

## Blackburn Prayers May 2023

Welcome to Blackburn Prayers.

The Coronation of King Charles takes place on Saturday, May 6 and the celebration bank holiday weekend continues across the Sunday and Monday (May 7 and 8). Coronation resources of all kinds and for all ages are available for engagement and download on [this page of the Diocesan website](#). To mark this important moment in our nation's life, the National Church has also compiled a series of Daily Prayers which began with Easter Day and continue to Coronation Day itself. A booklet with the prayers, including a daily theme, reading, reflection and prayer for use by individuals, churches or groups is available and can still be ordered. Find out more, order paper copies of the booklet and/or sign up to receive daily coronation reflections via email, [all here](#).

We continue to pray for the people of Ukraine as they face Russian aggression. A selection of resources are still available [on this page](#) of the Diocesan website for continued reference and use.

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, 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.**

Meanwhile, if you have not already subscribed to receive the 'Daily Prayers' version of Blackburn Prayers to your email inbox each day please consider doing so. Simply [click the link here](#) to make it happen.

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 also 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.

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

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

**Ukraine:** We continue to pray for the country and people of Ukraine as they face the Russian Federation aggression. Diocesan prayer for Ukraine alongside other resources [here](#).

**Bible Memory Verse: Making Disciples – 2 Corinthians 9.7**

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

**Blackpool Ministry Experience:** Pray for the ongoing recruitment process for the next intake of the Blackpool Ministry Experience to be starting in September 2023.

**Vision 2026:** We pray for those working to produce a series of discipleship podcasts to be launched soon, aimed at engaging younger adults and offering creative content that helps people grow in faith.

**Diocese:** Clitheroe, Chatburn and Downham, Vacant, Rev Catherine Hale-Heighway, Mrs Philippa McFall (cw), Hon Ralph Assheton (cw), Mr Ian Walton (cw), Mrs Daphne Porter (cw), Mr Howard Riley (cw), Mr Howard Blackburn (cw), Mrs Diane Steer (cw), Mrs Johanna Smith (cw), Mr Ian Tate (cw); also in this Benefice, Chatburn CofE Primary School

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

**Coronation of King Charles III Day 23: Kindness.** Sign up to receive the national church daily coronation reflections via email, [here](#).

**Tuesday 2 May**  
**Athanasius, bishop, teacher of the faith, 373**

**Ukraine:** We continue to pray for the country and people of Ukraine as they face the Russian Federation aggression. Diocesan prayer for Ukraine alongside other resources [here](#).

**Bible Memory Verse: Making Disciples – 2 Corinthians 9.7**

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

**Vision 2026:** We pray for the growth of 'joyful, generous stewards' for whom giving is an integral part of discipleship.

**Diocese:** Clitheroe St James, Rev Mark Pickett, Canon Ruth Haldane (llm), Dr Sam Johnson (llm), Mrs Jilly MacDonald (llm), Mr Duncan Tyson (llm), Mr Peter Williams (llm); also in this Benefice, Clitheroe St James CofE Primary School

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Central Solomons – The Anglican Church of Melanesia

**Meeting:** Diocesan Mission and Pastoral Committee meeting

**Coronation of King Charles III Day 24: Generosity.** Sign up to receive the national church daily coronation reflections via email, [here](#).

**Wednesday 3 May**

**Ukraine:** We continue to pray for the country and people of Ukraine as they face the Russian Federation aggression. Diocesan prayer for Ukraine alongside other resources [here](#).

**Bible Memory Verse: Making Disciples – 2 Corinthians 9.7**

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

**Mission Partners:** Lisa and Steve Haskett ask us to pray for God's provision for the work of Life Association, so that we can continue to bless and provide for those we serve in India.

**Vision 2026:** We give thanks for the growth of Whalley Abbey as a centre for Christian discipleship and prayer, and pray for those young disciples who offer a year of their time as part of a growing community centred on prayer, hospitality and service.

**Diocese:** Great Harwood St Bartholomew and St John, Rev Graham Birch; also in this Benefice, Great Harwood St Bartholomew's Parish CofE VA Primary School, Great Harwood St John's CofE Primary School

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

**Coronation of King Charles III Day 25: Faithfulness.** Sign up to receive the national church daily coronation reflections via email, [here](#).

**Thursday 4 May**  
**English saints and martyrs of the**  
**Reformation Era**

**Ukraine:** We continue to pray for the country and people of Ukraine as they face the Russian Federation aggression. Diocesan prayer for Ukraine alongside other resources [here](#).

**Bible Memory Verse: Making Disciples – 2 Corinthians 9.7**

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

**Vision 2026:** We pray for all those contributing to the writing of the Lent and Advent Devotionals and ask that many will be encouraged in the habit of reading the Bible daily through these resources.

**Diocese:** Ribchester St Wilfrid (in plurality with) Hurst Green and Mitton, Rev Canon Brian McConkey; also in this Benefice, Ribchester St Wilfrid's CofE VA Primary School

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

**Coronation of King Charles III Day 26: Gentleness.** Sign up to receive the national church daily coronation reflections via email, [here](#).

**Friday 5 May**

**Ukraine:** We continue to pray for the country and people of Ukraine as they face the Russian Federation aggression. Diocesan prayer for Ukraine alongside other resources [here](#).

**Bible Memory Verse: Making Disciples – 2 Corinthians 9.7**

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

**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 100 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.

**Vision 2026:** We pray for the team of Spiritual Directors, for wisdom as they seek to match each person seeking a spiritual companion or director with the right person to help them grow in their spiritual life.

**Diocese:** Langho St Leonard, Rev Tracy Swindells, Mrs Janet Parker (Ilm); also in this Benefice, Langho and Billington St Leonard's CofE Primary School

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Southwell & Nottingham – The Church of England (York Province)

**Coronation of King Charles III Day 27: Self-control.** Sign up to receive the national church daily coronation reflections via email, [here](#).

**Saturday 6 May**

**Ukraine:** We continue to pray for the country and people of Ukraine as they face the Russian Federation aggression. Diocesan prayer for Ukraine alongside other resources [here](#).

**Bible Memory Verse: Making Disciples – 2 Corinthians 9.7**

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

**Vision 2026:** We pray for fresh inspiration for all those who plan and lead worship, that lives will be transformed as people of all ages encounter Jesus in Word and sacrament.

**Diocese:** Read St John and Simonstone St Peter, Rev Susan Ball; also in this Benefice, Read St John's CofE Primary School, Simonstone St Peter's CofE Primary School

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Reformed Episcopal Church of Spain – Extra Provincial to the Archbishop of Canterbury

**Coronation of King Charles III Day 28: morning - Praying for God's help; evening – Celebrating Community.** Sign up to receive the national church daily coronation reflections via email, [here](#).

**Sunday 7 May**  
**Fifth Sunday of Easter**

**Ukraine:** We continue to pray for the country and people of Ukraine as they face the Russian Federation aggression. Diocesan prayer for Ukraine alongside other resources [here](#).

**Bible Memory Verse: Making Disciples – 2 Corinthians 9.7**

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

**Hope Community Church:** Pray for Hope Youth and the Girls' Football sessions. Pray that through these activities, young people will know more about the love of Jesus.

**Vision 2026:** We pray for the growth of new and deeper disciples of Jesus Christ.

**Diocese:** Rishton St Peter and St Paul, Rev Eddie Carr; also in this Benefice, Rishton St Peter and St Paul's CofE Primary School

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Church in Wales

**Coronation of King Charles III Day 29: Celebrating Community.** Sign up to receive the national church daily coronation reflections via email, [here](#).

**Monday 8 May**

Julian of Norwich, spiritual writer,  
c.1417

**Ukraine:** We continue to pray for the country and people of Ukraine as they face the Russian Federation aggression. Diocesan prayer for Ukraine alongside other resources [here](#).

**Bible Memory Verse: Making Disciples – 2 Corinthians 9.7**

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

**Vision 2026:** Pray for parishes preparing for and hosting missions led by the Parish Mission team. Pray that men, women and children hear the gospel in their own language.

**Diocese:** Salesbury St Peter, Rev Liz McLean, Mrs Janet Haworth (Ilm); also in this Benefice, Salesbury CofE Primary School

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Spokane – The Episcopal Church (8 Province)

**Tuesday 9 May**

**Ukraine:** We continue to pray for the country and people of Ukraine as they face the Russian Federation aggression. Diocesan prayer for Ukraine alongside other resources [here](#).

**Bible Memory Verse: Making Disciples – 2 Corinthians 9.7**

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

**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:** Pray for more 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:** Waddington, Rev Christopher Wood; also in this Benefice, Waddington and West Bradford CofE VA Primary School

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Springfield – The Episcopal Church (5 Province)

**Clergy Moves:** Rev Simon Lloyd, moving to Haslingden St James with Grane St Stephen and Stonefold St John (in plurality with) Musbury St Thomas

**Wednesday 10 May**

**Ukraine:** We continue to pray for the country and people of Ukraine as they face the Russian Federation aggression. Diocesan prayer for Ukraine alongside other resources [here](#).

**Bible Memory Verse: Making Disciples – 2 Corinthians 9.7**

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

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

**Diocese:** West Pendleside, Rev Jonathan Carmyllie, Ms Lynne Smith (Ilm); also in this Benefice, Whalley CofE Primary School

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Port Sudan – Province of the Episcopal Church of Sudan

**Meeting:** Diocesan Advisory Committee meeting

## Thursday 11 May

**Ukraine:** We continue to pray for the country and people of Ukraine as they face the Russian Federation aggression. Diocesan prayer for Ukraine alongside other resources [here](#).

**Bible Memory Verse: Being Witnesses – John 3.16**

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

**Vision 2026:** Pray for 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:** Whalley Abbey, Rev Adam Thomas

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Sul-Occidental (South Western) – Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil (1 Province)

## Friday 12 May

Gregory Dix, priest, monk, scholar, 1952

**Ukraine:** We continue to pray for the country and people of Ukraine as they face the Russian Federation aggression. Diocesan prayer for Ukraine alongside other resources [here](#).

**Bible Memory Verse: Being Witnesses – John 3.16**

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

**M:Power:** Pray for the work of M:Power in Over Darwen, under the leadership of Kevin Colyer. May the team of leaders there grow in number and capacity, and the vision to see the church building become a community hub become a reality, so the community is transformed by the hope of the Gospel.

**Vision 2026:** Pray for the continuing growth of the church in Lancashire, building joyful Christian communities with an ever-stronger voice for justice, especially for the poorest, enabling people to know God's love, peace and justice.

**Diocese:** Whitewell St Michael, Vacant, Mr William Leeming (cw)

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

## Saturday 13 May

**Ukraine:** We continue to pray for the country and people of Ukraine as they face the Russian Federation aggression. Diocesan prayer for Ukraine alongside other resources [here](#).

**Bible Memory Verse: Being Witnesses – John 3.16**

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

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

**Diocese:** Accrington Deanery Officers, Rev Canon David Arnold, Rev Stephen Brown, Mrs Denise Taylor, Mrs Wendy Papworth, Mrs Gwen Greenwood

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Sur – Iglesia Anglicana de Chile

## Sunday 14 May

### Sixth Sunday of Easter

**Ukraine:** We continue to pray for the country and people of Ukraine as they face the Russian Federation aggression. Diocesan prayer for Ukraine alongside other resources [here](#).

**Bible Memory Verse: Being Witnesses – John 3.16**

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

**Vision 2026:** For 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:** Accrington St John with Huncoat St Augustine, Rev Hugh Scriven, Mrs Christine Ritson (Ilm); also in this Benefice, Accrington St John with St Augustine CofE Primary School

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Church of the Province of West Africa

**Monday 15 May**  
**Matthias the Apostle**  
**Rogation Day**

**Ukraine:** We continue to pray for the country and people of Ukraine as they face the Russian Federation aggression. Diocesan prayer for Ukraine alongside other resources [here](#).

**Bible Memory Verse: Being Witnesses – John 3.16**

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

**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:** Accrington Christ Church and St James, Rev Paul McNally, Mrs Gail Whittaker (Ilm), Mr Mick Whittaker (Ilm)

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Swansea and Brecon – The Church in Wales

**Meeting:** Bishop's Appointments Team meeting; Diocesan Safeguarding Advisory Panel meeting

**Tuesday 16 May**  
**Rogation Day**  
Caroline Chisholm, social reformer,  
1877

**Ukraine:** We continue to pray for the country and people of Ukraine as they face the Russian Federation aggression. Diocesan prayer for Ukraine alongside other resources [here](#).

**Bible Memory Verse: Being Witnesses – John 3.16**

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

**Vision 2026:** Pray that all might hear God's call in their life and be ready to respond with faithful obedience. Pray that all Christians May feel equipped to live out their faith in the family, the workplace and in their local communities.

**Diocese:** Accrington St Andrew, St Mary Magdalen and St Peter and Church Kirk, Rev Canon David Arnold, Rev Jordan McDermott; also in this Benefice, Church St Nicholas CofE Primary School, Accrington St Christopher's CofE High School, Accrington St Mary Magdalen's CofE Primary School, Accrington St Peter's CofE Primary School

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Swaziland – The Anglican Church of Southern Africa

**Wednesday 17 May**  
**Rogation Day**

**Ukraine:** We continue to pray for the country and people of Ukraine as they face the Russian Federation aggression. Diocesan prayer for Ukraine alongside other resources [here](#).

**Bible Memory Verse: Being Witnesses – John 3.16**

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

**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 lay leadership, priesthood and to the religious life, especially for vocations amongst young adults and people of global majority heritage.

**Diocese:** Altham with Clayton-le-Moors, Rev Toby Webber, Rev Victor Sohail; also in this Benefice, Altham St James' CofE Primary School, Clayton-le-Moors All Saints CofE Primary School

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

## Thursday 18 May Ascension Day

**Ukraine:** We continue to pray for the country and people of Ukraine as they face the Russian Federation aggression. Diocesan prayer for Ukraine alongside other resources [here](#).

**Bible Memory Verse: Being Witnesses – John 3.16**

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

**Vision 2026:** Pray for all whose leadership is hidden or unacknowledged and for those who are yet to discover the gifts that the Holy Spirit has given them.

**Diocese:** Baxenden St John and Accrington St Paul, Rev Amanda Marshall, Rev Kevin Logan, Mr Tony Hindle (Ilm), Dr Patricia Wilkinson (Ilm); also in this Benefice, Baxenden St John's CofE Primary School; Accrington Benjamin Hargreaves VA CofE Primary School

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Tabora – The Anglican Church of Tanzania

**Meeting:** Strategic Programme Board meeting;  
Diocesan RE Co-ordinators Conference

**Thy Kingdom Come:** Prayer resources can be found [here](#)

## Friday 19 May

Dunstan, archbishop, monastic reformer, 988

**Ukraine:** We continue to pray for the country and people of Ukraine as they face the Russian Federation aggression. Diocesan prayer for Ukraine alongside other resources [here](#).

**Bible Memory Verse: Being Witnesses – John 3.16**

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

**Vision 2026:** Pray for all those in training for leadership, especially our trainee ALMs, LLMs, ordinands and curates that they may be formed for the ministries they have been called to.

**Diocese:** Haslingden St James with Grane St Stephen and Stonefold St John (in plurality with) Musbury St Thomas, Rev David Stephenson, Rev Judith Balkwell, Rev Simon Lloyd; also in this Benefice, Haslingden St James' CofE Primary School, Haslingden St John's Stonefold CofE Primary School

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** Te Pihopatanga o Tai Tokerau – The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia (Maori Tikanga)

**Thy Kingdom Come:** Prayer resources can be found [here](#)

## Saturday 20 May

Alcuin, deacon, abbot, 804

**Ukraine:** We continue to pray for the country and people of Ukraine as they face the Russian Federation aggression. Diocesan prayer for Ukraine alongside other resources [here](#).

**Bible Memory Verse: Being Witnesses – John 3.16**

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

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

**Vision 2026:** 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:** Laneside St Peter, Rev Stephen Brown

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** Te Pihopatanga o Tairāwhiti – The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia (Maori Tikanga)

**Thy Kingdom Come:** Prayer resources can be found [here](#)

**Sunday 21 May**  
**Seventh Sunday of Easter**

**Ukraine:** We continue to pray for the country and people of Ukraine as they face the Russian Federation aggression. Diocesan prayer for Ukraine alongside other resources [here](#).

**Bible Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – John 18.36**

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

**Vision 2026:** Pray for the Growing Leaders staff team and all the volunteers who work with them in discerning, nurturing and supporting vocations to lay and ordained ministry that their work may enable many to follow God’s call on their lives.

**Diocese:** Oswaldtwistle, Vacant, Rev Carole Garner, Mrs Heather Aspbury (Ilm), Miss Judith Addison (Ilm), Mrs Betty Hartley (cw), Mr Andrew Leecy (cw), Mrs Sonia Marshall (cw), Mr Clive Yates (cw), Mr Bevan Eatough (cw); also in this Benefice, Oswaldtwistle St Andrew’s CofE Primary School, Oswaldtwistle St Paul’s CofE Primary School

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

**Thy Kingdom Come:** Prayer resources can be found [here](#)

**Monday 22 May**

**Ukraine:** We continue to pray for the country and people of Ukraine as they face the Russian Federation aggression. Diocesan prayer for Ukraine alongside other resources [here](#).

**Bible Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – John 18.36**

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

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

**Diocese:** Blackburn with Darwen Deanery Officers, Rev Canon Andrew Horsfall, Mrs Kathryn Adnitt, Miss Anne Carus, Mrs Elaine Williams

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Taita-Taveta – The Anglican Church of Kenya

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

**Thy Kingdom Come:** Prayer resources can be found [here](#)

**Tuesday 23 May**

**Ukraine:** We continue to pray for the country and people of Ukraine as they face the Russian Federation aggression. Diocesan prayer for Ukraine alongside other resources [here](#).

**Bible Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – John 18.36**

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

**Mission Partners:** 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:** Blackburn Christ Church with St Matthew, Blackburn St Andrew Livesey (in plurality with) Blackburn St Barnabas, Rev Canon Andrew Raynes, Rev Sam Dickinson; also in this Benefice, Blackburn St Matthew’s CofE Primary School, Blackburn St Barnabas and St Paul’s CofE Primary School

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Taiwan – The Episcopal Church (8 Province)

**Thy Kingdom Come:** Prayer resources can be found [here](#)

### Wednesday 24 May

John and Charles Wesley, evangelists, hymn writers, 1791 and 1788

**Ukraine:** We continue to pray for the country and people of Ukraine as they face the Russian Federation aggression. Diocesan prayer for Ukraine alongside other resources [here](#).

**Bible Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – John 18.36**

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

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

**Diocese:** Blackburn East Lancashire Hospice, Rev Joanne Macholc, Ms Rachel Fielding

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

**Thy Kingdom Come:** Prayer resources can be found [here](#)

### Thursday 25 May

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

**Ukraine:** We continue to pray for the country and people of Ukraine as they face the Russian Federation aggression. Diocesan prayer for Ukraine alongside other resources [here](#).

**Bible Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – John 18.36**

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

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

**Diocese:** Blackburn St Aidan and St Luke, St Mark and St Philip, Rev Canon Cath Brooks, Rev Jason Gardner, Rev Alan Gault; also in this Benefice, Blackburn Mill Hill St Aidan’s Primary School, a CofE Academy, Blackburn St Luke and St Philip’s CofE Primary School, Blackburn St Wilfrid’s CofE Academy, Wensley Fold CofE Primary Academy

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Tanga – The Anglican Church of Tanzania

**Meeting:** DBF Directors meeting;

Headteachers and Incumbents Conference

**Thy Kingdom Come:** Prayer resources can be found [here](#)

### Friday 26 May

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

**Ukraine:** We continue to pray for the country and people of Ukraine as they face the Russian Federation aggression. Diocesan prayer for Ukraine alongside other resources [here](#).

**Bible Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – John 18.36**

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

**Lighting up new generations:** As the Lighting up New Generations project starts to consider its long term plan for church planting, pray that suitable locations will be recognised and that inspirational leaders are identified to lead this work.

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

**Diocese:** Blackburn St Gabriel, Rev Stephen Corbett, Mr Paul Adnitt (Ilm), Mrs Barbara Foster (Ilm); also in this Benefice, Blackburn St Gabriel’s CofE Primary School

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Central Tanganyika – The Anglican Church of Tanzania

**Thy Kingdom Come:** Prayer resources can be found [here](#)

## Saturday 27 May

**Ukraine:** We continue to pray for the country and people of Ukraine as they face the Russian Federation aggression. Diocesan prayer for Ukraine alongside other resources [here](#).

**Bible Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – John 18.36**

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

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

**Diocese:** Blackburn St Mary the Virgin with St Paul, The Very Rev Peter Howell-Jones, Rev Canon James Lawrence, Rev Canon Gary O'Neill, Mrs Christine O'Neill (Ilm)

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of South West Tanganyika – The Anglican Church of Tanzania

**Thy Kingdom Come:** Prayer resources can be found [here](#)

## Sunday 28 May Pentecost Whit Sunday

**Ukraine:** We continue to pray for the country and people of Ukraine as they face the Russian Federation aggression. Diocesan prayer for Ukraine alongside other resources [here](#).

**Bible Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – John 18.36**

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

**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:** Blackburn St Silas, Rev Sheelagh Aston; also in this Benefice, Blackburn St Silas CofE Primary School

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Extra-Provincial Churches

**Thy Kingdom Come:** Prayer resources can be found [here](#)

## Monday 29 May Daily Eucharistic Lectionary week 8

**Ukraine:** We continue to pray for the country and people of Ukraine as they face the Russian Federation aggression. Diocesan prayer for Ukraine alongside other resources [here](#).

**Bible Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – John 18.36**

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

**Vision 2026:** For 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:** Blackburn St Stephen and St James, Rev Sarah Gill; also in this Benefice, Blackburn St Stephen's CofE Primary School, Blackburn St James' CofE Primary School

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Western Tanganyika – The Anglican Church of Tanzania

## **Tuesday 30 May**

Josephine Butler, social reformer, 1906;  
Joan of Arc, visionary, 1431;  
Apolo Kivebulaya, priest, evangelist, 1933

**Ukraine:** We continue to pray for the country and people of Ukraine as they face the Russian Federation aggression. Diocesan prayer for Ukraine alongside other resources [here](#).

### **Bible Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – John 18.36**

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

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

**Diocese:** Blackburn The Redeemer, Rev Christopher Anderton, Rev James Lapping, Mr Duncan Stowe (IIm), Mr John Ashcroft (IIm), Mr Philip Beresford (IIm), Mr Geoff Hutchinson (IIm); also in this Benefice, Blackburn The Redeemer CofE Primary School

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Tarime – The Anglican Church of Tanzania

## **Wednesday 31 May**

**Visit of the Blessed Virgin Mary to Elizabeth**

**Ukraine:** We continue to pray for the country and people of Ukraine as they face the Russian Federation aggression. Diocesan prayer for Ukraine alongside other resources [here](#).

### **Bible Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – John 18.36**

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

**Choir Church:** Pray for the Choir Church planting communities as they lead and support the new church plants.

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

**Diocese:** Darwen St Cuthbert with Tockholes St Stephen, Rev Nicholas Davis; also in this Benefice, Darwen St Cuthbert’s CofE Primary School, Tockholes St Stephen’s CofE Primary School

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Tasmania – The Anglican Church of Australia (Tasmania Province)