the kingdom of God.

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

Friday 21 May

Helena, protector of the Holy Places, 330

Pray for all the young people who are struggling with their mental health or high levels of anxiety, that they would find safe places to share their concerns and receive the support they need.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – John 18.36

Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here".

M:Power: Pray for the current cohort of trainees in Blackburn and Blackpool as they continue their training under lockdown, and for Sharon Collins and Rob McGibbon in their work as urban evangelists leading people to Christ.

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

Braunschweig: All involved in the Synod of the Braunschweiger Landeskirche

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of Calabar – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) (Niger Delta Province)

Saturday 22 May

Pray for all those who work with pre-school children from mother and toddler groups to child minders and nurseries that they would be places of love and care for all.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – John 18.36

Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here".

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

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

Free State: Pray for the Diocesan Retreat Centre at Modderpoort. Pray that it will be a place of rest and blessing to the Diocese and that the annual cave service there will be an opportunity for unity and growth in the Diocese.

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

Sunday 23 May

Pentecost
Whit Sunday

Pray for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit across the Diocese.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – John 18.36

Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here".

Vision 2026: As we enter the next phase of Vision 2026, pray that we will see healthy churches transforming communities across Lancashire. Pray for Vision 2026 to be a mission roadmap out of lockdown, helping us to unlock our churches for all.

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

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

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Anglican Church of Melanesia

Monday 24 May

John and Charles Wesley, evangelists, hymn writers, 1791 and 1788;
Ordinary Time resumes today;
Daily Eucharistic Lectionary week 8

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 – John 18.36

Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here".

Mission Partners: Steve and Lisa Haskett ask for prayers for their partner churches in India during the second wave of infections. Please pray for protection, and that they would be able to be a clear witness to the hope, healing and salvation found in Jesus. Please pray for Steve and Lisa as they resource and facilitate pandemic response work.

Vision 2026: Locked up in jail, in Acts 16:25, Paul and Silas carried on praising God. In lockdown we have found creative new ways to praise and to serve. Pray for continued creativity to praise God and to serve our communities.

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

Free State: Pray for the struggle in the Diocese and wider country with violence perpetrated against women. Remember in your prayers those who have lost family or been harmed in such violence.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of Caledonia – The Anglican Church of Canada (BC and Yukon Province)

Meeting: Bishop's Appointment Team

Tuesday 25 May

The Venerable Bede, monk, scholar, historian, 735;
Aldhelm, bishop, 709

Pray for the Cathedral, the Dean and Canons and its ministry to the Diocese as the Mother Church and for the on-going work of the vaccination centre.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – John 18.36

Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here".

Vision 2026: Even in Jail Paul and Silas experienced God's glory (Acts 16:26). Lockdown has been hard, but we have seen countless signs of God at work. Pray for eyes to see where God is at work and openness to respond to the signs around us.

Diocese: [Padiham with Hapton and Padiham Green](#), Rev Canon Mark Jones, Rev Kit Walker, Mrs Lynne Trudgill (Ilm); also, in this Benefice, Hapton CofE/Methodist School, Padiham St Leonard's VA CofE Primary School, Padiham Green CofE Primary School

Braunschweig: Deputy Bishop Thomas Hofer

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of Calgary – The Anglican Church of Canada (Rupert's Land Province)

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

Wednesday 26 May

Augustine, archbishop, 605;
John Calvin, reformer, 1564;
Philip Neri, founder of the Oratorians, spiritual guide, 1595

Pray for all prisoners, prison officers, prison chaplains, governors and support staff.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – John 18.36

Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here".

Vision 2026: When the walls of the prison fell, Paul and Silas did not run but stayed and shared their faith with the jailer. Coming out of lockdown, pray that we will bear confident witness to our faith.

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

Free State: Bring before God the small business owners and local enterprises which might be struggling as a result of the pandemic. Pray for initiatives, set up by local charities which support people.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of California – The Episcopal Church (VIII Province)

Clergy Moves: Rev Sharon Greensmith, new Vicar of Briercliffe St James

Thursday 27 May

Pray for all shop keepers, retail workers and those who work in the supply chain; and give thanks for all they have done to enable us to access what we need during the pandemic.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – John 18.36

Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here".

Vision 2026: In response to this crisis, it's tempting to look in on ourselves and rebuild. Pray that we will follow the example of Paul and Silas and look out on the world as joyful witnesses.

Diocese: [Adlington St Paul](#), Vacant, Mrs Julie Henry (cw), Mr William Young (cw); also, in this Benefice, Adlington St Paul's CofE Primary School

Braunschweig: Chair of the Braunschweig Link Committee in Blackburn Diocese

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of Northern California – The Episcopal Church (VIII Province)

Friday 28 May

Lanfranc, monk, archbishop, scholar, 1089

Pray for hospital and community pharmacists and pharmacies as they provide vital services and information to local communities.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – John 18.36

Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here".

Preston Resourcing Parish: Thank God for the financial and material provision which has enabled us to generously serve the poor. We want people we serve to find the ultimate hope for all time – Jesus.

Vision 2026: In lockdown we have found new ways to pray and to grow as disciples of Jesus Christ. Pray that we will put that strengthened faith into practice.

Diocese: [Apply Bridge](#) and [Parbold](#), Rev Sue Timmins, Rev Prof Michelle Plant, Dr Sara Ashley (Ilm), Mrs Diane Green (Ilm); Appley Bridge All Saints CofE Primary School, Parbold Douglas CofE Academy

Free State: Pray for the Sports' Ministry going on through Mosamaria as they teach sports and life skills to young people in the Bochabela township and feed them as well.

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

Saturday 29 May

Give thanks for all those people in each community who play a vital role in their local areas by supporting their neighbours.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – John 18.36

Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here".

Vision 2026: Pray for healthy churches that seek to evangelise a way out of crisis, just like Paul and Silas.

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

Braunschweig: Growth in links between parishes and Dioceses in England and Germany

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of El Camino Real – The Episcopal Church (VIII Province)

Sunday 30 May Trinity Sunday

We give thanks for those who through their talents inspire our worship through writing, music, visual and performing arts.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – John 18.36

Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here".

Vision 2026: In lockdown, new leaders have emerged in many churches. Pray that God would make the next steps clear for these people whom God has called.

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

Free State: Pray for the Christian Union at the University of the Freestate. Pray for all learners who witness to God's goodness there.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: La Iglesia Anglicana de Mexico

Monday 31 May
Visit of the Blessed Virgin
Mary to Elizabeth

Pray for all those who work in the hospitality or leisure industry as they manage the complexities of re-opening their businesses in a Covid secure way.

Bishop's Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – John 18.36

Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here".

Vision 2026: It's been a tough year for family life. Pray for those who minister to children and young people and the important role that they play in this next phase of Vision 2026.

Diocese: [Chorley St George](#), Rev Mike Print; also in this Benefice Chorley St George'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 Diocese of Canberra and Goulburn – The Anglican Church of Australia (New South Wales Province)