



THE BLACKBURN
DIOCESAN BOARD
OF EDUCATION

Church schools praying together across the Diocese

**w/c 7th January 2019 - This week we are joining together with
Church schools across the diocese to pray for
All Schools in the Lancaster District**

Yesterday the Church celebrated the feast of the Epiphany (6th Jan) a time when the visit of the Magi to the Christ child is remembered. After the Wise men leave, Joseph is warned by an angel in a dream to take Mary and Jesus to Egypt. Therefore, they all become like refugees fleeing to another country to keep safe.

Dear Lord Jesus,

When you were very young you had to leave your home and move to another country to be safe. Please be with all the people in the world today who are running from their homes in search of safety, give them courage and hope. We pray for people who have lost their homes because of war, comfort them Lord.

Bring peace to conflicts and to those in need. Amen

This week we pray particularly for our friends in all the Diocesan family of schools in the Lancaster District.





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w/c 14th January 2019 - This week we are joining together with
Church schools across the diocese to pray for
All Schools in the Chorley District.

'Our God is a great big God' is a popular song in many of our schools.
Think about the words and marvel at how amazing it is that God is so BIG yet He knows
and loves each one of us.

Think of words and comparisons that describe the size of God.

**WOW! God you are awesome, huge and amazing. It is truly incredible that you know
each one of us as individual people. Thank you for loving us more than we can
imagine. As I walk around school today, play in the playground, eat my lunch and do
my work please open my eyes so that I notice you all around me. Amen
This week we pray particularly for our friends in all the Diocesan family of
schools in the Chorley District.**





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**w/c 21st January 2019 - This week we are joining together with
Church schools across the diocese to pray for**

All Schools in the Pendle District

The 18th – 25th January is the week of Prayer for Christian Unity. The theme for the 2019 week of prayer is Only Justice. Information is easy to find on the Internet. The 16th January is Martin Luther King Day. MLK dedicated his life to fighting against the injustice of racial prejudice in the USA. Pray for barriers that prevent justice amongst people, countries and communities to be broken down. (E.g. Attitudes, opinions, poverty, pride, jealousy, education, culture, language, age)

Holy Spirit, Giver of Life, we are created to become whole in you and to share this life on earth with our brothers and sisters. Awaken in each of us your compassion and love. Give us strength and courage to work for justice in our neighbourhoods, to create peace within our families, to comfort the sick and the dying, and to share all we have with those who are in need. For the transformation of every human heart, we pray:

Lord in your mercy, Hear our prayer.

Jesus is the light of the world, a light that darkness cannot overcome.

Carry this light into the world, into the dark places where fighting, discord and division impede our united witness. May Christ's light effect reconciliation in our thoughts, words and deeds. Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance, hatred that infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us, and unite us in bonds of love.





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**w/c 28th January 2019 - This week we are joining together with
Church schools across the diocese to pray for
All Schools in the Hyndburn/Ribble Valley District**

The 27th Jan is Holocaust Memorial Day.

This solemn occasion remembers all those who died in the Nazi death camps and the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau. It is an important day to mark in the calendar. It serves as a reminder to the world that such atrocities should never happen again. The amount of detail given to the children is at your discretion. However, the children should know about the Holocaust and be given an opportunity to discuss and pray for peace, celebrate diversity and be reminded that we are all God's children, discuss and pray for justice and respect for all.

Let us join with others around the world and pray: O God, Who art full of compassion, who dwellest on high, grant perfect rest in Thy Divine Presence to all the souls of our holy and pure brethren whose blood was spilt in death camps in Europe during the 2nd World War. May their resting place be in the Garden of Eden and may the Master of Mercy shelter them in the shadow of His wings for eternity. Amen

This week we pray particularly for our friends in all the Diocesan family of schools in the Hyndburn/Ribble Valley District.





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**w/c 4th February 2019 - This week we are joining together with
Church schools across the diocese to pray for
All Schools in the Fylde District**

The 2nd February is Candlemas. It is the day in the church's calendar when we remember Mary and Joseph presenting Jesus at the temple. They meet Simeon and he declares, "This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too." The full story can be found in Luke 2v22-40.

Candlemas reminds us that Jesus is the light of the world who reveals God's glory to people of all nations.

**Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace: your word has been fulfilled.
My own eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared in the
sight of every people; A light to reveal you to the nations and the
glory of your people Israel.**

**This week we pray particularly for our friends in all the Diocesan family of
schools in the Fylde District.**





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**w/c 11th February 2019 - This week we are joining together with
Church schools across the diocese to pray for
All Schools in the Burnley District**

February 14th is St Valentine's day

A day associated with love and romance.

Think about love in all its different forms. Love for favourite foods, games, TV programmes, friends, places, teddies, family, pets etc.

Lord Jesus you showed us on the cross just how much you love us. May we show others how much we love and care for them through our words and actions. Thank you for all the blessings you pour out upon us for all the good gifts you give to us and for all the people who love us. Be close to anyone now who feels that no one loves them.

May they feel your comfort and presence. Amen

This week we pray particularly for our friends in all the Diocesan family of schools in the Burnley District.





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w/c 25th February 2019 - This week we are joining together with

Church schools across the diocese to pray for

All Schools in the Wyre District

Fairtrade Fortnight 25th Feb- 10th March

Fair trade has transformed and is transforming the lives of many farmers
in the third world.

Lord Jesus, you taught us that we are all God's Children and are of equal value.

**Give us the courage and opportunity to share this message through the
promotion and support of Fairtrade. Amen**

**This week we pray particularly for our friends in all the Diocesan family
of schools in the Wyre District.**





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**w/c 4th March 2019 - This week we are joining together with
Church schools across the diocese to pray for**

All schools in the West Lancashire District

5th March is Shrove Tuesday, 6th March is Ash Wednesday

This week is the start of Lent.

The story of Jesus in the wilderness where he was tempted by the devil is
traditionally read at the start of Lent.

Jesus wasn't tempted to do wrong, but we often are.

Think of things that we as a community/society need to say sorry for.

E.G. Damage to the environment, wasting resources, being unkind and not
always being willing to help.

Father God, At the beginning of Lent we remember the time Jesus spent in the wilderness.

**Give us the same courage and perseverance to resist temptation. We are sorry for the
wrong things that we do every day. Help us to make a difference in the world by living
our lives the way Jesus showed us. Amen**

**This week we pray particularly for our friends in all the Diocesan family of
schools in the West Lancashire District.**





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**w/c 11th March 2019 - This week we are joining together with
Church schools across the diocese to pray for
All Schools in the Preston District**

Chose a current topic in the news.....

Merciful Father, the world is always buzzing with news; good news and bad news; news that makes us sad, excited, shocked and puzzled. We pray for your forgiveness, peace, hope and love to fill the hearts of our neighbours around the world. We particularly pray for..... (situations in the news this week) Amen

This week we pray particularly for our friends in all the Diocesan family of schools in the Preston District.





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**w/c 18th March 2019 - This week we are joining together with
Church schools across the diocese to pray for**

All Schools in the Blackburn with Darwen District

The Jewish Festival of Purim is celebrated this week on the 21st March.

The festival remembers the courageous actions of Esther.

Esther goes to the king and requests that her people be saved.

The Jewish people celebrate by sharing special food, giving to charity and retelling this amazing story. In the story, Esther is encouraged to speak to the king by her Uncle who tells her that she was born 'for such a time as this'. This was God's plan for her life.

God has a plan for our lives too. He has given us all gifts and talents and He will put us in places where there is an opportunity for us to use these gifts to do good.

**Lord God, we thank you for the gifts and talents you give to each one of us.
Help us to discover these talents and then use them to the best of our ability.
It is unlikely that we will save a whole nation like Esther but we know all things
are possible with you. Thank you for knowing us and having a plan for our lives.**

Amen

**This week we pray particularly for our friends in all the Diocesan family of
schools in the Blackburn with Darwen District.**





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**w/c 25th March 2019 - This week we are joining together with
Church schools across the diocese to pray for
All Schools in the South Ribble District**

**Outdoors there will be signs of Spring, a miraculous time of year.
As everything in nature begins to stir and wake up after a long cold winter
wonder at the flowers, the buds, the birds, the green shoots etc.**

**Creator God your world is so beautiful. May we enjoy watching in wonder as
nature wakes up because it is Spring. We are sorry for the times when we have
spoilt the world around us. Thank you for all the Spring flowers and bright colours.**

Amen

**This week we pray particularly for our friends in all the Diocesan family of
schools in the South Ribble District.**





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**w/c 1st April 2019 - This week we are joining together with
Church schools across the diocese to pray for
All Schools in the Blackpool and Wigan District**

Holidays! Time for rest and slowing down our busy lives.
'Be still and know that I am God.'

Thank you, God, for holidays, hurray!

**May we all enjoy times with our families and friends. Keep us safe as we play
and travel. Help us to be patient with those who share our homes remembering
to live out our Christian values at home like we do in school.**

Amen

**This week we pray particularly for our friends in all the Diocesan family of
schools in the Blackpool and Wigan Districts.**

