



## Blackburn Prayers January 2023

Welcome to Blackburn Prayers 2023.

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**

**Sunday 1 January**  
**Second Sunday of Christmas**

**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 – Mark 8.34**

Jesus called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me”.

**Blackpool Ministry Experience:** Please pray for the interview process for the appointment of a new Priest-in-Charge for Freedom Church Mereside who will also be responsible for running the Blackpool Ministry Experience.

**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:** Brindle St James, Rev Jon Price; also in this Benefice, Brindle St James’ CofE VA Primary School

**Free State:** Pray for Bishop Dintoe and his family.

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** La Iglesia Anglicana de Mexico

**Monday 2 January**  
**Naming and Circumcision of Jesus**

Basil the Great and Gregory of Nazianzus, bishops, teachers of the faith, 379 and 389;  
Seraphim, monk, spiritual guide, 1833;  
Vedanayagam Samuel Azariah, bishop, evangelist, 1945

**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 – Mark 8.34**

Jesus called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me”.

**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:** Chorley All Saints and Chorley St George, Rev Michael Print, Rev Jordan Bentliff; also in these Benefices, Chorley All Saints CofE Primary School and Nursery Unit, Chorley St George CofE Primary School

**Braunschweig:** The link between Blackburn Diocese and the Braunschweiger Landeskirche.

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** Nigeria (Anglican Communion) (Ondo Province)

**Tuesday 3 January**

**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 – Mark 8.34**

Jesus called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me”.

**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:** Chorley St James, Rev David Phillips, Mr Phil Parker (Ilm); also in this Benefice, Chorley St James’ CofE Primary School

**Free State:** Pray for Fr Lazarus, Dean of Bloemfontein Cathedral, and remember particularly the confirmation classes there as they prepare for the upcoming service.

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Ontario – The Anglican Church of Canada (Ontario Province)

## Wednesday 4 January

**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 – Mark 8.34**

Jesus called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me”.

**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 in the autumn.

**Diocese:** Chorley St Laurence and Chorley St Peter, Rev Neil Kelley, Rev Rebecca Feeney; also in these Benefices, Chorley St Michael’s CofE High School, Chorley St Laurence CofE Primary School, Chorley St Peter’s CofE Primary School

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

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

## Thursday 5 January

**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 – Mark 8.34**

Jesus called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me”.

**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:** Coppull and Coppull St John the Divine, Rev Matthew Hornby; also in this Benefice, Coppull St John CofE Primary School, Coppull Parish CofE Primary School

**Free State:** Pray for school chaplain Deon Lombard and for his work at St Andrew’s Boys School in Bloemfontein. Remember also the staff and students at the school as they work and worship together.

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

## Friday 6 January Epiphany

**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 – Mark 8.34**

Jesus called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow 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:** Croston, Bretherton and Mawdesley with Bispham, Rev Michael Woods, Mrs Janet Maggs (Ilm); also in this Benefice, Bishop Rawstorne CofE Academy, Bretherton Endowed CofE VA primary School, Croston Trinity and St Michael’s VA CofE/Methodist Primary School, Mawdesley St Peter’s CofE Primary School

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

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

## Saturday 7 January

**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 – Mark 8.34**

Jesus called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me”.

**Blackpool Centre of Mission:** Pray for the leaders of the Blackpool CoM, especially Matt as he recovers from illness and Jeni as she progresses with her pregnancy. Pray for God's protection for both Matt, Jeni and their families. Pray also for the right appointment for Jeni's maternity leave cover.

**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:** Eccleston St Mary the Virgin and Charnock Richard Christ Church, Rev Andrew Brown; also in this Benefice, Eccleston St Mary's CofE Primary School, Charnock Richard Christ Church CofE Primary School

**Free State:** Pray today for the Chair, Rev Sam Cheesman, leading the Link Committee and growing the link between the two Dioceses.

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

## Sunday 8 January Baptism of Christ First Sunday of Epiphany

**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 – Mark 8.34**

Jesus called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me”.

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

**Diocese:** Euxton, Rev Jo Smith, Rev Amy Bland; also in this Benefice, Euxton CofE VA Primary School

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

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Church of the Province of Myanmar (Burma)

## Monday 9 January Baptism of Christ Daily Eucharistic Lectionary week 1

**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 – Mark 8.34**

Jesus called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me”.

**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:** Heapey St Barnabas and Withnell St Paul, Rev Alan Hogarth, Rev Gary Bullock; also in this Benefice, Brinscall St John's CofE and Methodist Primary School

**Free State:** Hold all those working for and volunteering with Mosamaria Aids Ministry in the Free State in your prayers. Trudie Harrison is the Programme Coordinator there and has guided the charity for a number of years.

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Osaka – The Nippon Sei Ko Kai  
**Meeting:** Vision and Strategy Team

## Tuesday 10 January

William Laud, archbishop, 1645  
Daily Eucharistic Lectionary week 1

**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 – Mark 8.34**

Jesus called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me”.

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

**Diocese:** Shevington St Anne, Rev Andrew Brown, Rev Jenny Brown; also in this Benefice, Standish Lower Ground St Anne’s CofE Primary School

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

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

**Meeting:** Area Deans’ meeting

## Wednesday 11 January

Mary Slessor, missionary, 1915

**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](#).

**Our new Diocesan Bishop:** We pray for Bishop Philip after the announcement yesterday he is to be the next Bishop of Blackburn. We give thanks for his ministry across Lancashire thus far as Bishop of Burnley. With his leadership under God we now look forward to continued growth of the church in the County; building joyful Christian communities that will be beacons to all.

**Bible Memory Verse: Being Witnesses – Matthew 28.20**

And teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

**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:** Standish St Wilfrid, Rev Canon Andrew Holliday, Rev Catherine Gabriel, Dr Sheila Fisher (IIm); also in this Benefice, Standish St Wilfrid’s CofE Primary School

**Free State:** Pray for Chaplain Grant Trewern and for all he does for the staff and students at St Michael’s Girls School in Bloemfontein.

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

**Meeting:** Area Deans’ meeting; Diocesan Advisory Committee

## Thursday 12 January

Aelred, abbot, 1167;  
Benedict Biscop, scholar, 689

**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](#).

**Our new Diocesan Bishop:** We pray for Bishop Philip after the announcement this week he is to be the next Bishop of Blackburn. We give thanks for his ministry across Lancashire thus far as Bishop of Burnley. Through his leadership under God, we pray The Church of England in Lancashire will be an ever-stronger voice for justice, especially for the poorest.

**Bible Memory Verse: Being Witnesses – Matthew 28.20**

And teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

**M:Power:** Pray for Pop Up Church, the congregation planted by Sharon Collins, Urban Evangelist on the Roman Road estate, that they would grow in sustainability, leadership, as disciples and in people coming to faith.

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

**Diocese:** Whittle-le-Woods St John Evangelist, Rev Philip Venables, Mrs Kathy Bigio (IIm), Mr Leslie Jones (IIm), Dr Gillian Lancaster (IIm); also in this Benefice, Clayton-le-Woods CofE Primary School, Whittle-le-Woods CofE Primary School

**Braunschweig:** The parish link between St Mary’s Clitheroe and Schandelah and Gardessen.

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

**Meeting:** Area Deans’ meeting

## Friday 13 January

Hilary, bishop, teacher of the faith, 367;

Kentigern (Mungo), missionary, bishop, 603;

George Fox, founder of the Society of Friends (Quakers), 1691

**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](#).

**Our new Diocesan Bishop:** We pray for Bishop Philip after the announcement this week he is to be the next Bishop of Blackburn. We give thanks for his ministry across Lancashire thus far as Bishop of Burnley. Through his leadership under God, we pray The Church of England in Lancashire will place children and young people at the very heart of all that we do in our parishes, schools and the communities we serve.

**Bible Memory Verse: Being Witnesses – Matthew 28.20**

And teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

**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:** Wrightington with Heskin St James the Great, Rev Stefan Dnistrianskyj; also in this Benefice, Heskin Pemberton's CofE Primary School

**Free State:** Remember in your prayers those with responsibility for the difficult financial situation. Pray particularly for those directly impacted by the lack of regular income experienced by parish priests.

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Ottawa – The Anglican Church of Canada (Ontario Province)

## Saturday 14 January

**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](#).

**Our new Diocesan Bishop:** We pray for Bishop Philip after the announcement he is to be the next Bishop of Blackburn. We give thanks for his ministry across Lancashire thus far as Bishop of Burnley. Going forward - and through his leadership under God - we will build joyful Christian communities; be an ever-stronger voice for justice and put children and young people at the heart of all we do.

**Bible Memory Verse: Being Witnesses – Matthew 28.20**

And teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

**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:** Wrightington Wigan and Leigh NHS Trust, Rev Canon Anne Edwards, Rev Jane Reynolds, Rev Michele Ryan, Rev Caroline Tracey

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

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Otukpo – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) (Abuja Province)

**Sunday 15 January**  
**Second Sunday of Epiphany**

**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](#).

**Our new Diocesan Bishop:** We pray for Bishop Philip after the announcement he is to be the next Bishop of Blackburn. We give thanks for his ministry across Lancashire thus far as Bishop of Burnley. Going forward - and through his leadership under God - we will build joyful Christian communities; be an ever-stronger voice for justice and put children and young people at the heart of all we do.

**Bible Memory Verse: Being Witnesses – Matthew 28.20**

And teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

**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:** Garstang Deanery Officers, Rev Andrew Wilkinson, Rev Jeff Finch, Mrs Susan Willoughby, Mrs Jean Matthew

**Free State:** Give thanks for Fr Joshua Skee, Link Officer in the Free State and for all members of the Link Committee in South Africa.

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion)

**Monday 16 January**  
Daily Eucharistic Lectionary week 2

**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](#).

**Our new Diocesan Bishop:** We pray for Bishop Philip after the announcement he is to be the next Bishop of Blackburn. We give thanks for his ministry across Lancashire thus far as Bishop of Burnley. Going forward - and through his leadership under God - we will build joyful Christian communities; be an ever-stronger voice for justice and put children and young people at the heart of all we do.

**Bible Memory Verse: Being Witnesses – Matthew 28.20**

And teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

**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:** Copp St Anne and Inskip St Peter, Rev Paul Hunter, Mrs Angela Ashcroft (Ilm); also in this Benefice, Great Eccleston Copp CofE Primary School, Inskip St Peter's CofE VA School

**Braunschweig:** The Local Ecumenical Partnership between Warton and Timmerlah.

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

**Meeting:** Leadership Core Group

## Tuesday 17 January

Antony of Egypt, hermit, abbot, 356;  
Charles Gore, bishop, founder of  
the Community of the Resurrection,  
1932

**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](#).

**Our new Diocesan Bishop:** We pray for Bishop Philip after the announcement he is to be the next Bishop of Blackburn. We give thanks for his ministry across Lancashire thus far as Bishop of Burnley. Going forward - and through his leadership under God - we will build joyful Christian communities; be an ever-stronger voice for justice and put children and young people at the heart of all we do.

**Bible Memory Verse: Being Witnesses – Matthew 28.20**

And teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

**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:** Fellside Team Ministry, Vacant (Rector), Rev Garry Whittaker (Vicar), Mr David Gregson (cw), Mr James Hide (cw), Mr Geoffrey Sumner (cw), Mrs Helen Lees (cw), Mrs Judith Meredith (cw), Mr William Leeming (cw), Mrs Helen Tozer (cw), Mrs Freda Parker (cw); also in this Benefice, Barton St Lawrence CofE Primary School, Bilsborrow John Cross CofE Primary School, Goosnargh Oliverson's CofE Primary School

**Free State:** Pray for all the links between parishes here and in the Free State. Pray also for Helen Ballard who holds the brief for nurturing these links and for her plans to grow the links particularly between lay people.

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Owo – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) (Ondo Province)

## Wednesday 18 January

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity;  
Amy Carmichael, founder of the  
Dohnavur Fellowship, spiritual  
writer, 1951

**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](#).

**Our new Diocesan Bishop:** We pray for Bishop Philip after the announcement he is to be the next Bishop of Blackburn. We give thanks for his ministry across Lancashire thus far as Bishop of Burnley. Going forward - and through his leadership under God - we will build joyful Christian communities; be an ever-stronger voice for justice and put children and young people at the heart of all we do.

**Bible Memory Verse: Being Witnesses – Matthew 28.20**

And teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

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

**Diocese:** Garstang St Helen (Churchtown) and St Michael's-on-Wyre, Rev Andrew Wilkinson, Mrs Audrey Ashbridge (IIm), Mrs Karen Ball (IIm); also in this Benefice, Kirkland and Catterall St Helen's CofE VA Primary School, St Michael's on Wyre CofE Primary School

**Braunschweig:** For new parish links to be built and old ones renewed.

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Oxford – The Church of England (Canterbury Province)

**Meeting:** DBF Directors' meeting



## Thursday 19 January

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity;  
Wulfstan, bishop, 1095

**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](#).

**Our new Diocesan Bishop:** We pray for Bishop Philip after the announcement he is to be the next Bishop of Blackburn. We give thanks for his ministry across Lancashire thus far as Bishop of Burnley. Going forward - and through his leadership under God - we will build joyful Christian communities; be an ever-stronger voice for justice and put children and young people at the heart of all we do.

**Bible Memory Verse: Being Witnesses – Matthew 28.20**

And teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

**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:** Garstang St Thomas, Rev Michael Hutchinson, Mr Alan Mackie (Ilm); also in this Benefice, Garstang St Thomas' CofE Primary School

**Free State:** The South African High Court and Judiciary are located in Bloemfontein. Pray that they might act with a sense of themselves being under God's judgement and mercy and that they might carry out their duties according to His law.

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

**Meeting:** Vine Community Gathering

## Friday 20 January

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity;  
Richard Rolle, spiritual writer, 1349

**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](#).

**Our new Diocesan Bishop:** We pray for Bishop Philip after the announcement he is to be the next Bishop of Blackburn. We give thanks for his ministry across Lancashire thus far as Bishop of Burnley. Going forward - and through his leadership under God - we will build joyful Christian communities; be an ever-stronger voice for justice and put children and young people at the heart of all we do.

**Bible Memory Verse: Being Witnesses – Matthew 28.20**

And teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

**Preston Resourcing Parish:** We want people to find their home, their purpose and take part in the transformation of Preston. Please pray for the street teams as they engage with residents and visitors alike.

**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:** Over Wyre, Vacant (Vicar), Rev Naomi Barraclough, Mr Ray Hart (Ilm), Mrs Jo Smallwood (Ilm), Mrs Nichola Smith (Ilm), Mrs Susan Lunn (cw), Mrs Linda Shipway (cw), Mr Peter Jones (cw), Mr Brian Parkinson (cw), Mr Allan Gardner (cw), Mr Benjamin Shepherd (cw) Mr Richard Clement (cw), Mrs Sandra Bourne (cw), Mr Derek Wolstenholme (cw); also in this Benefice, Pilling St John's CofE VA Primary School, Preesall Fleetwood's Charity CofE Primary School, Preesall St Aidan's CofE High School

**Braunschweig:** For growth in links between us in the area of social responsibility.

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

## Saturday 21 January

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity;  
Agnes, child martyr, 304

**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](#).

**Our new Diocesan Bishop:** We pray for Bishop Philip after the announcement he is to be the next Bishop of Blackburn. We give thanks for his ministry across Lancashire thus far as Bishop of Burnley. Going forward - and through his leadership under God - we will build joyful Christian communities; be an ever-stronger voice for justice and put children and young people at the heart of all we do.

**Bible Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – Mark 10.45**

For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.

**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:** Woodplumpton St Anne, Rev Lois Ward; also in this Benefice, Woodplumpton St Anne's CofE Primary School

**Free State:** Pray today for the Mosamaria Ministries project which encourages the consistent and timely taking of Antiretrovirals in the community. This project saves lives but is often short of funding and workers often go without full pay.

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Panama – Iglesia Anglicana de la Region Central de America

## Sunday 22 January

### Third Sunday of Epiphany

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

**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](#).

**Our new Diocesan Bishop:** We pray for Bishop Philip after the announcement he is to be the next Bishop of Blackburn. We give thanks for his ministry across Lancashire thus far as Bishop of Burnley. Going forward - and through his leadership under God - we will build joyful Christian communities; be an ever-stronger voice for justice and put children and young people at the heart of all we do.

**Bible Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – Mark 10.45**

For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.

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

**Diocese:** Kirkham Deanery Officers, Rev Anne Beverley, Rev Chris Scargill, Rev Dr Tony Hodgson, Dr Peter Roberts

**Braunschweig:** For growth in school partnerships between our two Dioceses.

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Church of North India (United).

## Monday 23 January

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity;  
Daily Eucharistic Lectionary week 3

**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](#).

**Our new Diocesan Bishop:** We pray for Bishop Philip after the announcement he is to be the next Bishop of Blackburn. We give thanks for his ministry across Lancashire thus far as Bishop of Burnley. Going forward - and through his leadership under God - we will build joyful Christian communities; be an ever-stronger voice for justice and put children and young people at the heart of all we do.

**Bible Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – Mark 10.45**

For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.

**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:** Ansdell and Fairhaven St Paul, Rev Paul Bye, Rev Kyle Mulholland, Miss Janet Kimber (IIm)

**Free State:** Give thanks for the Girls' Friendly Society, Girls' Brigade, Sunday Schools and all clubs and societies which nurture girls and young women in the faith.

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

**Meeting:** People and Places Team

## Tuesday 24 January

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity;  
Francis de Sales, bishop, teacher  
of the faith, 1622

**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](#).

**Our new Diocesan Bishop:** We pray for Bishop Philip after the announcement he is to be the next Bishop of Blackburn. We give thanks for his ministry across Lancashire thus far as Bishop of Burnley. Going forward - and through his leadership under God - we will build joyful Christian communities; be an ever-stronger voice for justice and put children and young people at the heart of all we do.

**Bible Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – Mark 10.45**

For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.

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

**Diocese:** Freckleton and Warton, Vacant (Vicar), Mrs Grace Smith (IIm), Mrs Anne-Marie Aspden (IIm), Mrs Audrey Charnley (cw), Mr Craig Eckersley (cw), Mrs Heather Nuttall (cw); also in this Benefice, Bryning with Warton St Paul's CofE Primary School, Freckleton CofE Primary School

**Braunschweig:** Following a successful 2021 Kirchentag held online, please pray for all aspects of planning for the next Kirchentag in 2023; and particularly that delegates are able to joyfully gather together in person again.

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Panrieng – The Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan (Upper Nile Province)

**Wednesday 25 January**  
**Conversion of Paul**  
Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

**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](#).

**Our new Diocesan Bishop:** We pray for Bishop Philip after the announcement he is to be the next Bishop of Blackburn. We give thanks for his ministry across Lancashire thus far as Bishop of Burnley. Going forward - and through his leadership under God - we will build joyful Christian communities; be an ever-stronger voice for justice and put children and young people at the heart of all we do.

**Bible Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – Mark 10.45**

For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.

**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:** HMP Kirkham, Rev Fiona Haines

**Free State:** Pray for Canon Joan Marsden, for her work at Sunflower House in Bloemfontein and also in her work around the world relating to hospice care.

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

**Thursday 26 January**  
**Timothy and Titus, companions**  
**of Paul**

**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](#).

**Our new Diocesan Bishop:** We pray for Bishop Philip after the announcement he is to be the next Bishop of Blackburn. We give thanks for his ministry across Lancashire thus far as Bishop of Burnley. Going forward - and through his leadership under God - we will build joyful Christian communities; be an ever-stronger voice for justice and put children and young people at the heart of all we do.

**Bible Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – Mark 10.45**

For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.

**Lighting up new generations:** As we start out on the journey to redevelop the church at St John's Blackpool into a place suitable for outreach and growth, pray that the work will progress smoothly and that the congregation will feel welcomed within their temporary venue.

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

**Diocese:** Kirkham St Michael, Rev Richard Dashwood, Mrs Anne Wintle (IIm); also in this Benefice, Kirkham St Michael's CofE Primary School

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

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Paraguay – The Anglican Church of South America

**Friday 27 January**

**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](#).

**Our new Diocesan Bishop:** We pray for Bishop Philip after the announcement he is to be the next Bishop of Blackburn. We give thanks for his ministry across Lancashire thus far as Bishop of Burnley. Going forward - and through his leadership under God - we will build joyful Christian communities; be an ever-stronger voice for justice and put children and young people at the heart of all we do.

**Bible Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – Mark 10.45**

For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.

**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:** Lund St John the Evangelist, Rev Canon Deborah Larkey; also in this Benefice, Newton Bluecoat CofE Primary School

**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 Paraná (Curitiba) – Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil (II Province)

## Saturday 28 January

Thomas Aquinas, priest,  
philosopher, teacher of the faith,  
1274

**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](#).

**Our new Diocesan Bishop:** We pray for Bishop Philip after the announcement he is to be the next Bishop of Blackburn. We give thanks for his ministry across Lancashire thus far as Bishop of Burnley. Going forward - and through his leadership under God - we will build joyful Christian communities; be an ever-stronger voice for justice and put children and young people at the heart of all we do.

**Bible Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – Mark 10.45**

For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.

**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:** Lytham, Rev Canon Nicholas Wells, Rev Emma Swarbrick, Miss Joanne Hutchinson (IIm), Mrs Angela Lee (IIm), Mr David Matthews (IIm), Mrs Bev Wells (IIm), Mrs Nicola Whitehead; also in this Benefice, Lytham CofE VA Primary School

**Braunschweig:** All involved in the work for the Foundation of Ecumenical Learning.

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Missionary Diocese of Patheingyi – The Church of the Province of Myanmar

## Sunday 29 January Fourth Sunday of Epiphany Presentation of Christ in the Temple

**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](#).

**Our new Diocesan Bishop:** We pray for Bishop Philip after the announcement he is to be the next Bishop of Blackburn. We give thanks for his ministry across Lancashire thus far as Bishop of Burnley. Going forward - and through his leadership under God - we will build joyful Christian communities; be an ever-stronger voice for justice and put children and young people at the heart of all we do.

**Bible Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – Mark 10.45**

For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.

**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:** Lytham St Annes Clifton Hospital, Rev Helen Houston, Rev Clive Lord

**Free State:** Pray today for all involved in treating and supporting those suffering with or because of Covid. Remember particularly in your prayers those living in townships who may struggle with reduced income and close living conditions.

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Church of Pakistan (United)

## Monday 30 January

Charles, king and martyr, 1649;  
Ordinary Time begins today  
Daily Eucharistic Lectionary week 4

**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](#).

**Our new Diocesan Bishop:** We pray for Bishop Philip after the announcement he is to be the next Bishop of Blackburn. We give thanks for his ministry across Lancashire thus far as Bishop of Burnley. Going forward - and through his leadership under God - we will build joyful Christian communities; be an ever-stronger voice for justice and put children and young people at the heart of all we do.

**Bible Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – Mark 10.45**

For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.

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

**Diocese:** Ribby cum Wrea St Nicholas and Weeton St Michael, Rev Philip Chew; also in this Benefice, Ribby with Wrea Endowed CofE Primary School, Weeton St Michael's CofE VA Primary School

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

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

**Meeting:** Bishops and Archdeacons meeting; Audit/Risk/Governance Committee meeting

## Tuesday 31 January

John Bosco, priest, founder of the  
Salesian Teaching Order, 1888

**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](#).

**Our new Diocesan Bishop:** We pray for Bishop Philip after the announcement he is to be the next Bishop of Blackburn. We give thanks for his ministry across Lancashire thus far as Bishop of Burnley. Going forward - and through his leadership under God - we will build joyful Christian communities; be an ever-stronger voice for justice and put children and young people at the heart of all we do.

**Bible Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – Mark 10.45**

For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.

**Choir Church:** Pray for the planting of eight new Choir Churches that all involved would work together to make disciples of Jesus.

**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:** St Annes on Sea St Anne (Heyhouses), Rev Glen Brooks, Rev Ryan Otley, Mr Bill Hembrow (Ilm); also in this Benefice, Heyhouses Endowed 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 São Paulo – Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil (II Province)