





### **Blackburn Prayers July 2025**

Welcome to Blackburn Prayers.

#### 'I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth.' 1 Corinthians 3:6

In our Year of Prayer for Growth and Renewal, we are praying together for new and deeper disciples for Jesus Christ and that we will be renewed in the power of the Holy Spirit for a season of mission in our centenary year 2026. Prayer resources for parishes can be found <a href="here">here</a> and resources for children and young people can be found <a href=here</a> or by scanning the QR codes on the right.

As part of our commitment to the Year of Prayer, we have refreshed Blackburn Prayers. Our prayer diary will include prayers for our overseas links: the Dioceses of the Free State, Liwolo, Multan and the Lutheran church in Braunschweig.

You can also sign up for a daily email containing the Blackburn Prayers for that day. <u>Visit this page</u> to do so, where you can also see a pdf of the full month's prayers and even find out how to order a printed version to be sent to you, if you would prefer.

We continue to pray for peace in Ukraine; also between Israel and Gaza/Palestine and in South Sudan, following fresh political unrest there which includes our link Diocese of Liwolo. Prayers and prayer resources <u>can be found</u> <u>here</u> or by scanning the relevant QR code on this page.

If you have any comments, amendments or updates regarding Blackburn Prayers, please direct them to <a href="mailto:karen.ashcroft@blackburn.anglican.org">karen.ashcroft@blackburn.anglican.org</a> in the first instance.

We would love to hear how God is answering your prayers. Please get in touch with Joy Rushton: <a href="mailto:joy.rushton@blackburn.anglican.org">joy.rushton@blackburn.anglican.org</a>

Resources for adults and children to support Bible reading and inspiration for prayer can be found on our Fruitful Discipleship app available on your app store, search 'Fruitful, Diocese of Blackburn' to find it.



Year of Prayer Resources



Year of Prayer Children's Resources



Prayer for Peace and Prayer Resources

# Leading Your Church Into Growth Prayer

God of Mission, who alone brings growth to your Church.

Send your Holy Spirit to give vision to our planning, wisdom to our actions, joy to our worship, and power to our witness.

Help our church to grow in numbers, in spiritual commitment to you, and in service to our local community, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Key: cw = Churchwarden of Vacant Parish Ilm = Licensed Lay Minister

#### Tuesday 1 July

Henry, John and Henry Venn, priests, evangelical divines, 1797, 1813 and 1873 Daily Eucharistic Lectionary week 13 Vision 2026: We pray for those from the Making Disciples Team continuing to grow our Discipleship app 'Fruitful', which offers creative content that helps people grow in faith. Pray for the support group working together on technical support; ongoing content creation and communications/promotion. 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

Link Diocese: Free State - Some of the churches in Free State have strong links with parishes in Blackburn Diocese. As more lay people take on the responsibility of leading this initiative, we pray that the links will grow. We pray that churches in the Free State that would like a link can be successfully matched with parishes here. We pray for Father Joshua Skee and the link committee in the Free State and for Rev Sam Cheesman leading the link committee here in Blackburn that they may work closely together and match parishes successfully.

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

**Event:** Quiet Day at Whalley Abbey – Maranatha Yoga

#### Wednesday 2 July

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

**Diocese:** Blackburn St Luke's, Rev Jason Gardner, Rev Alan Gault, Rev John Lisle; also in this Benefice, Blackburn St Barnabas and St Paul's Primary School; Blackburn St Luke's and St Philip's Primary School, a CofE Academy; Blackburn St Wilfrid's CofE Academy.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of Natal – The Anglican Church of Southern Africa

**Event:** Centenary Mission Preparation Open Synod for Garstang Deanery held at Bilsborrow St Hilda's

## Thursday 3 July Thomas the Apostle

**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:** Blackburn St Mary the Virgin with St Paul (Cathedral and Parish Church), The Very Rev Peter Howell-Jones, Rev Canon James Lawrence, Rev Dr Jenny Gaffin

**Mission Partners:** <u>Life Association</u> 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.

**Link Diocese: Braunschweig -** Gracious God, we lift up the parishes of Braunschweig, particularly those experimenting with new patterns of rural ministry. Bless the innovative approaches, such as employing buildings and operations managers. May these efforts strengthen the church's presence in rural communities.

*Anglican Cycle of Prayer:* The Area Mission in Navajoland – The Episcopal Church

#### Friday 4 July

**Vision 2026:** We give thanks for the new funding from the national church for Children's, Families and Youth Workers and Lay Pioneers. We pray for those who are sensing a call to these ministries to come forward, to further explore their calling. We ask that gifted and energised individuals are appointed to guide and lead in these posts in our parishes

**Diocese:** Blackburn St Silas, Rev Paul Payton; also in this Benefice, Blackburn St Silas' CofE Primary School; Blackburn Wensley Fold CofE Primary Academy

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

Event: Parish Mission Event held at Sandyland St John

#### Saturday 5 July

**Vision 2026:** We pray for the expansion of the Diocesan Renewal Programme that has been enabled by national church funding, that those parishes participating would see growth in prayer, a deepening of discipleship and increasing numbers of people coming to faith.

**Diocese:** Blackburn St Stephen and St James, Vacant, Rev Peter Dillon, Mrs Janet Chester (cw), Mr Bill Berry (cw), Mrs Joan Bolton (cw); also in this Benefice, Blackburn St James' CofE Primary School; Blackburn St Stephen's CofE Primary School

**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.

**Link Diocese:** Liwolo - Pray for revitalising hope at Jehovah Rapha Health Centre. Pray that God would breathe new life into this mission so that it may be a true beacon of hope, bringing life to those in need. Pray for the mothers and newborns who come to have a safe a secure space for life to flourish. Pray for outreach to vulnerable people who need God's healing touch and a reminder of His unfailing love.

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

**Event:** Parish Mission Event held at Sandyland St John; Renewal Wellbeing Training at Lancaster St Thomas

#### Sunday 6 July Third Sunday after Trinity Proper 9

**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:** Blackburn The Redeemer (*St Bartholomew; The Saviour*), Rev Chris Anderton, Rev James Lapping, Mr Philip Beresford (Ilm); also in this Benefice, Blackburn The Redeemer CofE Primary School

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

**Event:** Parish Mission Event held at Sandyland St John

## Monday 7 July

Daily Eucharistic Lectionary week 14

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

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

Lighting Up New Generations: As we come to the end of another year in the life of the Lighting Up New Generations project, we pray that our churches are achieving everything that was hoped for them (and more!) and that the skills and experience developed can be a source of support to churches across the Diocese.

**Link Diocese:** Multan - Pray for mission and outreach in the Diocese, particularly in the desert areas of the Diocese. Pray that those who are leading this mission in remote areas may be strengthened and protected to continue to make disciples of Jesus.

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Nebraska – The Episcopal Church

**Meetings:** Vision and Strategy Team meeting

**Event:** Recognise: Celebrating work with and for the young across

Lancashire

#### **Tuesday 8 July**

**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 Rev Mary Ashton in her role as Warden of Spiritual Directors.

**Diocese:** Darwen St Peter, Rev Alison Mitchell; also in this Benefice, Darwen Holy Trinity CofE Primary School; Darwen St Peter's CofE Primary School

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Nelson – The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia

**Event:** Quiet Day at Whalley Abbey – I am the Potter

#### Wednesday 9 July

**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:** Feniscowles Immanuel and Feniscliffe St Francis, Rev Bryn Naylor, Rev Sara Marriott; also in this Benefice, Livesey St Francis CofE Primary School

**Mission Partners**: "Pray for the connections L. is making both in the country and internationally to work together with others to improve special educational needs provision systematically within the country where we serve," write mission partners A. and L. in southeast Asia. L. works in education and A. is working to help people overcome addictions.

Link Diocese: Free State - Many churches in the Free State have strong links with the community and are seeking to be more involved with local schools. We pray that these links will be forged so that more children will learn of the love of God in their lives. As schools in the Blackburn Diocese link with schools in the Free State we pray that the children will learn and understand from each other.

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Nevada – The Episcopal Church

**Meetings:** Diocesan Advisory Committee meeting

#### **Thursday 10 July**

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

**Diocese:** Hoddlesden St Paul and Darwen St Barnabas, Rev Ben Marston, Rev Matt Gaze, Mrs Margaret Walsh (Ilm), Mr Kenneth Lee (Ilm); also in this Benefice, Darwen St Barnabas Primary School, a CofE Academy;

Hoddlesden St Paul's CofE Primary School

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

Clergy Moves: Rev Mike Print, new Priest-in-Charge of Langho St Leonard

Friday 11 July Benedict, abbot, c.550 **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:** Knuzden St Oswald, Vacant; also in this Benefice, Knuzden St Oswald's CofE Primary School

**Link Diocese:** Braunschweig - Creator of harmony, we thank you for the central role of music in Braunschweig's church life. Bless the musical endeavours in the Dom and larger parishes. May this ministry continue to be an effective means of outreach, drawing people closer to You through the beauty of sacred music.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of New Guinea Islands – The Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea

Meetings: General Synod

#### Saturday 12 July

**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:** Lower Darwen St James (in plurality with) Over Darwen St James, Rev Rebecca Roberts, Rev Cathy Malins, Rev Kevin Colyer, Miss Susan Lloyd (Ilm), Mrs Valerie Lucas (Ilm); also in this Benefice Lower Darwen St James' CofE Primary School; Darwen St James' Primary School, a CofE Academy

**M:Power:** Pray for the M:Power Network, for those who have completed M:Power, that it may grow and mature to provide ongoing support and encouragement for laity working to make a difference for Jesus in their parishes.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of New Hampshire - The

Episcopal Church

Meetings: General Synod

#### Sunday 13 July Fourth Sunday after Trinity Proper 10

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

**Diocese:** North and East Blackburn (*St Thomas with St Jude; St Michael and All Angels with St John and Holy Trinity*), Rev Nicholas Heale; also in this Benefice, Blackburn St Michael with St John's CofE Primary School; Blackburn St Thomas' CofE Primary School

**Link Diocese:** Liwolo - Pray for Liwolo Primary and Nursery school and all schools in Liwolo as people strive to rebuild and establish places of learning and transformation. Pray that these schools will become havens of hope, growth and spiritual enrichment. Pray that God would provide all that is needed: resources; teachers and infrastructure.

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

Meetings: General Synod

#### Monday 14 July

John Keble, priest, poet, 1866 Daily Eucharistic Lectionary week 15 *Vision 2026:* Creator God, inspire us with your Holy Spirit to be witnesses to your generosity in bringing all things to be; make us mindful of our responsibility to care for all our fellow creatures and sustain the life of the earth; open our hearts to meet human need from the gifts of your creation that all may share in its bounty; we ask this through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen

**Diocese:** The Royal Blackburn Hospital, Rev David Anderson, Rev Deacon Rachel Fielding, Rev Canon Andrew Horsfall, Rev Joanne Macholc **Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of New Jersey – The Episcopal Church

Meetings: General Synod

#### **Tuesday 15 July**

Swithun, bishop, c.862; Bonaventure, friar, bishop, teacher of the faith, 1274 *Vision 2026:* Pray for all those in lay and ordained leadership, for authorised lay ministers, licensed lay ministers, ordinands, curates, priests and bishops. We also pray for our chaplains and retired clergy. Pray God will give them wisdom, discernment and resilience to lead His church. *Diocese:* Blackpool Deanery Officers, Rev Canon Peter Lillicrap, Rev Andrew Teather, Rev David O'Brien, Mrs Diane Dennett, Mrs Janet Rimmer, Mr Steve Wardle

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. Link Diocese: Multan - Pray for the Bible School in the Diocese. Pray for the leaders to teach and serve diligently and for those who attend courses to be better equipped to share the love of Christ in Pakistan and beyond.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of New Westminster – The Anglican Church of Canada

Meetings: General Synod; Diocesan Safeguarding Advisory Panel meeting

## Wednesday 16 July

Osmund, bishop, 1099

**Vision 2026:** Pray for Christians who hold positions of authority in our community. Praying especially for those working in health care, policing, education, politics and the media. That they may understand the call God has placed on their life to be uniquely Christlike in a non-Christian environment.

**Diocese:** Anchorsholme All Saints, Rev Anthony Barnshaw, Mrs Sarah Tarbuck (Ilm), Dr Ken Wong (Ilm)

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of Central New York – The

**Episcopal Church** 

**Meeting:** Diocesan Strategic Programme Board

#### **Thursday 17 July**

**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:** Bispham All Hallows, Rev Jonny Lee, Rev Mark Wooding, Mrs Diane Dennett (Ilm), Ms Gina Hibbert (Ilm), Mrs Annie Riley (Ilm), Mrs Linda Whitworth (Ilm); also in this Benefice, Blackpool Bispham Endowed CofE Primary School

Link Diocese: Free State - We pray for the Archdeacons who facilitate the smooth working of so many aspects of the Diocese and support the churches and clergy. We thank God for the many LLMs in the Free State Diocese who exercise strong leadership especially in places where priests are ministering to multiple churches. Several churches are also planting new congregations and the LLMs play a vital role in this work. We also thank God for the work members of the various guilds undertake and for the enormous generosity of the people.

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

#### Friday 18 July

Elizabeth Fry, prison reformer, 1845

**Vision 2026:** Pray all Christians will identify their God given gifts and have the courage to use them in His service and for His glory. Pray especially for those who have the gift of leadership, for God to make it clear how He would like them to use that blessing.

**Diocese:** Blackpool Christ Church with All Saints (in plurality with) Blackpool St John, Rev Andy Dykes, Rev Tom Swallow, Dr Bill Ward (Ilm); also in this Benefice, Blackpool St John's CofE Primary School

**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.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of Newark – The Episcopal Church

**Event:** Parish Mission Event held at Fleetwood St Peter's and St David's

#### Saturday 19 July

Gregory, bishop, and his sister Macrina, deaconess, teachers of the faith, c.394 and c.379 **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:** Blackpool Holy Cross South Shore, Rev Michael Fish **Link Diocese: Braunschweig -** Father, we give thanks for the 25 year partnership between Blackburn and Braunschweig. As we look to the future, guide our Dioceses in renewing and reimagining this link. May our friendship grow stronger, and may we learn from each other as we face similar challenges in different contexts.

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

Meetings: Diocesan Synod

**Event:** Parish Mission Event held at Fleetwood St Peter's and St David's

#### Sunday 20 July Fifth Sunday after Trinity

Proper 11

Vision 2026: Pray for our lay and ordained leaders who are finding ministry difficult, asking that God will protect their ministry and encourage them to re-find joy in serving the Lord. Pray also that God will provide them with other people to support and uphold them.

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

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

Clergy Moves: Rev Barbara Hunter as Vicar and Rev Paul Hunter as

Associate Priest of the Parish of Oswaldtwistle

Event: Parish Mission Event held at Fleetwood St Peter's and St David's

#### Monday 21 July

Daily Eucharistic Lectionary week 16

Vision 2026: Pray for the Growing Leaders team, and Bishop Jill who oversees this work. Ask for God to guide them in their work and to direct their steps as they work to support Christian leadership in Blackburn Diocese.

Diocese: Blackpool St Christopher and St Nicholas, Rev Martin Daniels, Rev Ian Rushton; also in this Benefice, Blackpool St Nicholas' CofE Primary School

Link Diocese: Liwolo - Pray for every home in Liwolo to be filled with love, joy and unity. Pray that homes would be places of safety and comfort: where children grow up knowing God's love; where elders are honoured and where hearts are drawn closer to God. Pray for those facing hardships, whether physical, emotional or financial. Pray that God would provide and sustain. Pray that every door would be open to love and hospitality, reflecting God's goodness.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of Newcastle (England) - The

Church of England

**Meetings:** Bishop's Appointments Team

#### Tuesday 22 July Mary Magdalene

Vision 2026: Lord, we pray for parents of children with special educational needs and disabilities. Grant them strength, wisdom, and resources to support their children's unique journeys. May they find comfort in your love and guidance.

Diocese: Blackpool St Mary South Shore, Rev Robert Legge; also in this Benefice, Blackpool St George's School, a CofE Business and Enterprise

**ALM Prayer:** We pray for our authorised lay ministers, giving thanks for the work they do in Christ's name to further the gospel message and enable mission in the local parishes. We ask that God will uphold them in their ministry and pour out His blessings upon them.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of Eastern Newfoundland and Labrador - The Anglican Church of Canada

Clergy Moves: Rev Michael Read is the new Vicar of Briercliffe St James

and Worsthorne St John the Evangelist Event: Held in God's Gaze - Stydd St Saviour

## Wednesday 23 July

Bridget, abbess, 1373

Vision 2026: Heavenly Father, we lift up children and youth who have not yet found faith in you. Open their hearts to your love and truth. May they encounter you in meaningful ways through caring mentors and positive experiences.

Diocese: Blackpool St Paul North Shore (in plurality with) Greenlands St Anne, Vacant, Mrs Angela Kershaw (Ilm), Mrs Lynne Croft (cw), Mrs Hazel Nicholls (cw), Mrs Sandra Boldison (cw), Mrs Jane Thompson (cw) Link Diocese: Multan - Pray for Bishop Leo Paul who leads the Diocese of Multan Pakistan with limited resources but with great passion to proclaim Jesus' gospel. Pray for continual courage for him from God to stand firm in the Lord in a difficult place. Pray for his family and the Diocese to be strengthened by the Holy Spirit to stand together with Bishop Leo in his ministry.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of Central Newfoundland – The Anglican Church of Canada

Event: Centenary Mission Preparation Open Synod for Blackpool Deanery held at Layton St Mark's church

#### **Thursday 24 July**

**Vision 2026:** God of hope, we pray for all children's and youth work in our churches and for the many dedicated volunteer leaders faithfully serving week by week. We also bring the Ignite Project and Youth Hub to you. Bless these initiatives with creativity, energy, and impact. May they provide safe spaces for young people to grow and thrive.

**Diocese:** Blackpool St Stephen-on-the-Cliffs, Rev Andrew Teather **Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Western Newfoundland – The Anglican Church of Canada

# Friday 25 July James the Apostle

*Vision 2026:* Compassionate God, we bring before you children and young people struggling with mental health and wellbeing. Surround them with understanding, professional support, and Your healing presence. Guide their families and friends in offering care.

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

Link Diocese: Free State - Today we pray for Bishop Dintoe as he leads the Diocese of the Free State. It is an enormous Diocese with many difficulties to be overcome. We pray for discernment and understanding among all clergy. We pray for those with responsibility for the difficult financial situation, and particularly those directly impacted by the lack of a regular income.

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

#### Saturday 26 July

Anne and Joachim, parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary

**Vision 2026:** Lord of wisdom, we pray for school and university staff, leaders, chaplains, and governors. Grant them discernment, patience, and joy in their vital roles. May they create nurturing environments where every child and young person can flourish academically, socially, and emotionally. **Diocese:** Blackpool The Trinity Benefice, Rev Canon Peter Lillicrap; also in this Benefice, Staining CofE Primary School

**Blackburn Cathedral:** Prayers today for the Dean and Chapter and all who work at the Cathedral, including administrative staff and all volunteers. We pray for the music department - choirs and organists; Canon Missioner; Education Officer and Safeguarding Team. Prayers also for the Canon Precentor, Virgers, Servers, Wardens; members of the Pastoral Team; staff involved in communications and events; all working at the restaurant (Checks and Greys) and finally the Architect, Archivist and all involved in maintenance and heritage.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of Niagara – The Anglican Church of Canada

Sunday 27 July Sixth Sunday after Trinity Proper 12 Vision 2026: Father, we lift up all children and young people in our communities. Protect them from harm, inspire their dreams, and help them discover their unique gifts. May they grow in confidence, compassion, and character. Help us as a church to always welcome children and young people in as you commanded us, that they might find a safe space there. Diocese: Blackpool Trinity The Hospice on the Fylde, Rev Helen Houston Link Diocese: Braunschweig - Lord, we lift up the Bishop of Braunschweig and his leadership team. Grant them wisdom and strength in their service as they future proof the work across the Diocese. Give them the courage to spread the Gospel and to focus on the growth of the Landeskirche.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea

#### Monday 28 July

Daily Eucharistic Lectionary week 17

**Vision 2026:** Gracious God, we pray for our schools and educational institutions. May they be places of learning, growth, and positive transformation. Guide teachers and students alike in pursuing knowledge, understanding, and wisdom.

**Diocese:** Marton St Paul, Rev Lesley Atkins; also in this Benefice, Blackpool Baines Endowed CofE Primary School

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Niassa – Igreja Anglicana de Mocambique e Angola

**Meetings:** Diocesan Bishops and Archdeacons meeting **Event:** Step into the Bible – Whalley Abbey Retreat

#### **Tuesday 29 July**

Mary, Martha and Lazarus, companions of Our Lord

# **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: Mereside St Wilfrid, Rev Rachel Sheehan

**Link Diocese:** Liwolo - Pray for God's forgiveness upon the sins of this generation and those before. For a restoration of peace, an end of the cycle of wars and refugee life and for the return and resettlement of refugees. Pray for a nation rebuilt with love and fear for God. For healing of wounds and unity and for righteous leaders that rule with justice, compassion, understanding and knowledge.

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

#### Wednesday 30 July

William Wilberforce, social reformer, Olaudah Equiano and Thomas Clarkson, anti-slavery campaigners, 1833, 1797 and 1846 **Vision 2026:** For the support provided to clergy and their families to have suitable homes from which to be leaders in mission.

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

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese on the Niger – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion)

#### Thursday 31 July

Ignatius of Loyola, founder of the Society of Jesus, 1556

**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:** Briercliffe St James and Worsthorne St John the Evangelist, Rev

Michael Read; also in this Benefice, Burnley St James' Lanehead CofE
Primary School

**Choir Church:** Pray for the Choir Church leaders and Choral Directors as they nurture the growth of the first set of Choir Church plants.

**Link Diocese:** Multan - Pray for all the clergy and lay leaders and their families. Pray they may be continuing to preach and teach the word of God with courage and sensitivity.

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