

Sunday 9th February to Tuesday 11th February 2025

LAGOS WEST & ABUJA, NIGERIA

The United Nations recognise and support the work of the Mother's Union especially recognising such work done on reconciliation. Warring factions have left deep scars of hurt, distrust and general feeling of despair. Work around this can also be done even though conflict continues.

Equally as important is education and programmes around gender justice. A country trying to develop and become more western in outlook has so far to go to show how gender is not looked on as a reason for abuse or lower status.

Let us pray for all aspects we all identify as part of mission to support and improve family life.

Let's take some moments in silence.

For children struggling with health issues due to war, poverty and ignorance.

For teenagers facing practices continuing abuse.

For women struggling to access education and being seen as the lowest in society.

For families made of members who may not be related but need to be together for safety.

For courage for all our members putting themselves in possible danger and situations they feel they are called to but have personal concerns.

Lord we hope our work across the world opens the eyes of others, not only to your everlasting love to all, but the needs of each community. Support us to strengthen our work no matter the project.

Members of the Mother's Union stand together in love, prayer and service, looking to you for guidance, fill each of us with your spirit. In prayer we bring to you our worries and concerns giving moments of silence to hear your plan for each and everyone.

We thank you for our membership and the chance to extend loving fellowship to all.

You have given your creation into our hands, help us to plan sensibly to protect all for the future, in hope we can rejoice that your mighty power is for all to see.

Give us strength and peace. Amen

Mothers' UNION
Christian care for families

Diocese of Lichfield



**Wave of
Prayer 2025**

Let us say together:

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

If we come together with a mission and it's grounded with love and a sense of community, you can make the impossible possible. *John Lewis*

Matthew 18:20

For where two or three gather together in my name, there I am with them.

The wave of prayer is a continuous expression of our commitment in prayer to each other, which runs throughout the year and encompasses all the places in which we are represented. At this time, we join our link partners becoming closer together through prayer.

The theme this year for our prayers is community; as link partners we are rarely able to have more formal communication as each one of us face challenging day to day issues. Prayer confirms our commitment to each other and draws us closer to each other and deepening our relationship with God.

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“The greatness of a community is most accurately measured by the compassionate actions of its members.” *American author Coretta Scott King*

POEM by Vivian Rogers

Dear God, I have a prayer today.
Please Lord, do not let me go astray.
Teach me to share your love with others.
Give me peace to spread to my sisters and brothers.

Dear God, I have a prayer today.
Make me better than I was yesterday.
Show me how to give you the time you need.

Lord, without the constant plead.

Dear God, I have a prayer today.

Forgive me for my sins, I pray,

Even the ones I contemplate.

Cover me with your love and grace

Until I see your loving face.

Let us say together

THE MOTHER'S 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

LICHFIELD, ENGLAND

Our programmes are diverse around the diocese with branches reaching out to meet their individual community's needs. Many do seem to be standard but looking closer at each donation it is fitted to specific needs. For example, donations to women's refuges maybe toiletries, bedding, boxes of essentials for when individuals move on. We continue our joint outreach with cards for prisoners increasing each year, knitted hats for farmers and socks for the homeless.

ANKOLE, UGANDA

The Mother's Union in Uganda holds a rich history as in 1957 Florence Njagali became the first paid worker and then going on to be the first female to be ordained. Roles such as hers are encouraged as family life programmes tackle complex issues. Relationship counselling covers all roles and sees an improvement in domestic violence statistics. Strengthening faithful paths of life benefiting all.

Hebrews 10:24-25

And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much more as you see the Day approaching.

KARNATAKA, INDIA

The vastness of the area is matched by the vastness of the issues faced by all. Community and indeed family leadership can fail to recognise the importance of equal status relationships. Poor families have increased pressures to not only perpetuate abusive practises but do such also for monetary gain. (Selling very young family members or looking the other way rather than reporting or being against abuse). The work continues to educate and empower girls and women giving some feeling of a safer future.

Romans 12:5

So, we, being many, are one body in Christ and everyone a member one of another.

LAINYA, SOUTH SUDAN

The mission all members follow is one of reconciliation – honest conversation to build community. Supported by the Archbishop of Canterbury's statement. "Reconciliation is the hallmark of Anglicanism, the heart of the gospel and a life which we are all called." One aspect of this work centres around gender justice as groups form to be families, education in the dangers of early marriage, respect of those suffering trauma, promoting healing and family educational programmes covering finance and literacy.