



## Blackburn Prayers May 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

**Wednesday 1 May**  
Philip and James, Apostles

**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 – 2 Corinthians 9.7**

Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

**Vision 2026:** We pray for those continuing to grow our new discipleship app 'Fruitful' from the Making Disciples Team, which offers creative content that helps people grow in faith. Pray for the support group continuing to work together on technical support; ongoing content creation and communications/promotion.

**Diocese:** Preston St John and St George the Martyr, Rev Timothy Roberts, Rev David Craven, Rev David Owens

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Central Ecuador – The Episcopal Church

**Meeting:** Vision and Strategy Team residential

**Thursday 2 May**  
Athanasius, bishop, teacher of the faith, 373

**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 – 2 Corinthians 9.7**

Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

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

**Diocese:** Preston St Stephen, Rev David Hanson, Rev Barbara Hunter, Mrs Stephanie Rankin (Ilm); also in this Benefice, Preston St Stephen's CofE Primary School

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

**Meeting:** Vision and Strategy Team residential

**Friday 3 May**

**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 – 2 Corinthians 9.7**

Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

**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:** Preston The Risen Lord, Rev Canon Alistair McHaffie; also in this Benefice, Preston St Matthew's CofE Primary School

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

**Meeting:** Vision and Strategy Team residential

## Saturday 4 May

English saints and martyrs of the Reformation Era

**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 – 2 Corinthians 9.7**

Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

**Vision 2026:** We pray for all those locally taking part - collectively and/or individually - in this year's national Thy Kingdom Come prayer event. We ask that their prayers will be fruitful with many impacted and coming to know you Lord.

**Diocese:** Ribblesdale, Rev Linda Tomkinson, Rev Emily Barry

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Saint Edmundsbury and Ipswich – The Church of England

## Sunday 5 May Sixth Sunday of Easter

**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 – 2 Corinthians 9.7**

Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

**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:** Royal Preston Hospital NHS Trust, Rev Martin McDonald

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil

## Monday 6 May Rogation 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: Making Disciples – 2 Corinthians 9.7**

Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

**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:** Tunstall Deanery Officers, Rev Canon Cindy Rigney, Mrs Elizabeth Battersby-Hill

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

**Tuesday 7 May**  
**Rogation 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: Making Disciples – 2 Corinthians 9.7**

Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

**Hope Community Church:** Pray for our Hope Explored course as we encourage new believers and those seeking to explore the Christian faith. Also pray for our fun activities on the estate as they act as a way to connect with the community and introduce them to the church. These include monthly, quiz, bingo and men's evenings.

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

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

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Egba-West – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion)

**Wednesday 8 May**  
**Rogation Day**

Julian of Norwich, spiritual writer,  
c.1417

**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 – 2 Corinthians 9.7**

Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

**Vision 2026:** We pray for the team of Spiritual Directors, for wisdom as they seek to match each person seeking a spiritual companion or director with the right person to help them grow in their spiritual life. And we also pray for the Rev Mary Ashton in her role as Warden of Spiritual Directors.

**Diocese:** Carnforth Christ Church, Vacant, Mrs Elizabeth Battersby-Hill (cw), Mr Philip Dunn (cw); also in this Benefice, Carnforth Christ Church CofE VA Primary School

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

**Meeting:** Diocesan Advisory Committee meeting

**Thursday 9 May**  
**Ascension 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: Making Disciples – 2 Corinthians 9.7**

Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

**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.

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

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Egypt – The Episcopal / Anglican Province of Alexandria

**Meeting:** DBF Directors' meeting

**Events:** [Thy Kingdom Come day 1](#)

## Friday 10 May

**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 – 2 Corinthians 9.7**

Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

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

**Diocese:** Dolphinholme with Quernmore and Over Wyresdale, Rev Canon Cindy Rigney; also in this Benefice, Dolphinholme CofE Primary School, Abbeystead Cawthorne's Endowed School, Quernmore CofE Voluntary Controlled Primary School

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Eha-Amufu – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion)

**Event:** [Thy Kingdom Come day 2](#)

## Saturday 11 May

**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 - John 3.16**

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

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

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

**Event:** [Thy Kingdom Come day 3: Diocesan Youth Forum launch event with Bishop Philip at Blackburn Cathedral](#)

## Sunday 12 May Seventh Sunday of Easter Sunday after Ascension 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: Being Witnesses - John 3.16**

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

**M:Power:** Pray for the work of M:Power in Over Darwen, under the leadership of Kevin Colyer. Pray too for the team of leaders there to grow in number and capacity; the vision for the church building to be a community hub become a reality and the community there to be transformed by the hope of the Gospel.

**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:** Hornby with Cloughton and Whittington with Arkholme and Gressingham, Rev Lucie Lunn; also in this Benefice, Arkholme CofE Primary School, Hornby St Margaret's CofE Primary School

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

**Event:** [Thy Kingdom Come day 4; Service at Lancaster Priory to celebrate 30 years of women's ordination](#)

## Monday 13 May

**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 - John 3.16**

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

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

**Diocese:** Over Kellet St Cuthbert, Rev Matt Guilder; also in this Benefice, Over Kellet Wilson's Endowed CofE Primary School

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** Thy Kingdom Come The Diocese of Ekiti Kwara – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion)

**Meeting:** Leadership Core Group

**Event:** [Thy Kingdom Come day 5](#)

## Tuesday 14 May Matthias the Apostle

**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 - John 3.16**

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

**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:** Silverdale St John, Vacant, Mr Peter Dyer (Ilm), Mr Robin Daw (cw); also in this Benefice, Silverdale St John's CofE VA Primary School

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

**Event:** [Thy Kingdom Come day 6](#)

## Wednesday 15 May

**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 - John 3.16**

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

**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:** 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

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

**Event:** [Thy Kingdom Come day 7](#)

## Thursday 16 May

Caroline Chisholm, social reformer,  
1877

**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 - John 3.16**

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

**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:** Warton St Oswald with Yealand Conyers St John, Rev Alice Ormondroyd, Mrs Annette MacKenzie (IIm); also in this Benefice, Warton Archbishop Hutton's VC Primary School, Yealand CofE Primary School

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

**Event:** [Thy Kingdom Come day 8](#)

## Friday 17 May

**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 - John 3.16**

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

**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:** Whalley Deanery Officers, Rev Liz McLean, Rev Canon Brian McConkey, Canon Ruth Haldane, Dr Alexandra Dugdale

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Port Elizabeth – The Anglican Church of Southern Africa

**Event:** [Thy Kingdom Come day 9](#); [Chorley Deanery Mission event](#)

## Saturday 18 May

**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 - John 3.16**

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

**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:** Balderstone, Mellor and Samesbury, Rev Karen Herschell, Rev Barbara Pack, Canon Pam Daunton (IIm); also in this Benefice, Balderstone St Leonard's CofE VA Primary School, Mellor St Mary's CofE Primary School, Samesbury CofE School

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of El-Obeid – Province of the Episcopal Church of Sudan

**Event:** [Thy Kingdom Come day 10](#); [Chorley Deanery Mission event](#)

**Sunday 19 May**  
**Pentecost**  
**Whit Sunday**

**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 - John 3.16**

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

**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:** Bowland, Vacant, Mrs Catherine Curry (cw), Mrs Louise Farnell (cw), Mr Michael Ranson (cw)

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

**Event:** [Thy Kingdom Come: The Prayer Online Event](#); [Chorley Deanery Mission event](#)

**Monday 20 May**

Alcuin, deacon, abbot, 804  
Ordinary Time resumes today  
Daily Eucharistic Lectionary week 7

**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 - John 3.16**

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

**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:** Chipping St Bartholomew, Rev Wilma Colley, Mrs Lynne Raphael (Ilm); also in this Benefice, Chipping Brabins Endowed School

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

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

**Tuesday 21 May**

Helena, protector of the Holy Places,  
330

**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 – John 18.36**

Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here".

**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:** Clitheroe, Chatburn and Downham, Rev Dr Judith Clark, Rev Catherine Hale-Heighway; also in this Benefice, Chatburn CofE Primary School

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

**Meeting:** Finance Committee meeting; Property Committee meeting; Strategic Programme Board meeting



## Wednesday 22 May

**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 – John 18.36**

Jesus answered, “My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here”.

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

**Diocese:** Clitheroe St James, Rev Mark Pickett, 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

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

## Thursday 23 May

**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 – John 18.36**

Jesus answered, “My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here”.

**Mission Partners:** Pray for 'Graham and Fiona' working in a hospital and a college, in a least-reached part of Africa. Pray for them as they prepare to return to the UK after working in this setting for 30 years. Pray for others to continue the work.

**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:** Great Harwood St Bartholomew and St John, Rev Graham Birch; also in this Benefice, Great Harwood St Bartholomew's Parish CofE VA Primary School, Great Harwood St John's CofE Primary School

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

## Friday 24 May

John and Charles Wesley,  
evangelists, hymn writers, 1791 and  
1788

**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 – John 18.36**

Jesus answered, “My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here”.

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

**Diocese:** Hodder Valley, Vacant, Mr William Leeming (cw), Mrs Mary Beattie (cw), Mr Stuart Beattie (cw), Mr Allan Carr (cw); also in this Benefice, Slaidburn Brennands CofE Endowed Primary School

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

## Saturday 25 May

The Venerable Bede, monk, scholar, historian, 735;  
Aldhelm, bishop, 709

**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 – John 18.36**

Jesus answered, “My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here”.

**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:** Ribchester St Wilfrid (in plurality with) Hurst Green and Mitton, Rev Canon Brian McConkey; also in this Benefice, Ribchester St Wilfrid’s CofE VA Primary School

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

## Sunday 26 May Trinity Sunday

**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 – John 18.36**

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**Lighting Up New Generations:** Pray for the Lighting Up New Generations project and the work that the churches in Blackburn and Blackpool are doing with schools in their areas.

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

**Diocese:** Read St John and Simonstone St Peter, Rev Susan Ball; also in this Benefice, Read St John’s CofE Primary School, Simonstone St Peter’s CofE Primary School

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

## Monday 27 May

Daily Eucharistic Lectionary week 8

**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 – John 18.36**

Jesus answered, “My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here”.

**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:** Rishton St Peter and St Paul, Rev Eddie Carr; also in this Benefice, Rishton St Peter and St Paul’s CofE Primary School

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

## Tuesday 28 May

Lanfranc, monk, archbishop, scholar,  
1089

**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 – John 18.36**

Jesus answered, “My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here”.

**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:** Salisbury St Peter, Rev Liz McLean, Mrs Janet Haworth (Ilm); also in this Benefice, Salisbury CofE Primary School

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

## Wednesday 29 May

**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 – John 18.36**

Jesus answered, “My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here”.

**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:** Waddington, Rev Christopher Wood; also in this Benefice, Waddington and West Bradford CofE VA Primary School

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese in Europe – The Church of England

**Meeting:** Bishops and Archdeacons’ meeting

## Thursday 30 May

### **Day of Thanksgiving for the Institution of the Holy Communion (Corpus Christi)**

Josephine Butler, social reformer,  
1906;

Joan of Arc, visionary, 1431;

Apolo Kivebulaya, priest, evangelist,  
1933

**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 – John 18.36**

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**Vision 2026:** For the support provided to clergy and their families to have suitable homes from which to be leaders in mission.

**Diocese:** West Pendleside, Rev Jonathan Carmyllie, Rev Rachel Frost, Ms Lynne Smith (Ilm), Mrs Janet Parker (Ilm); also in this Benefice, Whalley CofE Primary School

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Convocation of Episcopal Churches in Europe – The Episcopal Church

**Friday 31 May**  
**Visit of the Blessed Virgin Mary to**  
**Elizabeth**

**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](#).

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**Choir Church:** Pray for Tom Daggett and the Choir Church Learning Community as they lead and support the new church plants.

**Vision 2026:** For the whole community in the Diocesan Offices, Clayton House and Bishop’s House, who through their varied ministries support the work of all the churches and church schools in the Diocese of Blackburn.

**Diocese:** Whalley Abbey, Rev Anna Walker

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