

## Blackburn Prayers January 2025

Welcome to Blackburn Prayers.

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

In our Year of Prayer for Growth and Renewal, we are praying together for new and deeper disciples for Jesus Christ and that we will be renewed in the power of the Holy Spirit for a season of mission in our centenary year 2026. Prayer resources for parishes can be found [here](#) and resources for children and young people can be found [here](#) or by scanning the following QR codes.

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

We continue to pray for peace in Ukraine and Gaza. Prayer resources can be found [here](#) and [here](#) or by scanning the QR codes.

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.

We would love to hear how God is answering your prayers. Please get in touch with Joy Rushton: [joy.rushton@blackburn.anglican.org](mailto:joy.rushton@blackburn.anglican.org)

Resources for adults and children to support Bible reading and inspiration for prayer can be found on our Fruitful Discipleship app.




### Leading Your Church Into Growth Prayer

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

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


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





Amen



## Download it now!

Our new, FREE discipleship app



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

**Wednesday 1 January**  
**Naming and Circumcision of Jesus**

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

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

**Link Diocese: Multan** - Pray for Bishop Leo Paul who leads the Diocese of Multan Pakistan with limited resources but with great passion to proclaim Jesus' gospel. Pray for continual courage for him from God to stand firm in the Lord in a difficult place. Pray for his family and the Diocese to be strengthened by the Holy Spirit to stand together with Bishop Leo in his ministry.

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

**Thursday 2 January**

Basil the Great and Gregory of Nazianzus, bishops, teachers of the faith, 379 and 389; Seraphim, monk, spiritual guide, 1833; Vedanayagam Samuel Azariah, bishop, evangelist, 1945

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

**Diocese:** North and East Blackburn, Rev Nicholas Heale; also in this Benefice, Blackburn St Michael with St John CofE Primary School, Blackburn St Thomas; CofE Primary School

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

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Kyoto – The Nippon Sei Ko Kai

**Friday 3 January**

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

**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: Braunschweig** - Lord, we lift up the Bishop of Braunschweig and his leadership team. Grant them wisdom and strength in their service as they future proof the work across the Diocese. Give them the courage to spread the Gospel and to focus on the growth of the Landeskirche across the Diocese.

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Kyushu – The Nippon Sei Ko Kai

**Saturday 4 January**

**Vision 2026:** We give thanks for the new funding for Children's, Families and Youth Workers and also Lay Pioneers under the SMMI grant – we ask that people would already be sensing a call to these key areas of ministry such that parishes will be able to appoint gifted and energised individuals to these posts in due course.

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

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

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

**Sunday 5 January  
Second Sunday of Christmas  
Epiphany**

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

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

**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 Church of Wales

**Monday 6 January  
Epiphany**

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

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

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

**Meetings:** Vision and Strategy meeting

**Tuesday 7 January**

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

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

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

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

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

**Wednesday 8 January**

**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:** Blackpool Holy Cross South Shore, Rev Michael Fish

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

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

**Meeting:** Diocesan Advisory Committee meeting

## Thursday 9 January

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

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

**Link Diocese: Liwolo** - Pray for Bishop Josph Aba leading in the most difficult circumstance. Pray that God's mighty hand would rest upon him, strengthening him, encouraging him and equipping him with everything he needs to shepherd his flock in Liwolo.

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Lahore – The Church of Pakistan (United)

## Friday 10 January

William Laud, archbishop, 1645

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

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

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

## Saturday 11 January

Mary Slessor, missionary, 1915

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

**Link Diocese: Multan** - Pray for the church 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 on the Lake – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion)

## Sunday 12 January First Sunday of Epiphany Baptism of Christ

**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:** Blackpool St Paul North Shore (in plurality with) Greenlands St Anne, Vacant, Rev Canon John Hall, Mrs Angela Kershaw (IIm), Mrs Lynne Croft (cw), Mrs Hazel Nicholls (cw), Mrs Sandra Boldison (cw), Mrs Jane Thompson (cw)

**M:Power:** Pray for Jenny Brown who, this month, begins her role with M:Power as Urban Ministry Enabler, and for the parishes she will support who are considering applying for Lay Pioneer funding.

**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 Church of the Province of West Africa

## Monday 13 January

Hilary, bishop, teacher of the faith, 367;

Kentigern (Mungo), missionary bishop, 603;

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

Daily Eucharistic Lectionary week 1

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

**Diocese:** Blackpool St Stephen-on-the-Cliffs, Rev Andrew Teather

**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 Lango – The Church of the Province of Uganda

## Tuesday 14 January

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

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

**Link Diocese: Liwolo** - We pray for the current and future clergy and lay leaders of the Episcopal 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 Diocese of West Lango – The Church of the Province of Uganda

**Meetings:** Diocesan Safeguarding Advisory Panel meeting

## Wednesday 15 January

**Vision 2026:** Pray for all those in lay and ordained leadership, for Authorised Lay Ministers, Licensed Lay Ministers, ordinands, curates, priests and bishops. We also pray for our chaplains and retired clergy. Pray God will give them wisdom, discernment and resilience to lead His church.

**Diocese:** Blackpool The Trinity Benefice, Rev Canon Peter Lillicrap, Rev Matthew Rowley; also in this Benefice, Staining 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 Langtang – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion)

## Thursday 16 January

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

**Diocese:** Blackpool Trinity The Hospice in the Fylde, Rev Helen Houston

**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 Lebombo – Igreja Anglicana de Mocambique e Angola

## Friday 17 January

Antony of Egypt, hermit, abbot, 356;  
Charles Gore, bishop, founder of the  
Community of the Resurrection, 1932

**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:** Blackpool Victoria Hospital, Rev Michael Fish

**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 Leeds – The Church of England

**Saturday 18 January**  
**Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**  
Amy Carmichael, founder of the  
Dohnavur Fellowship, spiritual writer,  
1951

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

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

**Sisters of the Order of the Companions of Mary and Martha:** Pray for Sister Judith and Sister Sue at St Joseph's House, Tunstall, living a vowed life of prayerful presence and hospitality. Give thanks for their faithful witness to the gospel and bless all who visit there seeking peace and refreshment.

**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 Leicester – The Church of England

**Sunday 19 January**  
**Second Sunday of Epiphany**  
**Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**

**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:** Mereside St Wilfrid, Rev Rachel Sheehan

**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 Church in the Province of the West Indies

**Monday 20 January**  
**Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**  
Richard Rolle, spiritual writer, 1349  
Daily Eucharistic Lectionary week 2

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

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

**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 Lesotho – The Anglican Church of Southern Africa

**Meetings:** Bishop's Appointment Team meeting

**Tuesday 21 January**  
**Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**  
Agnes, child martyr, 304

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

**Diocese:** Briercliffe St James and Worsthorpe St John the Evangelist, Vacant, Mrs Janet Hartley (cw), Mrs Jane Mitchell (cw); also in this Benefice, Burnley St James; Lanehead CofE Primary School

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

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

## Wednesday 22 January

### Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Vincent of Saragossa, deacon, martyr,  
304

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

**Diocese:** Brierfield St Luke (in plurality with) Burnley St Cuthbert, Rev Munawar Din, Rev Tracey Hallows

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

**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 Diocese of Liberia – The Church of the Province of West Africa

## Thursday 23 January

### Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

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

**Diocese:** Burnley General Hospital, Rev Canon Andrew Horsfall

**Link Diocese: Liwolo** - Pray for revitalizing 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 Lichfield – The Church of England

**Meeting:** Strategic Programme Board meeting; Leadership Core Group meeting

## Friday 24 January

### Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Francis de Sales, bishop, teacher of  
the faith, 1622

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

**Diocese:** Burnley St Andrew with St Margaret and Burnley St James, Rev Timothy Kaye

**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 Lincoln – The Church of England

## Saturday 25 January

### Conversion of Paul

### Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

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

**Diocese:** Burnley St Catherine with St Alban and St Paul, Rev Roger Parker, Rev Tristan Meares

**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 Litoral Ecuador – The Episcopal Church

**Sunday 26 January**  
**Third Sunday of Epiphany**

**Vision 2026:** Lord of wisdom, we pray for school and university staff, leaders, chaplains, and governors. Grant them discernment, patience, and joy in their vital roles. May they create nurturing environments where every child and young person can flourish academically, socially, and emotionally.

**Diocese:** Burnley St Matthew the Apostle (Habergham Eaves) with Holy Trinity, Rev Alex Frost, Rev Kat Gregory-Witham; also in this Benefice, Burnley Holy Trinity CofE Primary School

**Blackburn Cathedral:** Pray for the Education Officer and her ministry of outreach to the schools. Pray for energy and compassion for those who walk through the Cathedral doors. Pray for more education volunteers.

**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 Episcopal / Anglican Province of Alexandria

**Monday 27 January**  
Daily Eucharistic Lectionary week 3

**Vision 2026:** Father, we lift up all children and young people in our communities. Protect them from harm, inspire their dreams, and help them discover their unique gifts. May they grow in confidence, compassion, and character. Help us as a church to always welcome children and young people in as you commanded us, that they might find a safe space there.

**Diocese:** Burnley St Peter and St Stephen, Rev Andrew Holmes; also in this Benefice, Burnley St Peter's CofE Primary School, Burnley St Stephen's CofE Primary School

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

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

**Meetings:** Audit Risk and Governance Committee meeting; Bishops and Archdeacons' meeting

**Tuesday 28 January**  
Thomas Aquinas, priest, philosopher,  
teacher of the faith, 1274

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

**Diocese:** Burnley West All Saints with St John Baptist, Rev Charlie Hill; also in this Benefice, Burnley Wellfield Methodist and Anglican Church School

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

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

**Wednesday 29 January**

**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:** Holme in Cliviger St John, Vacant, Mrs Julie Cambridge (cw); also in this Benefice, Holme in Cliviger St John the Divine CofE Primary School

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

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Diocese of Llandaff – The Church in Wales



## **Thursday 30 January**

Charles, king and martyr, 1649

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

**Diocese:** Padiham with Hapton and Padiham Green, Rev Canon Mark Jones, Mrs Lynne Trudgill (Ilm)

**Link Diocese: Braunschweig** - Father, we give thanks for the 25 year partnership between Blackburn and Braunschweig. As we look to the future, guide our Dioceses in renewing and reimagining this link. May our friendship grow stronger, and may we learn from each other as we face similar challenges in different contexts.

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** Missionary Area of Lodwar – The Anglican Church of Kenya

**Meetings:** Area Deans' Residential

## **Friday 31 January**

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

**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.

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

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

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

**Meeting:** Area Deans' Residential

**Clergy Moves:** Rev David Dickinson, retiring as Vicar of Hesketh and Becconsall All Saints