



## Blackburn Prayers December 2022

Welcome to Blackburn Prayers

We continue to pray for the people of Ukraine as they face Russian aggression. You can find prayers, liturgical resources and other updates [here](#); including support being given to Ukrainian aid charities by many of our parishes.

Earlier this year we launched The Vine Community. This is our flexible framework for living a Christian life. You can [visit this page on the Diocesan website](#) where you will find everything you need to get involved in The Vine Community. When you have made your personal pledge to join, you can email [vinecommunity@blackburncathedral.co.uk](mailto:vinecommunity@blackburncathedral.co.uk) with your name, parish and contact details.

If you have not already subscribed to receive our Daily Prayers email into your inbox, please consider doing so. Simply [click the link here](#).

We continue to feature Bible verses to meditate on and memorise each month as part of the ongoing Bible Challenge across the Diocese. 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. A prayer for the process of finding a new Bishop can be found [here](#) and for the time being we have added this link to every day of Blackburn Prayers

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**  
**Ilm = Licensed Lay Minister**

### **Thursday 1 December**

Charles de Foucauld, hermit, 1916

**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](#).

**Bible Memory Verse: Making Disciples – Romans 8.37-39**

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**Blackpool Ministry Experience:** Pray that God will whisper to the Blackpool Ministry Experience participants through the busyness of the season about His love and grace as they bring other people along in their faith journey.

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

**Diocese:** Blackpool Deanery Officers, Rev Peter Lillicrap, Rev David O'Brien, Rev Clive Lord, Mrs Diane Dennett, Mrs Janet Rimmer, Mrs Rita Templeton

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

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

### **Friday 2 December**

**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](#).

**Bible Memory Verse: Making Disciples – Romans 8.37-39**

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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

**Diocese:** Anchorsholme All Saints, Rev Anthony Barnshaw, Mrs Jess Rowe (Ilm)

**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 Diocese of Southern Nyanza – The Anglican Church of Kenya

### **Saturday 3 December**

Francis Xavier, missionary, 1552

**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](#).

**Bible Memory Verse: Making Disciples – Romans 8.37-39**

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**Mission Partners:** Lisa and Steve Haskett ask us to pray for financial provision in their new fundraising and through their existing supporters, that all the needs of their partner projects in India would be met.

**Vision 2026:** For Whalley Abbey, give thanks that day bookings from churches and Christian groups have been well above projections; and trust that residential bookings will continue to grow.

**Diocese:** Bispham All Hallows, Rev Jonny Lee, Rev Jim Crawford, Mrs Diane Dennett (Ilm), Mrs Annie Riley (Ilm), Mrs Gina Hibbert (Ilm), Mr Keith Stevenson (Ilm), Mrs Linda Whitworth (Ilm); also in this Benefice, Blackpool Bispham Endowed CofE Primary School

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

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Nzara – The Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan (Western Equatoria Province)

**Sunday 4 December**  
**Second Sunday of Advent**

**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](#).

**Bible Memory Verse: Making Disciples – Romans 8.37-39**

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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

**Diocese:** Blackpool Christ Church with All Saints, Rev Adrian Wolton, Canon David Gascoigne (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 Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and The Middle East

**Monday 5 December**

**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](#).

**Bible Memory Verse: Making Disciples – Romans 8.37-39**

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**Mothers' Union:** 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 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:** Blackpool Holy Cross South Shore, Rev Michael Fish

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

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of el-Obeid – Province of the Episcopal Church of Sudan

**Meeting:** Vision and Strategy Team

**Tuesday 6 December**  
Nicholas, bishop, c.326

**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](#).

**Bible Memory Verse: Making Disciples – Romans 8.37-39**

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**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:** Blackpool Holy Trinity South Shore (in plurality with) Blackpool St Peter South Shore, Rev Canon Tracy Charnock, Mr Fred Bridges (Ilm)

**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 Offa – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) (Kwara Province)

### Wednesday 7 December

Ambrose, bishop, teacher of the faith, 397;

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](#).

**Bible Memory Verse: Making Disciples – Romans 8.37-39**

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**Blackpool Centre of Mission:** Pray for the Advent and Christmas programme that the Gospel will be proclaimed: Specifically Carol Services in the community and in the schools.

**Vision 2026:** For Everyday Faith, pray for those developing online resources to 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:** Blackpool St Christopher and St Nicholas, Rev Martin Daniels; also in this Benefice, Blackpool St Nicholas CofE Primary School

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

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

### Thursday 8 December

Conception of 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](#).

**Bible Memory Verse: Making Disciples – Romans 8.37-39**

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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

**Diocese:** Blackpool St John, Rev Andy Dykes, Rev Sam Haigh, Dr Bill Ward (Ilm); also in this Benefice, Blackpool St John's CofE Primary School

**Free State:** Pray for Helen Ballard as she works linking parishes here in Blackburn Diocese 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 Ogbia – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) (Niger Delta Province)

### Friday 9 December

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](#).

**Bible Memory Verse: Making Disciples – Romans 8.37-39**

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**Mission Partners:** Our Church Mission Society partners, 'A' and 'L', would welcome your prayer for their ongoing work in local schools and communities in South East Asia. 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 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:** Blackpool St Mary South Shore, Vacant, Mrs Pat Hawkins (cw)

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

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Ogbomoso – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) (Ibadan Province)

**Meeting:** Diocesan Advisory Committee

**Saturday 10 December**  
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](#).

**Bible Memory Verse: Making Disciples – Romans 8.37-39**

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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

**Diocese:** Blackpool St Paul North Shore (in plurality with) Greenlands St Anne, Rev Dr Deborah Prest, Rev Jane Parker, Mrs Angela Kershaw (IIm)

**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 Ogoni – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) (Niger Delta Province)

**Sunday 11 December**  
Third Sunday of Advent

**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](#).

**Bible Memory Verse: Being Witnesses – 1 Peter 3.15**

But in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defence to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you.

**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 Stephen-on-the-Cliffs, Vacant, Mr Ian Butterworth (cw), Dr Keith McLennan (cw)

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

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

**Monday 12 December**

**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](#).

**Bible Memory Verse: Being Witnesses – 1 Peter 3.15**

But in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defence to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you.

**M:Power:** Pray for the tutors and mentors who give up their time to teach and support students on the M:Power programme. We thank God for all they give to the M:Power programme alongside their other roles.

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

**Diocese:** Blackpool St Thomas, Rev David O'Brien, Mrs Yvonne Blazey (IIm), Miss Vicky Bentley (IIm)

**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:** The Missionary Diocese of Ogori-Magongo – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) (Lokoja Province)

## Tuesday 13 December

Lucy, martyr, 304;  
Samuel Johnson, moralist, 1784

**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](#).

**Bible Memory Verse: Being Witnesses – 1 Peter 3.15**

But in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defence to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you.

**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 Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust/Blackpool Victoria Hospital, Rev Helen Houston

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

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Ohaji / Egbema – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) (Owerri Province)

**Meeting:** Diocesan Safeguarding Advisory Panel

## Wednesday 14 December

John of the Cross, poet, teacher of the faith, 1591

**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](#).

**Bible Memory Verse: Being Witnesses – 1 Peter 3.15**

But in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defence to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you.

**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:** Blackpool The Trinity Benefice, Rev Peter Lillicrap, Rev Matt Robinson, Rev Matthew Rowley, Mr Greg Doughty (IIm)

**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 Ohio – The Episcopal Church (V Province)

## Thursday 15 December

**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](#).

**Bible Memory Verse: Being Witnesses – 1 Peter 3.15**

But in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defence to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you.

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

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

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Southern Ohio – The Episcopal Church (V Province)

**Meeting:** Strategic Programme Board

## Friday 16 December

**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](#).

**Bible Memory Verse: Being Witnesses – 1 Peter 3.15**

But in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defence to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you.

**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:** Marton St Paul, Rev Lesley Atkins, Mr Ian Rushton (IIm); also in this Benefice, Blackpool Baines Endowed Primary School and Children's Centre. A CofE Primary 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 Diocese of Oji River – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) (Enugu Province)

## Saturday 17 December

O Sapientia

Eglantyne Jebb, social reformer, founder of 'Save the Children', 1928

**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](#).

**Bible Memory Verse: Being Witnesses – 1 Peter 3.15**

But in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defence to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you.

**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 lay leaders in our congregations.

**Diocese:** Mereside St Wilfrid, Rev Linda Tomkinson

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

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Okene – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) (Lokoja Province)

## Sunday 18 December Fourth Sunday of Advent

**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](#).

**Bible Memory Verse: Being Witnesses – 1 Peter 3.15**

But in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defence to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you.

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

**Diocese:** Burnley Deanery Officers, Rev Munawar Din, Mrs Carol Waddington, Mr Bob Clayfield

**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 Anglican Church of Korea

## Monday 19 December

**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](#).

**Bible Memory Verse: Being Witnesses – 1 Peter 3.15**

But in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defence to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you.

**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:** Briercliffe St James, Vacant, Mrs Janet Hartley (cw); also in this Benefice, Burnley St James' Lanehead CofE Primary School

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

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Oke-Ogun – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) (Ibadan Province)

**Meeting:** People and Places Team

## Tuesday 20 December

**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](#).

**Bible Memory Verse: Being Witnesses – 1 Peter 3.15**

But in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defence to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you.

**Preston Resourcing Parish:** We thank God for this season of invitation – please pray for those who only attend church once or twice per year – or are just ‘checking out’ church to be drawn by the welcome of Christ and His people.

**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:** Burnley General Hospital, Rev Canon Andrew Horsfall

**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 Oke-Osun – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) (Ibadan Province)

## Wednesday 21 December

**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](#).

**Bible Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – Mark 1.17**

And Jesus said to them, “Follow me and I will make you fish for people”.

**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:** Burnley St Andrew with St Margaret and Burnley St James, Rev Aiden Edwards, Rev Paul Benfield

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

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Okigwe – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) (Owerri Province)

## Thursday 22 December

**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](#).

**Bible Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – Mark 1.17**

And Jesus said to them, “Follow me and I will make you fish for people”.

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

**Diocese:** Burnley St Catherine with St Alban and St Paul, Rev Roger Parker

**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 Okigwe North – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion)

## Friday 23 December

**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](#).

**Bible Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – Mark 1.17**

And Jesus said to them, “Follow me and I will make you fish for people”.

**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 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:** Burnley St Cuthbert (in plurality with) Brierfield St Luke, Rev Munawar Din

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

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Okigwe South – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) (Owerri Province)



## Saturday 24 December Christmas Eve

**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](#).

**Bible Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – Mark 1.17**

And Jesus said to them, "Follow me and I will make you fish for people".

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

**Diocese:** Burnley St Matthew the Apostle (Habergham Eaves) with Holy Trinity, Rev Alex Frost, Rev Kat Gregory-Witham, Mrs Jackie Mackrell (IIm); also in this Benefice, Burnley Holy Trinity 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 Okinawa – The Nippon Sei Ko Kai

## Sunday 25 December Christmas 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](#).

**Bible Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – Mark 1.17**

And Jesus said to them, "Follow me and I will make you fish for people".

**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:** Burnley St Peter and St Stephen, Vacant, Mrs Jean Beeston (cw), Mr Keith Pounder (cw), Mrs Sandra Davies (cw), Mr Jason Walsh (cw); also in the Benefice, Burnley St Peter's CofE Primary School, Burnley St Stephen's CofE VA Primary School

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

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

## Monday 26 December Boxing Day

Stephen, deacon, first martyr

**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](#).

**Bible Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – Mark 1.17**

And Jesus said to them, "Follow me and I will make you fish for people".

**Lighting up new generations:** May our churches be a place of welcome during this period of Advent and Christmas, reaching out to those who may only consider the Christian faith once a year.

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

**Diocese:** Burnley West All Saints with St John Baptist, Rev Charlie Hill; also in this Benefice, Wellfield Methodist and Anglican Church 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:** The Diocese of Oklahoma – The Episcopal Church (VII Province)

## Tuesday 27 December John, Apostle and Evangelist

**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](#).

**Bible Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – Mark 1.17**

And Jesus said to them, "Follow me and I will make you fish for people".

**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:** Holme in Cliviger St John the Divine with Worsthorne St John Evangelist, Vacant, Mrs Julie Cambridge (cw), Mrs Jane Mitchell (cw); also in this Benefice, Cliviger St John's CofE Primary School

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

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

**Wednesday 28 December**  
**The Holy Innocents**

**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](#).

**Bible Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – Mark 1.17**

And Jesus said to them, "Follow me and I will make you fish for people".

**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:** 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:** Padiham with Hapton and Padiham Green, Rev Canon Mark Jones, Mrs Lynne Trudgill (Ilm); also in this Benefice, Hapton CofE/Methodist School, Padiham Green CofE Primary School, Padiham St Leonard's VA CofE 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 Oleh – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) (Bendel Province)

**Thursday 29 December**  
Thomas Becket, archbishop,  
martyr, 1170

**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](#).

**Bible Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – Mark 1.17**

And Jesus said to them, "Follow me and I will make you fish for people".

**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.

**Diocese:** Chorley Deanery Officers, Rev Neil Kelley, Rev Joanne Smith, Rev Canon Andrew Holliday, Mr Andrew Stokes

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

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Olo – The Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan (Western Equatoria Province)

**Friday 30 December**

**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](#).

**Bible Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – Mark 1.17**

And Jesus said to them, "Follow me and I will make you fish for people".

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

**Diocese:** Adlington St Paul, Rev Graeme Buttery; also in this Benefice, Adlington St Paul's CofE Primary School

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

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

**Saturday 31 December**  
John Wyclif, reformer, 1384

**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](#).

**Bible Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – Mark 1.17**

And Jesus said to them, "Follow me and I will make you fish for people".

**Choir Church:** Pray for Rebekah Okpoti, Choir Church Co-ordinator, and the appointment of musicians as they enable our first Choir Churches to launch in the new year.

**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:** Appley Bridge and Parbold, Rev Susan Timmins, Rev Prof Michelle Plant, Mrs Diane Green (Ilm), Dr Sara Ashley (Ilm); also in this Benefice, Appley Bridge All Saints CofE Primary School, Parbold Douglas CofE Academy

**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 Omu-Aran – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) (Kwara Province)