

Blackburn Prayers June 2026

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.

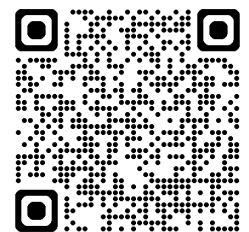
Please be praying for more and deeper disciples of Jesus.

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 [here](#) and [here](#) or by scanning the QR code on the right.

You can sign up for a daily email containing the Blackburn Prayers for each day. [Visit this page](#) 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: joy.rushton@blackburn.anglican.org

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
llm = Licensed Lay Minister

Monday 1 June
Visit of the Blessed Virgin Mary to Elizabeth

Making Disciples: We pray for the Making Disciples Team as they continue to develop the Fruitful app. We give thanks for its creative resources and pray for wisdom for those offering technical and communications support, creating content and sharing it more widely.
Diocese: HMP Preston, Rev George Jesson
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.
Link Diocese: Multan - Pray for churches in the Diocese that individuals, families and communities may know Jesus more and better and be strong, visible and intentional witnesses to Christ even in the face of persecution.
Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of Aba – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion)
Meetings: Bishop's Leadership Team meeting
Clergy Moves: Rev Graham Young, Vicar to Lancaster St Mary with St John and St Anne

Tuesday 2 June
Daily Eucharistic Lectionary week 9

Making Disciples: We pray for the growth of joyful and generous stewards across the Diocese, that giving may be embraced as a vital part of faithful discipleship.
Diocese: Ingol St Margaret, Rev Kate Butler
Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of Aba Ngwa North – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion)
Meetings: Finance Committee meeting
Event: [Bishop's Primary Visitations](#) – Thornton Christ Church

Wednesday 3 June
Martyrs of Uganda 1885-7, 1977

Making Disciples: We give thanks for Whalley Abbey as a Centre for Christian Discipleship and Prayer. We pray for the whole team there as they lead a community rooted in prayer, hospitality and service.
Diocese: Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust, Rev David Anderson, Rev Martin McDonald
Link Diocese: Free State - Litter is a huge environmental problem around the Diocese, and we thank God that the churches are in the forefront of teaching the people how to recycle and care for creation. We also praise God for the churches taking a lead in using recycled materials in their buildings.
Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of Abakaliki – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion)
Meetings: Area Deans' meeting

Thursday 4 June
Day of Thanksgiving for the Institution of the Holy Communion
Petroc, abbot, 6th cent.

Making Disciples: We thank God for national church funding for Children's, Families and Youth Workers and Lay Pioneers. We pray for those sensing a call to these ministries, that God will guide and equip them.
Diocese: Lea St Christopher, Rev Joe Houghton, Rev Dr Mike Clayton; also in this Benefice, Lea Neeld's Endowed 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.
Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of Aberdeen and Orkney – The Scottish Episcopal Church

Friday 5 June

Boniface (Wynfrith), bishop, martyr,
754

Making Disciples: We pray for the Diocesan Renewal Programme, that parishes taking part may grow in prayer, deepen discipleship and see more people come to faith.

Diocese: Longridge St Lawrence with St Paul, Rev Mike Barton, Rev Jesse Adesina, Mrs Janet Mortimer (IIm); also in this Benefice, Longridge CofE Primary School

Link Diocese: Braunschweig - God of compassion, bless the diaconal work and social projects in Braunschweig, especially those already in process and those being devised. May these initiatives continue to serve the community effectively, showing your love in practical ways. Guide the church in balancing state funding with volunteer engagement.

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

Saturday 6 June

Ini Kopuria, founder of the
Melanesian Brotherhood, 1945

Making Disciples: We pray for all who plan and lead worship, that people of all ages may encounter Jesus in word and sacrament and for lives to be transformed.

Diocese: Preston All Saints, Rev Nathan Buttery, Rev Simon Griffiths

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

Sunday 7 June

First Sunday after Trinity

Proper 5

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

Diocese: Preston Emmanuel, Rev Matt Robinson, Mrs Joyce Willacy (IIm)

Lighting Up New Generations: During the exam period, pray for all the young people who are taking exams at this time. May they see the church as a place of support and encouragement whatever circumstances arise.

Link Diocese: Liwolo - We pray for the current and future clergy and lay leaders of the Diocese of Liwolo. Pray that they would be filled with wisdom, courage and steadfast faith as they lead and minister in challenging times. Pray for strength for them to be pillars of integrity and compassion, embodying the love of Christ in all they do.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Scottish Episcopal Church

Clergy Moves: Retirement of Rev Chris Nelson, Vicar of Penwortham St Mary

Monday 8 June

Thomas Ken, bishop, nonjuror, hymn
writer, 1711
Daily Eucharistic Lectionary week 10

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.

Diocese: Preston Minster Benefice of St John, St Matthew and St James, Rev Timothy Roberts, Rev David Owens; also in this Benefice, Preston St Matthew's CofE Primary Academy, Preston Ribblesdale Avenue Methodist Junior School

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

Tuesday 9 June

Columba, abbot, missionary, 597;
Ephrem, deacon, hymn writer,
teacher of the faith, 373

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: Preston St Cuthbert Fulwood, Rev James Wallace, Rev Liz Gethin

Link Diocese: Multan - Pray for Diocesan schools that are providing education to children from very deprived backgrounds. Pray that they may have provisions to give quality education building lives of children based on solid foundation in Jesus Christ. Pray that the Sunday schools be the places of love and spiritual growth.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of Adelaide – The Anglican Church of Australia

Wednesday 10 June

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

Diocese: Preston St George the Martyr, Rev David Craven, Rev Calum Mullett

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.

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

Meetings: Diocesan Advisory Committee meeting

Thursday 11 June Barnabas the Apostle

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: Preston St Stephen, Rev Clive Beard, Mrs Stephanie Rankin (Ilm); also in this Benefice, Preston St Stephen's CofE Primary School

Link Diocese: Free State - Mosamaria works with all people to curb the spread of HIV and TB through correct knowledge and the ability to make important life decisions. Thank you God for this valuable work and the people who work with the adults and children who attend and are fed, loved, cared for and being shown the love of God.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of North Africa – The Episcopal / Anglican Province of Alexandria

Friday 12 June

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: Ribbleton, Rev Canon Linda Tomkinson, Mr Peter Tomkinson (Ilm)

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

Saturday 13 June

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

Diocese: University of Central Lancashire, Mrs Alison Hindley

M:Power: Pray for the first Lay Pioneers, and their parishes, as they begin their roles. May there be some innovative opportunities for mission that will see those who are often forgotten and overlooked reached with the good news of Jesus.

Link Diocese: Braunschweig - Lord of wisdom, we pray for the education team in Braunschweig. Bless their work in kindergartens and their support of RE teachers in state schools. May their efforts in developing a shared curriculum with other denominations bear fruit, nurturing young minds in faith and understanding.

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

Sunday 14 June Second Sunday after Trinity Proper 6

Being Witnesses: Pray for the Creator God to inspire us with the Holy Spirit to be witnesses to His 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 His creation that all may share in its bounty.

Diocese: Tunstall Deanery Officers, Rev Canon Cindy Rigney, Mrs Sue O'Brien, Mr Peter Jackson

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

Monday 15 June

Evelyn Underhill, spiritual writer, 1941
Daily Eucharistic Lectionary week 11

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 that God will give them wisdom, discernment and resilience to lead His church.

Diocese: Bolton-le-Sands Holy Trinity, Rev Peter Hamborg; also in this Benefice, Bolton-le-Sands CofE Primary School

Link Diocese: Liwolo - Pray for the returnees to Liwolo seeking refuge, hope and restoration. Each one carries stories of loss, resilience and a deep longing for a place to call home. Pray that God would pour out his peace upon them, calming every fear and filling them with courage as they take steps to rebuild their lives and livelihoods.

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

Meetings: Bishop's Appointments Team meeting

Tuesday 16 June

Richard, bishop, 1253;
Joseph Butler, bishop, philosopher, 1752

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: Carnforth Christ Church, Vacant, Rev Canon Damian Porter, Rev Ryan Otley, Mr Philip Dunn (cw), Mrs Elizabeth Battersby-Hill (cw); also in this Benefice, Carnforth Christ Church CofE Primary School

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.

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

Wednesday 17 June

Samuel and Henrietta Barnett, social reformers, 1913 and 1936

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: Caton with Littledale St Paul, Rev Helen Scamman, Mrs Daphne Wade (llm); also in this Benefice, Caton St Paul's CofE Primary School

Link Diocese: Multan - Pray for the women's ministry in the Diocese. Particularly for the women's fellowship in the parishes and literacy work especially amongst women working in brick kilns. Pray for women's health, education and spiritual growth.

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

Meetings: DBF Directors' meeting

Thursday 18 June

Bernard Mizeki, martyr, 1896

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: Dolphinholme (*St Mark*) with Quernmore (*St Peter*) and Over Wyresdale (*Christ Church*), Rev Canon Cindy Rigney, Rev Pippa Daniels; also in this Benefice, Dolphinholme CofE Primary School, Quernmore CofE Primary School

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

Event: [Man Alive 2026](#): Spring Gathering

Friday 19 June

Sundar Singh, sadhu (holy man),
evangelist, teacher of the faith, 1929

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: East Lonsdale (Tunstall, Melling and Leck)(Tatham Fells The Good Shepherd)(Wray Holy Trinity), Rev Jane Lee, Miss Mary Winter (Ilm); also in this Benefice, Leck St Peter's CofE Primary School, Melling St Wilfrid's CofE Primary School, Tatham Fells CofE Primary School, Wray with Botton Endowed CofE Primary School

The Order of the Companions of Martha and Mary: Please pray for Sister Judith OCMM and Sister Sue OCMM living the vowed religious life at St Joseph's House, in Blackpool and their ministry of prayerful presence and hospitality.

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.

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

Saturday 20 June

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: Hornby with Claughton (*St Margaret*) and Whittington (*St Michael the Archangel*) with Arkholme (*St John the Baptist*) and Gressingham (*St John the Evangelist*), Rev Lucie Lunn; also in this Benefice, Arkholme CofE Primary School, Hornby St Margaret's CofE Primary School

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

Sunday 21 June Third Sunday after Trinity

Proper 7

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: Over Kellet St Cuthbert, Rev Craig Abbott; also in this Benefice, Over Kellet Wilson's Endowed CofE Primary School

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 Church of South India (United)

Monday 22 June

Alban, first martyr of Britain, c.250
Daily Eucharistic Lectionary week 12

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: Silverdale St John, Rev Eve Quillinan, Mr Peter Dyer; also in this Benefice, Silverdale St John's CofE Primary School

For the Care of God's Creation: Creator God, we are aware that the changing climate is already having an unequal impact on our brothers and sisters in the global south. Help us to strive to care for your creation by taking action to limit our impact on the environment in all that we do at church and in our daily lives.

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

Meetings: Bishops and Archdeacons' meeting

Tuesday 23 June

Etheldreda, abbess, c.678

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: Slyne with Hest St Luke and Halton St Wilfrid with Aughton St Saviour, Rev Susan Seed, Mr Martin Wakelin (Ilm); also in this Benefice, Halton St Wilfrid's CofE Primary School, Slyne with Hest St Luke's CofE Primary School

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 Akure – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion)

Meeting: Bishop's Budget Team meeting

Wednesday 24 June

Birth of John the Baptist

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: Warton St Oswald with Yealand Conyers St John, Vacant, Mrs Annett MacKenzie (Ilm), Mrs Clare Hunter (cw), Mrs Jenny Chapman (cw); also in this Benefice, Warton Archbishop Hutton's CofE Primary School, Yealand CofE Primary School

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

Thursday 25 June

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: Whalley Deanery Officers, Rev Liz McLean, Rev Catherine Hale-Heighway, Canon Ruth Haldane, Dr Alexandra Dugdale, Mr Miles Leadbeater

ALMs: 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.

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 Alaska – The Episcopal Church

Meetings: Strategic Programme Board meeting

Friday 26 June

Ember Day

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: Balderstone, Mellor and Samlesbury (*St Leonard, St Mary, St Leonard the Less*), Rev Nathaniel Gilmour, Rev Barbara Pack, Canon Pam Daunton (Ilm); also in this Benefice, Balderstone St Leonard's CofE Primary School, Mellor St Mary's CofE Primary School, Samlesbury CofE Primary School

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of Saint Albans – The Church of England

Saturday 27 June

Cyril, bishop, teacher of the faith, 444
Ember Day

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: Bowland Benefice (*Bolton-by-Bowland St Peter and St Paul; Grindleton St Ambrose; Gisburn St Mary*), Rev Grace Gaze; also in this Benefice, Bolton-by-Bowland CofE Primary School, Grindleton CofE Primary School

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 Albany – The Episcopal Church

Sunday 28 June Fourth Sunday after Trinity

Proper 8

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: Chipping St Bartholomew, Rev Wilma Colley; also in this Benefice, Chipping Brabin's Endowed (Christian Faith) 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 Anglican Church of Southern Africa

Clergy Moves: Retirement of Rev David Heap, Vicar of Morecambe St Christopher, Bare

Monday 29 June Peter and Paul, Apostles / Peter the Apostle

Diocesan Board of Finance: For the staff in the Diocesan Offices who support parishes through their work. From HR and finance teams to legal and governance support and from the communications team to property colleagues, we pray that they might have wisdom in their planning, clarity in their decisions, and compassion in all their interactions as they seek to serve each parish.

Diocese: Clitheroe St James, Rev Sam Cheesman, Canon Ruth Haldane (IIm), Dr Sam Johnson (IIm), Mrs Jilly MacDonald (IIm), Mr Duncan Tyson (IIm), Mr Peter Williams (IIm); also in this Benefice, Clitheroe St James' 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 Algoma – The Anglican Church of Canada

Meetings: Bishop's Leadership Team meeting

Tuesday 30 June

Daily Eucharistic Lectionary week 13

Diocesan Safeguarding: For all involved in safeguarding across our Diocese. For officers, advisers, parish leads, clergy, volunteers, and all who work to protect the vulnerable and uphold God's love in action. Grant them wisdom, resilience, and gentleness of spirit and the courage to speak out for justice.

Diocese: Clitheroe St Mary and Downham St Leonard, Rev Paul Sherwood

Choir Church: Pray for the preparations being made by churches and schools to plant choir churches in the autumn.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of All Saints – The Anglican Church of Kenya

Meetings: Diocesan Mission and Pastoral Committee meeting

