



# **Blackburn Prayers January 2025**

# This is our centenary year ... we are celebrating!

'All for Jesus' explains in three simple words why there is a Diocese of Blackburn and what our purpose is.

This year is an opportunity for people to come to know Jesus Christ either for the first time or more deeply than they do now, because personal relationship with him is what lies at the heart of every movement for renewal.

Please be praying for more and deeper disciples of Jesus.

# Blackburn Diocese Centenary Prayer

#### Heavenly Father,

in our Centenary year
we rededicate ourselves and our Diocese to you.
Send the Holy Spirit to give us
confidence in our witness,
generosity in our service,
and love for our neighbours,
that your Church may be renewed
and many come home to you,
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, Amen.

In our prayers we will continue to pray for our link dioceses and for peace in our world. Prayer resources for the Israel/Gaza and Ukraine conflicts can also be found <a href="here">here</a> and <a href="here">here</a> or by scanning the QR code on the right.

You can sign up for a daily email containing the Blackburn Prayers for each 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.



If you have any comments, amendments or updates regarding Blackburn Prayers, send to karen.ashcroft@blackburn.anglican.org in the first instance.

We would love to hear how God is answering your prayers during this Centenary year. 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 discipleship, Bible reading and inspiration for prayer can also be found on our Fruitful Discipleship app.

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

# Thursday 1 January Naming and Circumcision of Jesus

**Making Disciples:** 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:** Accrington Deanery Officers, Rev Canon David Arnold, Mrs Gwen Greenwood, Mrs Wendy Papworth, Mrs Denise Taylor **Link Diocese: Liwolo** - Pray for the 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 Diocese of Seychelles – The Church of the Province of the Indian Ocean

## Friday 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 **Making Disciples:** We pray for the growth of 'joyful, generous stewards' across the Diocese for whom giving is an integral part of discipleship. **Diocese:** Accrington Christ Church and St James, Rev Paul McNally, Mr Mick Whittaker (Ilm); also in this Benefice, Accrington Green Haworth CofE Primary School

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

# Saturday 3 January

Making Disciples: We give thanks for the ministry of Whalley Abbey as a Centre for Christian Discipleship and Prayer. We pray for the team as they oversee the community centred on prayer, hospitality and service.

Diocese: Accrington The Parish of the Good Shepherd (St Andrew, St Mary Magdalen), Rev Canon David Arnold; also in this Benefice, Accrington St Mary Magdalen's CofE Primary School, Accrington St Peter's CofE Primary School, Church St Nicholas' CofE Primary School, Accrington St Christopher's CofE High School

**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:** 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 Shinyanga – The Anglican Church of Tanzania

Sunday 4 January Second Sunday of Christmas Epiphany Making Disciples: We give thanks for the 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: Accrington St John with Huncoat St Augustine, Vacant, Mrs Christine Ritson (Ilm), Miss Marilyn Hoyle (cw), Mrs Susan Gregory (cw); also in this Benefice, Accrington St John with Huncoat St Augustine CofE Primary School

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Church of the Province of Central Africa Event: The Centenary Launch 2026

## **Monday 5 January**

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: Altham (St James) with Clayton-le-Moors (All Saints), Rev Toby Webber, Rev Victor Sohail; also in this Benefice, Altham St James CofE Primary School, Clayton-le-Moors All Saints 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: Free State - 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. Also thank God for the work members of the various guilds undertake and for the

**Making Disciples:** We pray for the expansion of the Diocesan Renewal

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of Upper Shire – The Church of the Province of Central Africa

Meetings: Diocesan Vision and Strategy Team meeting

enormous generosity of the people.

# Tuesday 6 January Epiphany

**Making Disciples:** 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:** Baxenden St John and Accrington St Paul, Rev Amanda Marshall, Mr Tony Hindle (Ilm), Dr Patricia Wilkinson (Ilm), Mrs Heather Pitman (cw), Mrs Kathleen Jones (cw); also in this Benefice, Accrington Benjamin Hargreaves CofE Primary School, Baxenden St John's CofE Primary School

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

# Wednesday 7 January

**Making Disciples:** We pray for the growth of new and deeper disciples of Jesus Christ.

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

Lighting Up New Generations: As our Lighting Up New Generations project continues, we pray that all those who have come into contact with our resources churches over the recent festive period - existing and newcomers - will feel welcomed in our buildings and church communities. 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 Shyogwe – Eglise Anglicane du Rwanda

# **Thursday 8 January**

**Being Witnesses:** 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: Laneside St Peter, Vacant, Mrs Denise Taylor (cw), Mrs

Michelle Smith (cw)

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of Sialkot – The Church of

Pakistan (United)

**Meeting:** Diocesan Area Deans meeting

# Friday 9 January

**Being Witnesses:** 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:** Oswaldtwistle (*All Saints, Immanuel, St Paul*), Rev Barbara Hunter, Rev Paul Hunter, Rev Carole Garner, Mrs Heather Aspbury (Ilm), Miss Judith Addison (Ilm); also in this Benefice, Oswaldtwistle Hippings Methodist School, Oswaldtwistle St Andrew's CofE Primary School, Oswaldtwistle St Paul's 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: 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

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Singapore – Church of the Province of South East Asia

Meetings: Diocesan Area Deans meeting

and hospitality, reflecting God's goodness.

**Saturday 10 January** William Laud, archbishop, 1645 **Being Witnesses:** Pray for a visitation of the Holy Spirit on Lancashire to light beacons in every community.

**Diocese:** Blackburn with Darwen Deanery Officers, Rev Rebecca Roberts, Rev Nicholas Heale, Mrs Kathryn Adnitt, Mrs Elaine Williams **Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Sittwe – The Church of the

Province of Myanmar (Burma) *Meetings:* Bishop's Council

Sunday 11 January First Sunday of Epiphany Baptism of Christ **Being Witnesses:** 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:** Blackburn Christ Church with St Matthew, Rev Canon Andrew Raynes, Rev Joe Harvey, Rev James Greenfield; also in this Benefice, Blackburn St Matthew's CofE Primary School

**Link Diocese:** Multan - Give thanks that the Bishop's Harvest Appeal money from last year, has started to be used to make a difference to Church School education in the Diocese.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Iglesia Anglicana de la Region Central de America

## **Monday 12 January**

Aelred, abbot, 1167; Benedict Biscop, scholar, 689 Daily Eucharistic Lectionary week 1 **Being Witnesses:** 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:** Blackburn St Aidan, Rev Alice Cole; also in this Benefice, Blackburn St Aidan's Primary School, a CofE Academy

**M:Power:** Pray for Rev Jenny Brown as the Urban Ministry Enabler, and for the parishes she supports who are considering applying for Lay Pioneer funding.

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Sodor and Man – The Church of England

# **Tuesday 13 January**

Hilary, bishop, teacher of the faith, 367:

Kentigern (Mungo), missionary bishop, 603:

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

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

**Diocese:** Blackburn St Andrew Livesey, Rev Sam Dickinson **Link Diocese:** Free State - 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 the Blackburn Diocese, that they may work closely together and match parishes successfully.

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

# Wednesday 14 January

**Being Witnesses:** 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.

**Diocese:** Blackburn St Gabriel, Vacant, Mr Paul Adnitt (Ilm), Mrs Barbara Foster (Ilm), Mr Alan McKechnie (cw), Mr Peter Smith (cw); also in this Benefice, Blackburn St Gabriel's CofE Primary School

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

Meetings: Diocesan Advisory Committee meeting

# **Thursday 15 January**

Growing Leaders: 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: Blackburn St Luke's, Rev Jason Gardner, Rev John Lisle; also in this Benefice, Blackburn St Barnabas and St Paul's CofE Primary School, Blackburn St Luke's and St Philip's Primary School, a CofE Academy, Blackburn St Wilfrid's CofE Academy

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: Braunschweig - Pray for the Diocese as they are in vacancy and prepare to begin the process of appointing a new Bishop. Pray that God will be moving in the hearts of His people as they make their choice.

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

#### Friday 16 January

**Growing Leaders:** 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:** Blackburn St Mary the Virgin with St Paul (Cathedral and parish church), Rev Canon Andrew Horsfall, Rev Canon James Lawrence, Rev Dr Jenny Gaffin

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of Southwark – The Church of England

# **Saturday 17 January**

Antony of Egypt, hermit, abbot, 356; Charles Gore, bishop, founder of the Community of the Resurrection, 1932 **Growing Leaders:** 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:** Blackburn St Silas, Rev David D'Silva; also in this Benefice, Blackburn St Silas CofE Primary School, Blackburn Wensley Fold CofE Primary Academy

**Link Diocese:** Liwolo - Pray that the blessings of Deuteronomy 28 will be poured out upon this community. May the people of Liwolo be blessed. Pray for the land, the crops and the work of their hands. Pray for protection from harm and God's peace to reign.

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Southwell and Nottingham – The Church of England

**Ordinations:** We pray for three ordinands who have been preparing for their ordination service - it takes place today.

Sunday 18 January Second Sunday of Epiphany Week of Prayer for Christian Unity **Growing Leaders:** Pray that 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:** 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

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: Province de L'Eglise Anglicane Du Congo Clergy Moves: Rev Belinda Kerins, new Vicar for Laneside St Peter

Monday 19 January Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Wulfstan, bishop, 1095 Daily Eucharistic Lectionary week 2 **Growing Leaders:** 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 to which they have been called.

**Diocese:** Blackburn The Redeemer. Rev Chris Anderton, Rev James Lapping, Mr Philip Beresford; also in this Benefice, Blackburn The Redeemer CofE Primary School

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 Reformed Episcopal Church of the Reformed Episcopal Church of Spain – (Extra Provincial)

Tuesday 20 January Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Richard Rolle, spiritual writer, 1349 **Growing Leaders:** 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:** 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

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of Spokane – The Episcopal

Church

**Event:** Lancashire Movement for Recovery Summit

Wednesday 21 January Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Agnes, child martyr, 304 **Growing Leaders:** 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:** Darwen St Peter, Rev Alison Mitchell; also in this Benefice, Darwen Holy Trinity CofE Primary School, Darwen St Peter's CofE Primary School

**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 Springfield – The Episcopal Church

Meetings: Strategic Programme Board meeting

Thursday 22 January Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Vincent of Saragossa, deacon, martyr, 304 **Children, Youth, and Education:** For Parents of Children with SEND - Lord Jesus, we pray for parents of children with special educational needs and disabilities. Strengthen them with Your grace, fill them with wisdom, and provide the resources they need. May they abide in You and find deep comfort in Your unfailing love and guidance every day.

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

**ALM Prayer:** We pray for our authorised lay ministers and Anna Chaplains, 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 Port Sudan – Province of the Episcopal Church of Sudan

Friday 23 January Week of Prayer for Christian Unity **Children, Youth, and Education:** For Children and Youth Seeking Faith - Heavenly Father, we lift up children and young people who have not yet come to know You. Open their hearts to Your truth and love. Through caring mentors and life-giving experiences, may they encounter Jesus and learn to walk closely with Him.

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

*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 Diocese of Sul Occidental – Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil

Saturday 24 January Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Francis de Sales, bishop, teacher of the faith, 1622 Children, Youth, and Education: For Children's and Youth Ministry - God of hope, we thank You for all children's and youth work in our churches and for the faithful volunteers serving week by week. We bring the IGNITE project and Youth Hub before You. Bless these initiatives with creativity, energy, and lasting impact. May they be places where young people abide in Christ and grow in faith and joy.

**Diocese:** Knuzden St Oswald, Vacant; also in this Benefice, Knuzden St Oswald's CofE Primary School

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

Meetings: Diocesan Board of Finance Directors' meeting

Sunday 25 January Conversion of Paul Week of Prayer for Christian Unity **Children, Youth, and Education:** For Mental Health and Wellbeing - Compassionate Lord, we pray for children and young people struggling with mental health and wellbeing. Surround them with Your peace and healing presence. Guide families and professionals with wisdom and care. May they find rest and renewal as they remain in You.

**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

**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: Iglesia Anglicana de Chile Clergy Moves: Rev David D'Silva, new Priest-in-Charge for Blackburn St Silas

# **Monday 26 January**

Timothy and Titus, companions of Paul Daily Eucharistic Lectionary week 3

**Children, Youth, and Education:** For Educators and Leaders - Lord of wisdom, we pray for school and university staff, leaders, chaplains, and governors. Grant them discernment, patience, and joy in their calling. May they create environments where every child can flourish and learn to abide in Your truth and grace.

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

**Blackburn Cathedral:** Prayers today for the Interim Dean and Chapter and all who work for the Cathedral, including administrative staff and all volunteers.

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

**Meetings:** Bishop's Appointments Team; Bishops and Archdeacons' meeting; Audit/Risk/Governance Committee meeting

#### **Tuesday 27 January**

Daily Eucharistic Lectionary week 3

**Children, Youth, and Education:** For all Children and Young People - Father, we lift up all children and young people in our communities. Protect them from harm, inspire their dreams, and help them discover the gifts You have placed within them. May they grow in confidence and character as they remain rooted in Christ. Help us as Your church to welcome them as You commanded, so they find a safe and loving home among us.

**Diocese:** The Royal Blackburn Hospital, Rev David Anderson, Rev Deacon Rachel Fielding, Rev Canon Andrew Horsfall, Rev Joanne Macholc

**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 Del Sureste – La Iglesia Anglicana de Mexico

Meetings: Diocesan Safeguarding Advisory Panel meeting

## Wednesday 28 January

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

**Children, Youth, and Education:** For Schools and Learning - Gracious God, we pray for our schools and educational institutions. May they be places of growth and transformation. Guide teachers and students to seek wisdom and understanding in You. May learning lead them closer to Christ, the source of all truth.

**Diocese:** Blackpool Deanery Officers, Rev Canon Peter Lillicrap, Rev Andrew Teather, Rev David O'Brien, Mrs Diane Dennett, Mrs Janet Rimmer, Mr Steve Wardle

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

# **Thursday 29 January**

**Diocesan Board of Finance:** 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:** Anchorsholme All Saints, Rev Anthony Barnshaw, Mrs Sarah Tarbuck (Ilm), Dr Ken Wong (Ilm)

Link Diocese: Free State - We pray for Father Lazarus, Dean of Bloemfontein Cathedral, and thank God for all the work that is achieved with the homeless people of the city. We give thanks for the regular food kitchen and for the sessions when the homeless come for physical and mental care. We also thank God for the other churches around the Diocese that show compassion with food and clothing banks.

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

# Friday 30 January

Charles, king and martyr, 1649

**Diocesan Board of Finance:** For the support provided to clergy and their families to have suitable homes from which to be leaders in mission. **Diocese:** Bispham All Hallows, Rev Jonny Lee, Rev Mark Wooding, Mrs Diane Dennett (Ilm), Mrs Gina Hibbert (Ilm), Mrs Annie Riley (Ilm), Mrs Linda Whitworth (Ilm); also in this Benefice, Blackpool Bispham Endowed CofE Primary School

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

# Saturday 31 January

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

**Diocesan Board of Finance:** 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:** Blackpool Christ Church with All Saints (in plurality with) Blackpool St John, Rev Andy Dykes, Rev Matt Lockwood, Rev Tom Swallow, Dr Bill Ward (Ilm), Mrs Hannah Lockwood (Ilm); also in this Benefice, Blackpool St John's CofE Primary School

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

**Link Diocese:** Braunschweig - Heavenly Father, we pray for the pastors and clergy of Braunschweig. As they face challenges in ministry numbers, inspire more people to answer your call to serve. Provide encouragement and support to those already in service, that they may remain steadfast in their faith and leadership.

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