

Our Diocesan Links.

Mauritius, Indian Ocean

Acting President Mrs Kamla Ernest

250 members, MU supports struggling families, they provide school uniforms. The 'Outgate' project supports the reintegration of women prisoners.

Kerich, Kenya

President Mrs Zeddy Rotid

Community Development Coordinator Emmy Ronoh

Members are active in projects that support the economic empowerment of women; environmental protection; fighting crime, alcoholism and drug abuse; feeding the hungry; visiting the sick; visiting those in prison; and outreach to single mothers and widows.

Kumasi, Ghana

President Mrs Mercy Winifred Bonsu

Community Development Coordinator Martha Boateng,

The MU have campaigned the Government to give loans to women to start their own businesses. Members held a workshop on sustaining marriages in their communities. MU runs parenting sessions and Family Life Training.

Katsina, Nigeria

President Mrs R Ramaiyi.

Members are active in helping others to achieve their best in life. They have attended conferences on learning skills such as sewing in order to become self reliant. Many members in rural areas and are concerned with keeping sheep, goats, poultry and rabbits. Members focus on Family Life Education and some help in schools. The relationships between Christian and Muslim in mainly Muslim areas are very important.

Nandyal, South India

President Mrs Shanti Lawrence

Bishop Pushpala is the first women Bishop in the Church of India. Her priority for the diocese is the empowerment of women. She stated "be it any institution, women are always given second-rung treatment. We need to change that by promoting values that teach us not to discriminate and treat all humans the same". The Diocese has formed a partnership with the Anglican Church of Korea in planting coconut trees.

Mothers' UNION
Christian care for families
Diocese of Winchester
Reg Charity Number 250063

Wave of Prayer 2015



A Large Print version of this leaflet is available by calling the MU Office on 01425 483222

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Registered Charity No. 250063

On every day of the year there are Mothers' Union members leading a Wave of Prayer which spans the Globe.

Our Diocese, together with our Links from the Diocese of Mauritius, Indian Ocean; Kericho, Kenya; Katsina, Nigeria; Kumasi, Ghana and Nandyal, India are held in prayer by members worldwide from the 12th to 14th January

Members and Branches are encouraged to join with them in praying for the Mother's Union, its work and Aims and Objects.

Suggested hymns:

All over the over the world the spirit is moving
Brother sister let me serve you
Let all the world in every corner sing
God is working his purpose out
He's got the whole world in his hands
In Christ there is no east or west
Jesus stand among us at the meeting of our lives
Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me
Jesus put this song into our hearts
Lord for the years

Suggested readings:

Matthew 9: 35-38	Matthew 28: 18-20
Mark 12: 28-31	Ephesians 3: 14-22
Philippians 4: 4-7	1 John 4: 7-14
	1 John 4: 18-21

Look on the Website and in Archway for up to date information about our Links. We encourage you to use whatever symbols of our link Dioceses you may be able to find to help focus your prayers.

The use of different voices in the service is helpful.

Please use this material flexibly - it is a guide for you to tailor to individual needs! And do please feel free to change it if it doesn't fit your circumstances or style!

THE MOTHERS' UNION PRAYER

**Loving Lord, We thank you for your love so freely given to us all.
We pray for families around the world.
Bless the work of the Mothers' Union as we seek to share your love through the encouragement, strengthening and support of marriage and family life.
Empowered by your Spirit, may we be united in prayer and worship, And, in love and service, reach out as your hands across the world. In Jesus' name. Amen**

MARY SUMNER'S PERSONAL PRAYER

All this day, O Lord, Let me touch as many lives as possible for thee; and every life I touch, do thou by thy spirit quicken, whether through the word I speak, the prayer I breathe, or the life I live. Amen

HYMN

The final blessing may be given by a minister if present or this prayer may be said by all

**Father and Mother God,
enfold us with your gracious presence
so that our praying and living become one.
Jesus, Son of God, as living witnesses,
help us to speak with confidence
and in ways which make sense to people who do not know you.
Holy Spirit of God, as your obedient people,
enable us to see your activity in the world
and inspire us to join with you in that work. Amen**

Leader:

Let us go out in joy and in peace, to love and to serve the Lord!

All: In the Name of Christ! Alleluia! Amen.

Although we rejoice in the beauty of your world and thank you for the rich harvest it produces - we remember those who do not have enough, the thousands who are dying from hunger and disease each day.

We pray for those who have more than they require and ask that we learn to share your bounty, the world's harvest, more fairly.

Teach us to value people more than things and teach us we pray to seek your will here on earth as servants of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Loving God, We thank you for all we share in common with your people near and far, our lives interwoven, inter-related, interdependent, intertwined.

Help us, we pray, to recognize more fully what that means, to appreciate the responsibilities it brings, and to seize the opportunities it offers. Lord of all join us together in love for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Nearer to home, dear Lord, we bring before you the MU in Winchester Diocese, its leadership and members; we pray for the MU nationally and for its future in this country.

We thank you for the privilege of belonging to a movement which promotes marriage and family life, and pray that these values may be revitalized in our own homes, in our churches, in our country, and throughout the world. Lord of love and power

Hear our prayer.

The Lord's Prayer

**All Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name,
 your kingdom come, your will be done,
 on earth as in heaven.
 Give us today our daily bread.
 Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
 Save us from the time of trial
 and deliver us from evil.
 For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,
 now and for ever. Amen**

The Service

The service may begin with notices, Visitors and Guests may be welcomed and a **HYMN** may be sung.

WELCOME

Lord we welcome you.

We thank you that you are in our midst.

We praise you for this time together to pray
For the people and work of the Mothers' Union,
And in particular, our own link diocese.

With thankfulness and love we take our place
In the family of the Mothers' Union worldwide.
Open our eyes to the significance of relationship
With members worldwide; with those known to us or not.

With support and love we reach out
To our sisters and brothers across the world.
Strengthen our commitment to them with whom
We share vision and values; wherever we may live.

In unity and love we link hands
With our worldwide family of God.
Unite us in worship; build us in service,
As together we seek to share your love.
In Jesus' name. **Amen**

Let us pause for a moment of quiet whilst we bring to mind our thoughts and deeds for which we ask forgiveness.

A prayer of confession.

**All Merciful Lord,
 Who died that we may be accepted into the family of God
 Forgive us the times when our love for each other is strained,
 When the bonds between us are loose.
 Forgive us when we choose to ignore the joys of shared relationship
 And focus on weakness and strife. Help us to change our selfish
 ways that we may love God and his children with all our hearts.
 Amen.**

Absolution may be given by a Minister if present,
Otherwise the following prayer can be used.

May our heavenly Father open wide his arms
in loving forgiveness and grace.
May we know the joy of restored relationship
with God and his people. **Amen**

**All Blessed are you, Lord our God,
Giver of life, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
You call us out of darkness into your marvelous light.
Take us as we are and make us into what you
would have us be.
Blessed are you for ever and ever. Amen**

HYMN

READING

[A talk, address or thought for the day could be added here. This might be followed by a period of reflection on what has been heard - music could be played if silence is not wanted]

Having heard and shared the word of God we pray*

**All we need, good Lord, is yourself;
Not words about you, but your very presence.
In the Silence
In the Stillness.
Come, Lord, Come.**

**Lord, you give us courage to trust you,
Energy to work for you,
Persistence to hold on
And be yours for ever. Amen**

INTERCESSIONS

A time to remember those with whom we are linked through the diocese, the deanery and our individual branches.

[The prayers can be used with music, maps, candles and in many other ways please be as creative (or not!) as seems right for your own situation.]

Our Diocesan Links.

Mauritius (Indian Ocean)	Mrs Kamla Ernest (Acting DP)
Kericho (Kenya)	Mrs Zeddy Rotich
Katsina (Nigeria)	Mrs R. Bamaiyi
Kumasi (Ghana - West Africa)	Mrs Mercy Winifred Bonsu
Nandyal (South India)	Mrs Shanti Lawrence
Winchester (England)	Mrs Stella Roberts

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Lord we bring you our praise for the fellowship and prayer support that we have known through our links with; Kitgum, and Muhabura, Uganda; Masasi, and Newala, Tanzania; Kago-Keji, South Sudan; Algoma, and Saskatchewan, Canada..

We thank you for the times when we have built relationship through sharing and visits. We thank you for the times when lack of news has driven us to pray and intercede. We look back with gratitude for the blessing of being united in prayer with these Diocese.

We look forward with anticipation to the joy of being linked with
Bind us together in mutual love and support as we uphold one another in prayer.

**Loving Lord, help us to fully appreciate the blessings
Of being united in the family of God.
Let us be ever ready to intercede for each other
For God's assistance and protection.
May God encourage us in heart and unite us in love.**

Dear Lord, We know that some of the people we are linked with suffer from the lack of food and medicines that could help them and their families have a fuller and more comfortable life.