

## Blackburn Prayers January 2024

Welcome to this first edition of Blackburn Prayers for 2024.

We continue to pray daily for all those affected by the terrible violence in Israel and Gaza and for all who work for peace, unity and healing there. Meanwhile we also continue to pray for the people of Ukraine as they face ongoing Russian aggression.

In addition to the short prayers we provide daily, you are encouraged to embellish your prayers as appropriate in relation to the latest news from Israel and Gaza and also from Ukraine on any given day. Prayer resources for Ukraine can be found [on this page](#) of the Diocesan website while prayer resources for Israel and Gaza can be found [here](#).

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 January**  
**Naming and Circumcision of Jesus**

**Israel and Palestine:** We pray for all those affected by the crisis in Israel and Palestine; for the families of all those who have lost their lives; for the displaced and for an end to the bloodshed. We pray that Jesus, the Prince of Peace, will bring His peace to the region. Information and prayer resources [here](#).

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

**Diocese:** Blackpool St Thomas, Rev David O’Brien, Rev LJ Tiffney, Mrs Yvonne Blazey (llm), Miss Vicky Bentley (llm)

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

**Tuesday 2 January**  
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

**Israel and Palestine:** We pray for all those affected by the crisis in Israel and Palestine; for the families of all those who have lost their lives; for the displaced and for an end to the bloodshed. We pray that Jesus, the Prince of Peace, will bring His peace to the region. Information and prayer resources [here](#).

**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 – 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:** We pray for the growth of ‘joyful, generous stewards’ **across the Diocese** for whom giving is an integral part of discipleship.

**Diocese:** Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust, Rev Helen Huston

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Botswana – The Church of the Province of Central Africa

**Wednesday 3 January**

**Israel and Palestine:** We pray for all those affected by the crisis in Israel and Palestine; for the families of all those who have lost their lives; for the displaced and for an end to the bloodshed. We pray that Jesus, the Prince of Peace, will bring His peace to the region. Information and prayer resources [here](#).

**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 – 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:** [Life Association](#) ask for prayer for God’s provision for their work amongst India’s poorest people, and for His protection and blessing on their projects partners and those they serve.

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

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Brandon – The Anglican Church of Canada

## Thursday 4 January

**Israel and Palestine:** We pray for all those affected by the crisis in Israel and Palestine; for the families of all those who have lost their lives; for the displaced and for an end to the bloodshed. We pray that Jesus, the Prince of Peace, will bring His peace to the region. Information and prayer resources [here](#).

**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 – 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:** Looking forward we pray for the development and distribution of the Lent Devotionals and ask that many will be encouraged in the habit of reading the Bible daily through these resources.

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

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Brechin – The Scottish Episcopal Church

**Meeting:** Area Deans’ Residential

## Friday 5 January

**Israel and Palestine:** We pray for all those affected by the crisis in Israel and Palestine; for the families of all those who have lost their lives; for the displaced and for an end to the bloodshed. We pray that Jesus, the Prince of Peace, will bring His peace to the region. Information and prayer resources [here](#).

**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 – 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 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:** Pray for parishes preparing for and hosting missions led by the Parish Mission team. Pray that people of all ages hear the gospel in their own language.

**Diocese:** Lytham St Annes Clifton Hospital, Rev Clive Lord

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Brisbane – The Anglican Church of Australia

**Meeting:** Area Deans’ Residential

## Saturday 6 January Epiphany

**Israel and Palestine:** We pray for all those affected by the crisis in Israel and Palestine; for the families of all those who have lost their lives; for the displaced and for an end to the bloodshed. We pray that Jesus, the Prince of Peace, will bring His peace to the region. Information and prayer resources [here](#).

**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 – 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:** 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:** Marton St Paul, Rev Lesley Atkins; also in this Benefice, Blackpool Baines Endowed Primary School and Children’s Centre, a CofE Primary Academy

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Bristol – The Church of England

**Sunday 7 January**  
**First Sunday of Epiphany**  
**Baptism of Christ**

**Israel and Palestine:** We pray for all those affected by the crisis in Israel and Palestine; for the families of all those who have lost their lives; for the displaced and for an end to the bloodshed. We pray that Jesus, the Prince of Peace, will bring His peace to the region. Information and prayer resources [here](#).

**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 – 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”.

**Hope Community Church:** We pray for Lift-Off that it will equip volunteers and youth leaders with the tools and support they need.

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

**Diocese:** Mereside St Wilfrid, Rev Rachel Sheehan; also in this Benefice, Blackpool St George’s School, a CofE Academy

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Scottish Episcopal Church

**Monday 8 January**  
**Baptism of Christ**  
Daily Eucharistic Lectionary week 1

**Israel and Palestine:** We pray for all those affected by the crisis in Israel and Palestine; for the families of all those who have lost their lives; for the displaced and for an end to the bloodshed. We pray that Jesus, the Prince of Peace, will bring His peace to the region. Information and prayer resources [here](#).

**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 – 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:** 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. And we also pray for the new Warden of Spiritual Directors, Rev Mary Ashton, who will be commissioned today at Whalley Abbey.

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

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of British Columbia – The Anglican Church of Canada

**Meeting:** Vision and Strategy Team meeting

**Event:** Commissioning of the new Warden of Spiritual Directors, Rev Mary Ashton, at Whalley Abbey during 12.30pm Eucharist in the Abbey Chapel.

**Tuesday 9 January**

**Israel and Palestine:** We pray for all those affected by the crisis in Israel and Palestine; for the families of all those who have lost their lives; for the displaced and for an end to the bloodshed. We pray that Jesus, the Prince of Peace, will bring His peace to the region. Information and prayer resources [here](#).

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

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

### Wednesday 10 January

William Laud, archbishop, 1645

**Israel and Palestine:** We pray for all those affected by the crisis in Israel and Palestine; for the families of all those who have lost their lives; for the displaced and for an end to the bloodshed. We pray that Jesus, the Prince of Peace, will bring His peace to the region. Information and prayer resources [here](#).

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

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

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

**Meeting:** Diocesan Advisory Committee meeting; Diocesan Strategic Programme Board meeting

### Thursday 11 January

Mary Slessor, missionary, 1915

**Israel and Palestine:** We pray for all those affected by the crisis in Israel and Palestine; for the families of all those who have lost their lives; for the displaced and for an end to the bloodshed. We pray that Jesus, the Prince of Peace, will bring His peace to the region. Information and prayer resources [here](#).

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

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Buhiga – The Anglican Church of Burundi

### Friday 12 January

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

**Israel and Palestine:** We pray for all those affected by the crisis in Israel and Palestine; for the families of all those who have lost their lives; for the displaced and for an end to the bloodshed. We pray that Jesus, the Prince of Peace, will bring His peace to the region. Information and prayer resources [here](#).

**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 – 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:** 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:** Burnley St Andrew with St Margaret and Burnley St James, Rev Timothy Kaye

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



## Saturday 13 January

Hilary, bishop, teacher of the faith, 367;  
Kentigern (Mungo), missionary bishop, 603;  
George Fox, founder of the Society of Friends (Quakers), 1691

**Israel and Palestine:** We pray for all those affected by the crisis in Israel and Palestine; for the families of all those who have lost their lives; for the displaced and for an end to the bloodshed. We pray that Jesus, the Prince of Peace, will bring His peace to the region. Information and prayer resources [here](#).

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

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

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

## Sunday 14 January Second Sunday of Epiphany

**Israel and Palestine:** We pray for all those affected by the crisis in Israel and Palestine; for the families of all those who have lost their lives; for the displaced and for an end to the bloodshed. We pray that Jesus, the Prince of Peace, will bring His peace to the region. Information and prayer resources [here](#).

**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 – 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:** Burnley St Matthew the Apostle (Habergham Eaves) with Holy Trinity, Rev Alex Frost, Rev Kat Gregory-Witham, Mrs Jackie Mackrell (Ilm); also in this Benefice, Burnley Holy Trinity CofE Primary School

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** Church of the Province of South East Asia

## Monday 15 January Daily Eucharistic Lectionary week 2

**Israel and Palestine:** We pray for all those affected by the crisis in Israel and Palestine; for the families of all those who have lost their lives; for the displaced and for an end to the bloodshed. We pray that Jesus, the Prince of Peace, will bring His peace to the region. Information and prayer resources [here](#).

**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 – 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:** Burnley St Peter and St Stephen, Rev Andrew Holmes; also in this Benefice, Burnley St Peter's CofE Primary School, Burnley St Stephen's CofE VA Primary School

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

**Meeting:** Diocesan Leadership Core Group meeting

**Appointment:** We pray for Fr Neil Kelley who starts his work as Assistant Archdeacon with responsibility for Clergy Wellbeing today alongside his regular parish ministry. He will be commissioned formally into the role by Bishop Jill on February 11 at 3pm at St Laurence, Chorley.

## Tuesday 16 January

**Israel and Palestine:** We pray for all those affected by the crisis in Israel and Palestine; for the families of all those who have lost their lives; for the displaced and for an end to the bloodshed. We pray that Jesus, the Prince of Peace, will bring His peace to the region. Information and prayer resources [here](#).

**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 – 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:** Burnley West All Saints with St John Baptist, Rev Charlie Hill; also in this Benefice, Wellfield Methodist and Anglican Church School

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

## Wednesday 17 January

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

**Israel and Palestine:** We pray for all those affected by the crisis in Israel and Palestine; for the families of all those who have lost their lives; for the displaced and for an end to the bloodshed. We pray that Jesus, the Prince of Peace, will bring His peace to the region. Information and prayer resources [here](#).

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

**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

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Bunbury – The Anglican Church of Australia

## Thursday 18 January

### **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**

Amy Carmichael, founder of the  
Dohnavur Fellowship, spiritual writer,  
1951

**Israel and Palestine:** We pray for all those affected by the crisis in Israel and Palestine; for the families of all those who have lost their lives; for the displaced and for an end to the bloodshed. We pray that Jesus, the Prince of Peace, will bring His peace to the region. Information and prayer resources [here](#).

**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 – 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:** Padiham with Hapton and Padiham Green, Rev Canon Mark Jones, Mrs Lynne Trudgill (llm); also in this Benefice, Hapton CofE/Methodist School, Padiham Green CofE Primary School, Padiham St Leonard's VA CofE Primary School

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

**Friday 19 January**  
**Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**  
Wulfstan, bishop, 1095

**Israel and Palestine:** We pray for all those affected by the crisis in Israel and Palestine; for the families of all those who have lost their lives; for the displaced and for an end to the bloodshed. We pray that Jesus, the Prince of Peace, will bring His peace to the region. Information and prayer resources [here](#).

**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 – 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 those in training for leadership, especially our trainee Authorised Lay Ministers, Licensed Lay Ministers, ordinands and curates that they may be formed for the ministries they have been called to.

**Diocese:** Chorley Deanery Officers, Rev Jo Smith, Rev Canon Andrew Holliday, Rev Stefan Dnistrianskyj, Mr Andrew Stokes, Ms Lorraine Smith

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

**Event:** Diocesan Board of Education 'Equality, Diversity and Justice Conference 2: Towards Cultural Competence and a Curriculum For All'. [More info.](#)

**Saturday 20 January**  
**Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**  
Richard Rolle, spiritual writer, 1349

**Israel and Palestine:** We pray for all those affected by the crisis in Israel and Palestine; for the families of all those who have lost their lives; for the displaced and for an end to the bloodshed. We pray that Jesus, the Prince of Peace, will bring His peace to the region. Information and prayer resources [here](#).

**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 – 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 lay and ordained leaders who are struggling, for those who may 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:** Adlington St Paul, Rev Graeme Buttery, Rev Jean Kouacou; also in this Benefice, Adlington St Paul's CofE Primary School

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Busan – The Anglican Church of Korea  
**Meeting:** DBF Directors meeting

**Sunday 21 January**  
**Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**

**Israel and Palestine:** We pray for all those affected by the crisis in Israel and Palestine; for the families of all those who have lost their lives; for the displaced and for an end to the bloodshed. We pray that Jesus, the Prince of Peace, will bring His peace to the region. Information and prayer resources [here](#).

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

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

**Clergy Moves:** Rev Alice Ormondroyd, new Vicar of Warton St Oswald with Yealand Conyers St John



## Monday 22 January

### Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Vincent of Saragossa, deacon, martyr, 304

Daily Eucharistic Lectionary week 3

**Israel and Palestine:** We pray for all those affected by the crisis in Israel and Palestine; for the families of all those who have lost their lives; for the displaced and for an end to the bloodshed. We pray that Jesus, the Prince of Peace, will bring His peace to the region. Information and prayer resources [here](#).

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

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

**Meeting:** Bishop's Appointments Team meeting

## Tuesday 23 January

### Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

**Israel and Palestine:** We pray for all those affected by the crisis in Israel and Palestine; for the families of all those who have lost their lives; for the displaced and for an end to the bloodshed. We pray that Jesus, the Prince of Peace, will bring His peace to the region. Information and prayer resources [here](#).

**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 – 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:** Chorley St George and All Saints, Rev Michael Print, Rev Jordan Bentliff; also in this Benefice, Chorley All Saints CofE Primary School and Nursery Unit, Chorley St George's CofE Primary School

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

## Wednesday 24 January

### Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Francis de Sales, bishop, teacher of the faith, 1622

**Israel and Palestine:** We pray for all those affected by the crisis in Israel and Palestine; for the families of all those who have lost their lives; for the displaced and for an end to the bloodshed. We pray that Jesus, the Prince of Peace, will bring His peace to the region. Information and prayer resources [here](#).

**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 – 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, discipled and shared within their communities.

**Diocese:** Chorley St James, Rev Dan Freeman, Mr Phil Parker (Ilm); also in this Benefice Chorley St James' CofE Primary School

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

**Event:** Diocesan Board of Education R.E. Coordinators' Day Conference. [More here](#).

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

**Israel and Palestine:** We pray for all those affected by the crisis in Israel and Palestine; for the families of all those who have lost their lives; for the displaced and for an end to the bloodshed. We pray that Jesus, the Prince of Peace, will bring His peace to the region. Information and prayer resources [here](#).

**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 – 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:** 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, the Parish of St Laurence's CofE Primary School, Chorley St Peter's CofE Primary School

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

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

**Israel and Palestine:** We pray for all those affected by the crisis in Israel and Palestine; for the families of all those who have lost their lives; for the displaced and for an end to the bloodshed. We pray that Jesus, the Prince of Peace, will bring His peace to the region. Information and prayer resources [here](#).

**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 – 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 continue our journey to grow the church at St John's Blackpool (known as 'Blackpool Church') with our work on outreach and growth, we pray all will progress smoothly and that the congregation - existing and newcomers - will feel welcomed in our building and community.

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

**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

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

**Saturday 27 January**

**Israel and Palestine:** We pray for all those affected by the crisis in Israel and Palestine; for the families of all those who have lost their lives; for the displaced and for an end to the bloodshed. We pray that Jesus, the Prince of Peace, will bring His peace to the region. Information and prayer resources [here](#).

**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 – 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:** Croston, Bretherton and Mawdesley with Bispham. Vacant, Ms Janet Maggs (IIm), Mrs Naomi Mangnall (cw), Mrs Natasha Leach (cw), Mr David Rawcliffe (cw), Mrs Elaine Marsh (cw), Mrs Juliet Taylor (cw), Mrs Hilary Lloyd (cw); 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

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

**Sunday 28 January**  
**Fourth Sunday of Epiphany**  
**Presentation of Christ in the**  
**Temple**  
**Candlemas**

**Israel and Palestine:** We pray for all those affected by the crisis in Israel and Palestine; for the families of all those who have lost their lives; for the displaced and for an end to the bloodshed. We pray that Jesus, the Prince of Peace, will bring His peace to the region. Information and prayer resources [here](#).

**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 – 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.

**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:** Eccleston St Mary the Virgin and Charnock Richard Christ Church, Vacant, Mrs Gillian Jamieson (cw), Mr Garry Fishwick (cw), Mr Malcolm Stewart (cw), Mr Philip Tranter (cw); also in this Benefice, Eccleston St Mary's CofE Primary School, Charnock Richard Christ Church CofE Primary School

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Anglican Church of Southern Africa

**Monday 29 January**  
Daily Eucharistic Lectionary week 4

**Israel and Palestine:** We pray for all those affected by the crisis in Israel and Palestine; for the families of all those who have lost their lives; for the displaced and for an end to the bloodshed. We pray that Jesus, the Prince of Peace, will bring His peace to the region. Information and prayer resources [here](#).

**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 – 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 staff in the Diocesan Offices in Blackburn giving support to parishes through their work in the areas of HR, finance, safeguarding, communications, property, legal and governance, as they share their knowledge and skills for the benefit of mission.

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

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

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

**Tuesday 30 January**  
Charles, king and martyr, 1649

**Israel and Palestine:** We pray for all those affected by the crisis in Israel and Palestine; for the families of all those who have lost their lives; for the displaced and for an end to the bloodshed. We pray that Jesus, the Prince of Peace, will bring His peace to the region. Information and prayer resources [here](#).

**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 – 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:** Heapey St Barnabas and Withnell St Paul, Vacant, Rev Gary Bullock, Mr Robert Holding (cw), Mrs Charlotte Nickson (cw), Mr Peter Monks (cw), Dr Michael Duggleby (cw); also in this Benefice, Brinscall St John's CofE and Methodist Primary School

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

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

## **Wednesday 31 January**

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

**Israel and Palestine:** We pray for all those affected by the crisis in Israel and Palestine; for the families of all those who have lost their lives; for the displaced and for an end to the bloodshed. We pray that Jesus, the Prince of Peace, will bring His peace to the region. Information and prayer resources [here](#).

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

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Caledonia – The Anglican Church of Canada

**Clergy Moves:** Retirement of Rev Canon Cath Brooks, Vicar of Blackburn St Aidan and St Luke, St Marks and St Philips