

## Blackburn Prayers March 2022

As we were preparing Blackburn Prayers for this month, we heard the terrible news about the invasion of Ukraine. Bishop Julian and his entire Leadership Team sent a message to parishes condemning the Russian Federation's actions and inviting the whole Diocese to pray in the coming days, as requested of all Dioceses by our Archbishops. The first of these prayer times was February 27; a day of prayer and peace. There are two further events, mentioned below on the relevant days. Read the parish letter from the Bishop's Leadership Team [on this page of the Diocesan website](#), where you will also find liturgical resources from the national church and our own Diocesan Prayer for Ukraine, which we also reproduce here ...

*Almighty God, seated above all the affairs of humankind and sovereign over nations and leaders, hear our prayer for Ukraine at this time of war; that lives may be spared, that national boundaries be respected and that forces of aggression be restrained. Grant, Lord God, peace in your world in our time. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen*

In the last two years we have seen unprecedented events taking place in our country and around the world in response to the pandemic. As restrictions are relaxed, updates will still continue to be sent from Bishop Philip and the Coronavirus Task Group when required; those updates will be available on the main [coronavirus advice page](#).

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.

Remember, we continue to ask 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](mailto: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](mailto: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**

## **Tuesday 1 March**

David, bishop, patron of Wales,  
c.601

### ***Bishop's Memory Verse: Making Disciples – Matthew 15.8***

These people honour me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me.

**Vision 2026:** For Lent and Advent Devotionals, give thanks for the growing team of contributors, and pray that the 9,500 devotionals distributed each Advent and Lent will encourage many in the habit of daily Bible reading.

**Diocese:** [Poulton Deanery Officers](#), Rev Canon Martin Keighley, Mr David Thompson

**Braunschweig:** Growth in links between University Chaplaincies in our two Dioceses.

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Armidale – The Anglican Church of Australia (New South Wales Province)

**Clergy Moves:** Rev Graeme Buttery, Vicar of Adlington St Paul

**Events:** Call to pray for and with the Diocese in Europe at 6pm for the chaplaincy in Kyiv and the churches that serve Ukraine. [Read more](#) and see our Diocesan Prayer for Ukraine at the start of this edition of Blackburn Prayers;

[Diocesan Clergy Study Morning](#) at Leyland St Andrew

## **Wednesday 2 March** **Ash Wednesday**

### ***Bishop's Memory Verse: Making Disciples – Matthew 15.8***

These people honour me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me.

**Vision 2026:** For [The Vine Community](#), give thanks for the creation of this new community of prayer across the Diocese, sharing a common rule of life based on John 15, and pray that this new community, being launched the Cathedral Festival on March 19, will help many church members to abide, grow and bear fruit.

**Diocese:** [Cleveleys St Andrew](#), Rev Graham Young

**Free State:** Pray for the Area Deans and Archdeacons who facilitate the smooth working of so many aspects of the Diocese and support the churches and clergy.

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Arochuku / Ohafia – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) (Aba Province)

**Meeting:** Bishop's Budget Team

**Event:** Call to offer our customary prayer and fasting on this Ash Wednesday as a prayer for peace at this time; especially in Ukraine. [Read more](#) and see our Diocesan Prayer for Ukraine at the start of this edition of Blackburn Prayers.

## **Thursday 3 March**

**Ukraine:** We continue to pray for the country and people of Ukraine as they face the aggression of the armies of the Russian Federation. Our Diocesan Prayer for Ukraine [is here](#).

### ***Bishop's Memory Verse: Making Disciples – Matthew 15.8***

These people honour me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me.

**Mission Partners:** Steve and Lisa Haskett ask us to pray for persecuted Christians in India, for their protection and ability to remain steadfast in faith. Pray for the work of Life Association to support existing and new projects to blessing and enable people to flourish.

**Vision 2026:** For Whalley Abbey, give thanks that despite Covid, day bookings from churches and Christian groups are well above projections, and trust that residential bookings will begin to grow as people feel more confident about leaving home.

**Diocese:** Fleetwood Hospital, Rev Helen Houston

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

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

## Friday 4 March

**Ukraine:** We continue to pray for the country and people of Ukraine as they face the aggression of the armies of the Russian Federation. Our Diocesan Prayer for Ukraine [is here](#).

**Bishop's Memory Verse: Making Disciples – Matthew 15.8**

These people honour me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me.

**Vision 2026:** For [Roots of Faith](#), give thanks for the newly rewritten Discipleship Course being launched this year, and pray for the tutors as they prepare to lead partly online and partly face-to-face.

**Diocese:** [Fleetwood St Nicholas](#), Rev Carolyn Leitch

**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 Missionary Diocese of Asaba – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) (Bendel Province)

## Saturday 5 March

**Ukraine:** We continue to pray for the country and people of Ukraine as they face the aggression of the armies of the Russian Federation. Our Diocesan Prayer for Ukraine [is here](#).

**Bishop's Memory Verse: Making Disciples – Matthew 15.8**

These people honour me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me.

**Heavenly Father**, we place into your hands the Mothers' Union here in Blackburn Diocese. We pray for all involved in the organisation and running of about one hundred branches throughout the Diocese. Surround them with your Holy Spirit as they seek to promote the importance of marriage, to support families and to nurture faith, through prayer, commitment and service. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

**Vision 2026:** For generous giving, give thanks for the generous giving of many which has enabled us to maintain stipendiary clergy numbers through the pandemic, and pray for more Christians, including those new to faith, to discover the joy and exhilaration of tithing.

**Diocese:** [Fleetwood St Peter and St David](#), Rev Canon John Hall, Mrs Gloria Birdsall (Ilm)

**Braunschweig:** All working in church kindergartens.

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Asante-Mampong – The Church of the Province of West Africa (Ghana Province)

**Event:** [Diocesan Clergy Study Morning](#) at Morecambe Football Club

## Sunday 6 March First Sunday of Lent

**Ukraine:** We continue to pray for the country and people of Ukraine as they face the aggression of the armies of the Russian Federation. Our Diocesan Prayer for Ukraine [is here](#).

**Bishop's Memory Verse: Making Disciples – Matthew 15.8**

These people honour me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me.

**Vision 2026:** For Spiritual Direction, give thanks for those in training on the Spiritual Accompaniers' Course, and pray that more individuals will be able to grow as disciples of Jesus through the assistance of a Spiritual Director, soul-friend or confessor.

**Diocese:** [Little Thornton St John the Evangelist](#), Rev Jane Atkinson, Mrs Judith Robson (Ilm)

**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 Saint Asaph – The Church in Wales

## Monday 7 March

Perpetua, Felicity and companions,  
martyrs, 203

**Ukraine:** We continue to pray for the country and people of Ukraine as they face the aggression of the armies of the Russian Federation. Our Diocesan Prayer for Ukraine [is here](#).

**Bishop's Memory Verse: Making Disciples – Matthew 15.8**

These people honour me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me.

**Blackpool Ministry Experience:** Pray for Amelia, a participant on the Blackpool Ministry Experience, that all the services and activities we offer in Lent, Holy Week and Easter would help her, and all of us, to shape our lives around the death and resurrection of our Saviour Jesus.

**Vision 2026:** For [Everyday Faith](#), pray for those developing online resources and apps that will help Christians to live as confident disciples of Jesus in those places where they spend the most time with those who do not share their faith, maybe at work, the sports or social club, or with family.

**Diocese:** [Poulton, Carleton](#) and [Singleton](#), Rev Canon Martin Keighley, Rev Lois Ward, Mr Phil Deegan (Ilm); also in this Benefice, Carleton St Hilda's CofE Primary School, Poulton-le-Fylde St Chad's CofE Primary School, Singleton CofE VA Primary School

**Braunschweig:** All preparing for confirmation in the Braunschweiger Landeskirche.

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** Province de L'Eglise Anglicane Du Congo

**Meeting:** Bishop's Leadership Team

## Tuesday 8 March

Edward King, bishop, 1910;  
Felix, bishop, 647;  
Geoffrey Studdert Kennedy, priest,  
poet, 1929

**Ukraine:** We continue to pray for the country and people of Ukraine as they face the aggression of the armies of the Russian Federation. Our Diocesan Prayer for Ukraine [is here](#).

**Bishop's Memory Verse: Making Disciples – Matthew 15.8**

These people honour me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me.

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

**Diocese:** [Thornton-le-Fylde Christ Church](#), Rev Damian Platt

**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 Athabasca – The Anglican Church of Canada (Rupert's Land Province)

**Event:** [Whalley Abbey Day Retreat](#) with Archdeacon Mark Ireland

## Wednesday 9 March

Ember Day

**Ukraine:** We continue to pray for the country and people of Ukraine as they face the aggression of the armies of the Russian Federation. Our Diocesan Prayer for Ukraine [is here](#).

**Bishop's Memory Verse: Making Disciples – Matthew 15.8**

These people honour me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me.

**Vision 2026:** For plentiful workers of all backgrounds, for the plentiful harvest fields across Lancashire and for intercessors who are ambitious, insightful and who storm the gates of heaven.

**Diocese:** [Preston Deanery Officers](#), Rev David Hanson, Rev Chris Boland, Mrs Stephanie Rankin, Mr Ken Curphey, Mrs Susan Cherry

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

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Athooch – The Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan (Jonglei Province)

**Meeting:** Financial Assistance Group

## Thursday 10 March

**Ukraine:** We continue to pray for the country and people of Ukraine as they face the aggression of the armies of the Russian Federation. Our Diocesan Prayer for Ukraine [is here](#).

**Bishop's Memory Verse: Making Disciples – Matthew 15.8**

These people honour me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me.

**Mission Partners:** Our Church Mission Society partners, Alan and Lex, would welcome your prayer for their ongoing work in local schools and communities in Cambodia. Pray for the economy to recover so that people can make ends meet, schools can re-open fully and people receive the treatment they need.

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

**Diocese:** [Ashton-on-Ribble St Andrew](#), Rev James Nash; also in this Benefice, Ashton-on-Ribble St Andrew's CofE Primary School

**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 Atlanta – The Episcopal Church (IV Province)

**Meeting:** Whalley Abbey Governance Committee

## Friday 11 March

Ember Day

**Ukraine:** We continue to pray for the country and people of Ukraine as they face the aggression of the armies of the Russian Federation. Our Diocesan Prayer for Ukraine [is here](#).

**Bishop's Memory Verse: Being Witnesses – Roman 1.16**

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:** [Ashton-on-Ribble St Michael and All Angels](#), Rev Canon Andrew Evans

**Braunschweig:** For new links between our secondary schools.

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Auckland – The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia (Pakeha Tikanga)

**Meeting:** Diocesan Advisory Committee

## Saturday 12 March

Ember Day

**Ukraine:** We continue to pray for the country and people of Ukraine as they face the aggression of the armies of the Russian Federation. Our Diocesan Prayer for Ukraine [is here](#).

**Bishop's Memory Verse: Being Witnesses – Roman 1.16**

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:** [Broughton St John Baptist](#), Rev Canon Fleur Green, Rev Pauline Taylor; also in this Benefice, Broughton in Amounderness CofE Primary School, Fulwood St Peter's CofE Primary School and Nursery

**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 North West Australia – The Anglican Church of Australia (Western Australia Province)

**Meeting:** Bishop's Council and Directors

**Sunday 13 March**  
**Second Sunday of Lent**

**Ukraine:** We continue to pray for the country and people of Ukraine as they face the aggression of the armies of the Russian Federation. Our Diocesan Prayer for Ukraine [is here](#).

**Bishop's Memory Verse: Being Witnesses – Roman 1.16**

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 all future baptism and confirmation candidates to be fired up to be beacons of faith in their schools, workplaces and communities.

**Diocese:** [Fulwood Christ Church](#), Rev Chris Boland, Mrs Mandy Stanton (Ilm); also in this Benefice, Archbishop Temple CofE High School

**Braunschweig:** All who work at Braunschweig Theological Centre.

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Aweil – The Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan (Northern Bahr el Ghazal Province)

**Monday 14 March**

**Ukraine:** We continue to pray for the country and people of Ukraine as they face the aggression of the armies of the Russian Federation. Our Diocesan Prayer for Ukraine [is here](#).

**Bishop's Memory Verse: Being Witnesses – Roman 1.16**

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 2026:** For us to be mindful of the gifts of God's Creation – earth, water, air, our fellow creatures and that we come together with all that God has made into a common home, a place of thankfulness and peace.

**Diocese:** [Grimsargh St Michael](#), Rev Neil Salt; also in this Benefice, Grimsargh St Michael's CofE Primary School

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

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** Iglesia Anglicana de Chile

**Tuesday 15 March**

**Ukraine:** We continue to pray for the country and people of Ukraine as they face the aggression of the armies of the Russian Federation. Our Diocesan Prayer for Ukraine [is here](#).

**Bishop's Memory Verse: Being Witnesses – Roman 1.16**

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:** HMP Preston, Rev Gail Miller, Mrs Lorraine Innerdale

**Braunschweig:** All training for ministry at Braunschweig Theological Centre.

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Aweril – The Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan (Eastern Bahr el Ghazal Province)

**Wednesday 16 March**

**Ukraine:** We continue to pray for the country and people of Ukraine as they face the aggression of the armies of the Russian Federation. Our Diocesan Prayer for Ukraine [is here](#).

**Bishop's Memory Verse: Being Witnesses – Roman 1.16**

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:** [Ingol St Margaret](#), Rev Rie Walker,

**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 Awgu / Aninri – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) (Enugu Province)

## Thursday 17 March

Patrick, bishop, missionary, patron of Ireland, c.460

**Ukraine:** We continue to pray for the country and people of Ukraine as they face the aggression of the armies of the Russian Federation. Our Diocesan Prayer for Ukraine [is here](#).

**Bishop's Memory Verse: Being Witnesses – Roman 1.16**

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.

**Clergy with PTO:** Bless, O Lord, all clergy in our Diocese who are retired with Permission to Officiate. Grant them your continued wisdom and strength to serve. We are thankful for the many ways they provide invaluable support as we work together making disciples, growing leaders, being witnesses and inspiring children and young people for Jesus Christ.

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

**Diocese:** Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust, Rev David Anderson

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

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Awka – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) (Niger Province)

**Meeting:** Making Disciples Team meeting

## Friday 18 March

Cyril, bishop, teacher of the faith, 386

**Ukraine:** We continue to pray for the country and people of Ukraine as they face the aggression of the armies of the Russian Federation. Our Diocesan Prayer for Ukraine [is here](#).

**Bishop's Memory Verse: Being Witnesses – Roman 1.16**

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.

**Sisters of the Order of the Companions of Mary and Martha:** Pray for Sister Judith and Sister Sue at St Joseph's House, Tunstall, living a vowed life of prayerful presence and hospitality. Give thanks for their faithful witness to the gospel and bless all who visit there seeking peace and refreshment.

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

**Diocese:** [Lea St Christopher](#) and [Preston Emmanuel](#), Rev Peter Hamborg, Rev Dr Mike Clayton, Mr James Cam (IIm), Mrs Joyce Willacy (IIm); also in this Benefice, Lea Neeld's Endowed CofE Primary School

**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 Diocese of Awori – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) (Lagos Province)

## Saturday 19 March

Joseph of Nazareth

**Ukraine:** We continue to pray for the country and people of Ukraine as they face the aggression of the armies of the Russian Federation. Our Diocesan Prayer for Ukraine [is here](#).

**Bishop's Memory Verse: Being Witnesses – Roman 1.16**

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:** [Longridge St Lawrence with St Paul](#), Rev Mike Barton, Rev Simon King; also in this Benefice, Longridge CofE Primary School

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

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Ayod – The Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan (Jonglei Province)

**Event:** [Festival of Faith in Daily Life and launch of The Vine Community](#)

**Sunday 20 March**  
**Third Sunday of Lent**

**Ukraine:** We continue to pray for the country and people of Ukraine as they face the aggression of the armies of the Russian Federation. Our Diocesan Prayer for Ukraine [is here](#).

**Bishop's Memory Verse: Being Witnesses – Roman 1.16**

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 God will guide supporters who can help them draw strength from Him.

**Diocese:** [Preston All Saints](#), Rev Nathan Buttery, Rev Simon Griffiths

**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 Badagry – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) (Lagos Province)

**Monday 21 March**  
Thomas Cranmer, archbishop,  
Reformation martyr, 1556

**Ukraine:** We continue to pray for the country and people of Ukraine as they face the aggression of the armies of the Russian Federation. Our Diocesan Prayer for Ukraine [is here](#).

**Bishop's Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – 2 Chronicles 7.14**

If my people who are called by my name humble themselves, pray, seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

**M:Power:** Pray for the current cohort of M:Power in the Burnley and Blackpool Hubs, that they will be encouraged in their call to urban ministry, and inspired to develop ways, working with their incumbents, to share the good news of Jesus in their urban communities.

**Vision 2026:** Pray for all charged with the responsibility of discerning vocation in others in the local church and across the Diocese. Pray for the entire Growing Leaders Team based at the Diocesan offices.

**Diocese:** [Preston St Cuthbert Fulwood](#), Rev Mark Bradford, Rev Liz Gethin, Ms Ann Gray (Ilm), Mr Jonathan Greening (Ilm), Mrs Janet Mortimer (Ilm)

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

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Church of England

**Meeting:** Bishop's Appointments Team

**Tuesday 22 March**

**Ukraine:** We continue to pray for the country and people of Ukraine as they face the aggression of the armies of the Russian Federation. Our Diocesan Prayer for Ukraine [is here](#).

**Bishop's Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – 2 Chronicles 7.14**

If my people who are called by my name humble themselves, pray, seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

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

**Diocese:** [Preston St John](#) and [St George the Martyr](#), Rev Sam Haigh, Rev David Craven, Rev David Owens, Rev Timothy Roberts

**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 the Bahamas and The Turks and Caicos Islands – The Church in the Province of the West Indies



## Wednesday 23 March

**Ukraine:** We continue to pray for the country and people of Ukraine as they face the aggression of the armies of the Russian Federation. Our Diocesan Prayer for Ukraine [is here](#).

**Bishop's Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – 2 Chronicles 7.14**

If my people who are called by my name humble themselves, pray, seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

**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:** [Preston St Stephen](#), Rev David Hanson, Rev Barbara Houghton; also in this Benefice, Preston St Stephen's CofE Primary School

**Braunschweig:** All involved in the Synod of the Braunschweiger Landeskirche.

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Bakuru – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) (Jos Province)

**Event:** [National Day of Reflection](#)

## Thursday 24 March

Walter Hilton, mystic, 1396;

Paul Couturier, priest, ecumenist, 1953;

Oscar Romero, archbishop, martyr, 1980

**Ukraine:** We continue to pray for the country and people of Ukraine as they face the aggression of the armies of the Russian Federation. Our Diocesan Prayer for Ukraine [is here](#).

**Bishop's Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – 2 Chronicles 7.14**

If my people who are called by my name humble themselves, pray, seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

**Mission Partners:** Pray for 'Graham and Fiona' working 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:** Pray for young people's faith, rooted in Jesus Christ, to be nurtured, disciplined and shared within their communities.

**Diocese:** [Preston The Risen Lord](#), Rev Canon Alistair McHaffie, Rev Dan Freeman; also in this Benefice, Preston St Matthew's CofE Primary Academy

**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 Ballarat – The Anglican Church of Australia (Victoria Province)

## Friday 25 March

### Annunciation of Our Lord to the Blessed Virgin Mary

**Ukraine:** We continue to pray for the country and people of Ukraine as they face the aggression of the armies of the Russian Federation. Our Diocesan Prayer for Ukraine [is here](#).

**Bishop's Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – 2 Chronicles 7.14**

If my people who are called by my name humble themselves, pray, seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

**Vision 2026:** Pray for the Inspiring Youth Learning Community, that churches across the Diocese will grow in confidence to enable and grow new youth ministries.

**Diocese:** [Ribbleton](#), Capt Dave Thorp, Mr Ronald Hobson (cw), Mrs Jacqueline Carter (cw)

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

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Bangor – The Church in Wales

## Saturday 26 March

Harriet Monsell, founder of the  
Community of St John the Baptist,  
1883

**Ukraine:** We continue to pray for the country and people of Ukraine as they face the aggression of the armies of the Russian Federation. Our Diocesan Prayer for Ukraine [is here](#).

### **Bishop's Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – 2 Chronicles 7.14**

If my people who are called by my name humble themselves, pray, seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

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

**Diocese:** [Tunstall Deanery Officers](#), Area Dean (vacant), Mrs Elizabeth Battersby-Hill

**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 Banks and Torres – The Anglican Church of Melanesia

**Events:** [Resourcing the Mission of God - Open Synod](#) - St Wilfrid's Church of England Academy;

[Abide: The Gathering - Youth Event](#) - Archbishop Temple High School, Fulwood, Preston;

Ladyewell House Open Day - For those interested in preparing for traditional Catholic mission and ministry in today's church. See the Diocesan website [Events section](#).

## Sunday 27 March Fourth Sunday of Lent Mothering Sunday

**Ukraine:** We continue to pray for the country and people of Ukraine as they face the aggression of the armies of the Russian Federation. Our Diocesan Prayer for Ukraine [is here](#).

### **Bishop's Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – 2 Chronicles 7.14**

If my people who are called by my name humble themselves, pray, seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

**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:** [Bolton-le-Sands Holy Trinity](#), Vacant, Mrs Mary Bunting (cw), Mr Peter Davies (cw); also in this Benefice, Bolton-le-Sands CofE Primary School

**Braunschweig:** Pray for Deputy Bishop Thomas Hofer.

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Barbados – The Church in the Province of the West Indies

## Monday 28 March

**Ukraine:** We continue to pray for the country and people of Ukraine as they face the aggression of the armies of the Russian Federation. Our Diocesan Prayer for Ukraine [is here](#).

### **Bishop's Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – 2 Chronicles 7.14**

If my people who are called by my name humble themselves, pray, seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

**Preston Resourcing Parish:** "Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up." Pray for the divine energy of Jesus Christ to pour through us.

**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:** [Carnforth Christ Church](#), Rev Canon Stephen Jones; also in this Benefice, Carnforth Christ Church CofE VA Primary School

**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 in.

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui

**Meeting:** Bishop's Leadership Team

## Tuesday 29 March

**Ukraine:** We continue to pray for the country and people of Ukraine as they face the aggression of the armies of the Russian Federation. Our Diocesan Prayer for Ukraine [is here](#).

**Bishop's Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – 2 Chronicles 7.14**

If my people who are called by my name humble themselves, pray, seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

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

**Diocese:** [Caton with Litledale St Paul](#), Rev Paul Boulter; also in this Benefice, Caton St Paul's CofE Primary School

**Braunschweig:** Chair of the Braunschweig Link Committee in Blackburn Diocese.

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Bari – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) (Kaduna Province)

## Wednesday 30 March

**Ukraine:** We continue to pray for the country and people of Ukraine as they face the aggression of the armies of the Russian Federation. Our Diocesan Prayer for Ukraine [is here](#).

**Bishop's Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – 2 Chronicles 7.14**

If my people who are called by my name humble themselves, pray, seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

**Ladyewell House:** For Rev David Craven, Bishop Jill and Bishop Philip establishing the new contextual training pathway for Traditional Catholic Ordinands based in Preston; to find a first cohort and a suitable house close to St George's church.

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

**Diocese:** [East Lonsdale](#), Rev Jane Lee, Miss Mary Winter (IIm); also in this Benefice, Leck St Peter's CofE Primary School, Melling St Wilfrid CofE Primary School, Tatham Fells CofE Primary School, Wray with Botton Endowed Primary School

**Free State:** Pray for the Sports' Ministry 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 Baringo – The Anglican Church of Kenya

**Meeting:** Strategic Development Funding Project Board

## Thursday 31 March

John Donne, priest, poet, 1631

**Ukraine:** We continue to pray for the country and people of Ukraine as they face the aggression of the armies of the Russian Federation. Our Diocesan Prayer for Ukraine [is here](#).

**Bishop's Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – 2 Chronicles 7.14**

If my people who are called by my name humble themselves, pray, seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

**Vision 2026:** For the whole community in Clayton House, the Diocesan offices, who through their varied ministries support the work of all the churches and church schools in the Diocese of Blackburn.

**Diocese:** [Hornby with Cloughton and Whittington with Arkholme and Gressingham](#), Vacant, Mrs Judith Greenwood (cw), Mr Richard Haworth (cw); also in this Benefice, Arkholme CofE Primary School, Hornby St Margaret's CofE Primary School

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

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