



## Blackburn Prayers February 2024

Welcome to Blackburn Prayers.

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 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**  
**Ilm = Licensed Lay Minister**

### Thursday 1 February

Brigid, abbess, c.525

**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 – Luke 18.1**

And Jesus told them a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart.

**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:** Standish St Wilfrid, Rev Canon Andrew Holliday, Rev Catherine Gabriel, Dr Sheila Fisher (Ilm); also in this Benefice, Standish St Wilfrid's CofE Primary School

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

### Friday 2 February

**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: Making Disciples – Luke 18.1**

And Jesus told them a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart.

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

**Diocese:** Whittle-le-Woods St John Evangelist, Rev Philip Venables, Dr Gillian Lancaster (Ilm), Mr Leslie Jones (Ilm), Mrs Kathy Bigio (Ilm); also in this Benefice, Clayton-le-Woods CofE Primary School, Whittle-le-Woods CofE Primary School

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of California – The Episcopal Church  
**Clergy Moves:** Rev Dr Jenny Gaffin, Canon Precentor of Blackburn Cathedral

### Saturday 3 February

Anskar, archbishop, missionary, 865  
Daily Eucharistic Lectionary week 4  
**Ordinary Time begins today**

**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 – Luke 18.1**

And Jesus told them a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart.

**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:** Wrightington Wigan and Leigh NHS Trust, Rev Canon Anne Edwards, Rev Jane Reynolds, Rev Michele Ryan

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Northern California – The Episcopal Church

**Meeting:** Bishop's Council

**Sunday 4 February**  
**Second Sunday before Lent**

**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 – Luke 18.1**

And Jesus told them a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart.

**Vision 2026:** We pray for all those who have received or will receive copies of the Lent Devotionals and ask that all those reading it in hard copy or online (on the Diocesan website or forthcoming discipleship app) will be encouraged in the habit of reading the Bible daily.

**Diocese:** Wrightington with Heskin St James the Great, Rev Stefan Dnistrianskyj; also in this Benefice, Heskin Pemberton's CofE Primary School

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Anglican Church of South America

**Monday 5 February**  
Daily Eucharistic Lectionary week 5

**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 – Luke 18.1**

And Jesus told them a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart.

**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 this year led by the Parish Mission team. Pray that people of all ages hear the gospel in their own language.

**Diocese:** Garstang Deanery Officers, Rev Andrew Wilkinson, Rev Jeff Finch, Rev Anton Muller, Mr Paul Ronson, Mrs Susan Willoughby, Mrs Jean Matthew

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

**Meeting:** Vision and Strategy Team meeting

**Tuesday 6 February**  
Martyrs of Japan, 1597

**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 – Luke 18.1**

And Jesus told them a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart.

**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:** Copp St Anne and Inskip St Peter, Rev Paul Hunter, Mrs Angela Ashcroft (Ilm); also in this Benefice, Great Eccleston Copp CofE Primary School, Inskip St Peter's CofE VA School

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of El Camino Real – The Episcopal Church

## Wednesday 7 February

**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 – Luke 18.1**

And Jesus told them a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart.

**Hope Community Church:** Pray for Hope Drop-in as it provides refreshments, games, fellowship and warmth for the residents of Grange Park.

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

**Diocese:** Fellside Team Ministry, Rev Gregor Stewart, Mr James Hide (cw), Mr Geoffrey Sumner (cw), Mrs Helen Lees (cw), Mrs Carole Stirrup (cw), Mr Andrew Collier (cw), Mrs Helen Tozer (cw); also in this Benefice, Barton St Lawrence CofE Primary School, Bilsborrow John Cross CofE Primary School, Goosnargh Oliverson's CofE Primary School,

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Canberra and Goulburn – The Anglican Church of Australia

## Thursday 8 February

**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 – Luke 18.1**

And Jesus told them a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart.

**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 new role as Warden of Spiritual Directors.

**Diocese:** Garstang St Helen (Churchtown) and St Michael's on Wyre, Rev Andrew Wilkinson, Mrs Karen Ball (Ilm), Mrs Audrey Ashbridge (Ilm); also in this Benefice, Kirkland and Catterall St Helen's CofE VA Primary School, St Michael's on Wyre CofE Primary

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

**Meeting:** SDF Programme Board meeting

## Friday 9 February

**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 – Luke 18.1**

And Jesus told them a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart.

**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:** Garstang St Thomas, Rev Michael Hutchinson; also in this Benefice, Garstang St Thomas' CofE Primary School

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

**Saturday 10 February**  
Scholastica, abbes, c.543

**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 – Luke 18.1**

And Jesus told them a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart.

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

**Diocese:** Over Wyre, Rev Peter Walsh, Rev Naomi Barraclough, Mr Ray Hart (Ilm), Mrs Nicola Smith (Ilm), Mrs Jo Smallwood (Ilm); also in this Benefice, Pilling St John's CofE VA Primary School, Preesall Fleetwoods Charity CofE Primary School, Preesall Saint Aidan's CofE High School

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

**Sunday 11 February**  
**Sunday next before Lent**

**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 - 1 Peter 2.24**

He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed.

**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:** Scorton and Barnacre and Calder Vale, Vacant, Mrs Alison Bates (cw), Mrs Sue Goldspink (cw), Mr Ian Marshall (cw), Mrs Jean Miller (cw), Mrs Kath Wood (cw); also in this Benefice, Calder Vale St John's CofE Primary School, Scorton CofE Primary School

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan

**Clergy Moves:** Rev Neil Kelley, Assistant Archdeacon with responsibility for Clergy Wellbeing

**Monday 12 February**  
Daily Eucharistic Lectionary week 6

**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 - 1 Peter 2.24**

He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed.

**M:Power:** This month M:Power students will be planning a mission event with their incumbents. Pray for a creativity and boldness in the planning so that we see many people explore and come to faith through events that are culturally relevant and appropriate to each parish.

**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:** Woodplumpton St Anne, Rev Lois Ward; also in this Benefice, Woodplumpton St Anne's CofE Primary School

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of North Eastern Caribbean and Aruba – The Church in the Province of the West Indies

**Meeting:** Leadership Core Group meeting

**Clergy Moves:** Rev Jo Smith, Area Dean of Chorley

## Tuesday 13 February

**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 - 1 Peter 2.24**

He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed.

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

**Diocese:** Kirkham Deanery Officers, Rev Anne Beverley, Rev Dr Tony Hodgson, Dr Peter Roberts

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

## Wednesday 14 February Ash Wednesday

**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 - 1 Peter 2.24**

He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed.

**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:** Ansdell and Fairhaven St Paul, Rev Paul Bye, Rev Kyle Mulholland, Miss Janet Kimber (Ilm)

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of East Carolina – The Episcopal Church  
**Meeting:** Diocesan Advisory Committee meeting

## Thursday 15 February

Sigfrid, bishop, 1045;

Thomas Bray, priest, founder of the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge and Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, 1730

**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 - 1 Peter 2.24**

He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed.

**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:** Freckleton and Warton, Rev Tracy Swindells, Mrs Grace Smith (Ilm), Ms Anne-Marie Aspden (Ilm); also in this Benefice, Bryning with Warton St Paul's CofE Primary School, Freckleton CofE Primary School

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of North Carolina – The Episcopal Church

## Friday 16 February

**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 - 1 Peter 2.24**

He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed.

**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:** HMP Kirkham, Rev Fiona Haines

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of South Carolina – The Episcopal Church

## Saturday 17 February

Janani Luwum, archbishop, martyr, 1977

**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 - 1 Peter 2.24**

He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed.

**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:** Kirkham St Michael, Rev Richard Dashwood, Mrs Anne Wintle (Ilm); also in this Benefice, Kirkham St Michael's CofE Primary School

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Upper South Carolina – The Episcopal Church

**Clergy Moves:** Retirement of Rev Stephen Jones, Vicar of Carnforth Christ Church

## Sunday 18 February First Sunday of Lent

**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 - 1 Peter 2.24**

He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed.

**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:** Lund St John the Evangelist, Rev Shaun Baldwin; also in this Benefice, Newton Bluecoat CofE Primary School

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** Province of the Episcopal Church of Sudan

## Monday 19 February

**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 - 1 Peter 2.24**

He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed.

**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:** Lytham, Rev Canon Nicholas Wells, Rev Emma Swarbrick, Ms Jacqui Briscoe (IIm), Miss Joanne Hutchinson (IIm), Mr David Matthews (IIm), Mrs Bev Wells (IIm), Mrs Nicola Whitehead (IIm); also in this Benefice, Lytham CofE VA Primary School

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Western North Carolina – The Episcopal Church

## Tuesday 20 February

**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 - 1 Peter 2.24**

He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed.

**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:** Lytham St Annes Clifton Hospital, Rev Helen Houston, Rev Clive Lord

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Cashel, Ferns and Ossory – The Church of Ireland

## Wednesday 21 February

Ember Day

**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 – Joshua 1.9**

I hereby command you: Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

**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:** Ribby Cum Wrea St Nicholas and Weeton St Michael, Rev Philip Chew; also in this Benefice, Ribby with Wrea Endowed CofE Primary School, Weeton St Michael's CofE VA Primary School

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



## Thursday 22 February

**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 – Joshua 1.9**

I hereby command you: Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

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

**Diocese:** St Annes on St Anne (Heyhouses), Rev Glen Brooks, Rev Ryan Otley, Mr Bill Hembrow (IIm); also in this Benefice, Heyhouses Endowed CofE Primary School

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Chelmsford – The Church of England  
**Meeting:** Bishop's Budget Team meeting

## Friday 23 February

Polycarp, bishop, martyr, c.155;  
Ember Day

**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 – Joshua 1.9**

I hereby command you: Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

**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:** St Annes on Sea St Margaret of Antioch, Rev Dr Tony Hodgson

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

**Meeting:** General Synod; Investment Committee meeting

**Event:** Children's Ministry Conference

## Saturday 24 February

Ember Day

**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 – Joshua 1.9**

I hereby command you: Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

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

**Diocese:** St Annes on Sea St Thomas, Vacant, Miss Elizabeth O'Connor (IIm), Mr Peter Watson (IIm), Mrs Debbie Wood (IIm), Mr David Bennett (cw), Mrs Joy Swarbrick (cw); also in this Benefice, St Annes on Sea St Thomas CofE Primary School

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

**Meeting:** General Synod

**Event:** Children's Ministry Conference

**Sunday 25 February**  
**Second Sunday of Lent**

**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 – Joshua 1.9**

I hereby command you: Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

**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:** Wesham Christ Church and Treales Christ Church, Rev Anne Beverley, Dr Janet Roberts (IIm); also in this Benefice, Treales CofE Primary School, Medlar with Wesham CofE Primary School

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Anglican Church of Tanzania

**Meeting:** General Synod

**Monday 26 February**

**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 – Joshua 1.9**

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**Lighting Up New Generations:** Pray for the Launchpad course, that those undertaking this will feel empowered to reach out and try new things in their outreach with children and young people.

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

**Diocese:** Lancaster and Morecambe Deanery, Rev Craig Abbott, Rev Lorraine Moffatt, Mrs Jacqueline Stamper, Prof Richard Carter, Mrs Barbara Gardner

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

**Meeting:** General Synod; Bishop's Appointments Team meeting

**Tuesday 27 February**  
George Herbert, priest, poet, 1633

**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 – Joshua 1.9**

I hereby command you: Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

**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:** Cockerham with Winmarleigh and Glasson, Rev Gary Lewis; also in this Benefice, Cockerham Parochial CofE Primary School, Thurnham Glasson Christ Church CofE Primary School, Winmarleigh CofE Primary School

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

**Meeting:** General Synod

## Wednesday 28 February

**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 – Joshua 1.9**

I hereby command you: Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

**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:** Ellel St John the Evangelist, Rev Craig Abbott, Rev Ian McGrath, Mrs Diane Otto (Ilm); also in this Benefice, Ellel St John the Evangelist CofE Primary School

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

**Meeting:** Bishops and Archdeacons' meeting

**Clergy Moves:** Retirement of Rev David Noblet, Chaplain at HMP Wymott

## Thursday 29 February

**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 – Joshua 1.9**

I hereby command you: Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

**Choir Church:** Pray for the Choir Churches that have been planted; for parishes as they plant new congregations and choral directors as they work with schools on growing faith and bringing new families to Jesus.

**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:** Heysham St Peter, Rev Mark Nelson; also in this Benefice, Heysham St Peter's CofE Primary School

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Christ the King – Igreja Anglicana de Mocambique e Angola