

A letter from your President

"When the bow is in the cloud, then I will look upon it, to remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth." Genesis 9:16



Rainbows. I have always drawn comfort from a rainbow, whether as a child with a fairy garden or an adult watching one appear from behind a cloud after rain. Now we are being asked to knit more pairs of rainbows for ICUs as these receive such a positive response from patients and families and what a coincidence this morning to receive twelve beautiful rainbows through the post. Is it the colours or the soft shape that we find so comforting? To me that arch is like the all-encompassing love of God, enveloping the world with positive colour, drawing us under it and together as one, helping us to feel uplifted and rebuilding our hope and confidence, this being our theme for 2021.

We have just had our AGM and Autumn Council and it is pleasing to hear that others as well as myself felt encouraged. It was good to see those smiling faces after such a long time. Our poetry and photo initiative during Lockdown, together with the booklet available to order through our shop and our related venture into using YouTube, has been a definite rainbow for us. The variety of colour seen in masks that have been made, together with the hearts, teddies, rainbows, scrubs bags, thank you bags, cross in my pockets and much more, have shown how Mothers' Union put faith into



action no matter what the circumstances. Do please follow our Thursday Prayers on YouTube, also available in print for those who can't access the internet. I finish with one of the monthly encouraging quotes that we have produced for Way Out TV at HMP Forest Bank. I continue to knit my rainbows. With my love, Christine x



"A simple smile, a kind word, are inexpensive gifts that can brighten someone's day. It might be the only sunshine they see. Be that ray to touch a heart."

Calendar of Events

NOVEMBER

2nd Board of Trustees Online meeting 7pm – 8.30pm

12th Thursday Prayers published 12pm Online on YouTube

DECEMBER

10th Thursday Prayers published 12pm Online on YouTube

Member Webinars

Mothers' Union are delighted to be offering members a selection of webinars based around a number of themes including digital media, fundraising and capturing and reporting on the difference that we make. A full list of available webinars for the Aug - Nov period can be found on the website link below. All Webinars will be on Zoom.

<https://www.mothersunion.org/mothers-union-member-webinars>

Congratulations!

Ann Humphreys and Margaret Garlick from Tottington St. Anne's Branch, recently celebrated their 80th Birthdays and Anne and George Round celebrated their Diamond Wedding Anniversary in August. Congratulations All Round!!



Mothers' Union Member Webinars

MU Manchester Shop

The MU Manchester shop is taking orders for Christmas cards, diaries and calendars along with the usual card selection. If you would like a selection of individual greeting cards, rather than the pack of 5 the same, Frances is happy to make up a mixed pack and post them out. All shop orders to be sent to shopmothers@gmail.com

Treasurer Wanted

We need a treasurer for MU Manchester Diocese. Please pray and consider if you could take this role. Please contact the office for further details.

Christ Church Denton 5k Challenge

A huge well done to those at Christ Church Denton.

'All went well on Saturday morning when our group of 13 met to walk 5km from Christ Church around our parish boundary in Denton. We were joined by 4 children and 2 dogs. On hand to support us all our 3 marshals with drinks and snacks around the course and lots of encouragement. Everyone enjoyed the morning, being outside, sharing fellowship and having a chance to 'chat' in what has been difficult and socially isolating times for some. We are proud to say that we finished in just over 1.25 hours and didn't get too wet! As of today we have raised £120 online for Mothers' Union Manchester and some offline donations still to be counted as the sponsor money comes back.'



Ordinations in the Diocese

We were delighted to congratulate all the new Deacons and Priests in the Manchester Diocese who were Ordained in October. The picture, from Rev'd Amy, shows her card from MU Manchester on her desk at church, our prayers are with her and all those newly ordained in the Diocese.



Thank you

A beautiful thank you card received from the Specialist Bereavement Midwives at The Royal Bolton Hospital

To Jenny

We would like to express our heartfelt thanks to you + your members for the beautiful hand knitted sets and teddies for our angel babies. They are very much appreciated by ourselves and our bereaved families.

Kath + Seema
Specialist Bereavement Midwives - Bolton

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WWW.MUESHOP.ORG

Mothers UNION
Christian care for families

SHOP & SUPPORT MOTHERS' UNION
Shop with Mothers' Union and help change lives, communities and families worldwide.



NEW
MU ONLINE
SHOP
LAUNCHING
OCTOBER 2020

The NEW Mothers' Union online shop is preparing to launch early October. You will find bolder product images, easy navigation, free downloads, more products and newsletter sign up. Remember to include your diocese when placing your order.

We can't wait to see you there!

TO PLACE AN ORDER
To place an order please contact your diocese directly for your local MU Rep or shop online at www.mueshop.org and enter your diocese.



info@mothersunionmanchester.org
www.mothersunionmanchester.org



Mothers' Union Manchester



@Mumanchesterdio



Mothers' Union Manchester Diocese

16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence is an international campaign. It takes place each year from **25 November** (International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women) until **10 December** (International Human Rights Day). Throughout the campaign, Mothers' Union joins with around 6,000 organisations from approximately 187 countries who participate in the campaign, to raise awareness of, and call for an end to, gender-based violence in all forms and in all societies.

As part of the campaign this year Mothers' Union will be holding the first Global Day which is centred around the disturbing figure that "1 in 3 women worldwide have experienced domestic or sexual abuse" and that Mothers' Union, as a leading women's organisation, believe this to be unacceptable.

There are lots of resources available on the Mothers' Union Website, including services, prayers, a template letter you can personalise to send to your MP with regards to the ongoing Domestic Abuse Bill and further useful information, the link can be found on the bookmark below.

16 Days of Activism and Global Day of Action 2020 Bookmark



We pray for all to follow Christ's example of treating children, women and men with equality and respect.

We pray for all who live in fear of violence and despair that life will ever change.

Bring to an end their suffering, restore their sense of worth.

We pray for those who perpetrate abuse with no sense of guilt or shame.

Bring to justice their actions, change their inner hearts.

We pray against regimes that endorse violence.

Shatter their influence, initiate peace.

Loving Lord,
we pray for a better world
where love, justice and peace
may flourish.

Amen

Mothers' UNION
Christian care for families



Reflect....

Pray....

Plan....

Act....

16 Days of Activism: 25th
November – 10th December 2020
**Mothers Union Global Day of
Action:** 5th December

For resources and information on
our calendar of events:

<https://www.mothersunion.org/16-days-activism-and-global-day-resources-2020>

Mothers' UNION
Christian care for families

This prayer bookmark can be printed out, cut out, folded and stuck to make a double sided bookmark. Use it to reflect on how you want to respond to the 16 Days of Activism campaign this year.

With thanks to Mothers' Union in All-Ireland for this wonderful resource.