

WAVE OF PRAYER 2020

June 29th - July 1

At the time of typing this service we are in lock down. If this is still the case please copy and send to as many members as you can to read in their own homes. There will be no set times, just when it is convenient to yourselves.

Perhaps, if possible, you could open a map of the world and place a flower or candle on the places we are praying for.

OPENING PRAYERS

Be with us, Spirit of God
Breathe on us, breath of God
Speak in us, wisdom of God
The Lord is here.

**Nothing can separate us from your love.
fill us with your saving power.
bring strength, healing and peace.
His spirit is with us.**

SAY OR SING HYMN - Breathe on me breath of God.

READING: Acts 2: vs. 1 – 4

EASTERN ZAMBIA

President is Catherine Mabeta (we are now keeping in regular touch by WhatsApp)

Zambia is a landlocked country in Southern Africa. It is full of dramatic natural beauty and astonishing wildlife. It sits mainly on a plateau, is mostly flat and has occasional hills. The country is experiencing contrasting problems of rapid industrialisation, and underdevelopment in thinly populated areas. The diocese of Eastern Zambia roughly equates to the area of the Eastern Province, one of ten provinces in Zambia. It is the least developed of them all. Chipata is the provincial capital. It is the fastest-growing urban centre in Eastern Zambia. Mothers' Union seeks to help the elderly, many of whom are on their own, and young mums needing help with child care. This enables the mums to work in cottage industries and bring home an income.

Each week the MU meets together on Thursdays for MU Prayers. Tuesdays for MU choir practice, and Fridays to brew a local drink. This is a fund-raising activity for MU funds. Catherine is thrilled that we are praying for her and her members.

LET US PRAY

Loving Lord, we give thanks for Catherine and all members in Eastern Zambia, for all workers and their families, the work they do for the community in which they live. We thank you for our Mothers' Union link with that Diocese.

READING: Colossians 4 v. 12

SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

MOMBASA

In the Wave of Prayer we pray for Diocesan President Rev. Martha Mwaro, wife of Bishop Alphonse, and Phoebe Atieno Maina, who is the new Links Co-ordinator, presently corresponding with Margaret Watts.

Mombasa is situated on the Kenyan Coast and is the second largest city after Nairobi. Mothers' Union in these areas are the backbone of the churches and present in large numbers. Members are involved in training women to gain skills to empower them to be self-sufficient and earn a living. Most of the women in the Diocese are unemployed, so they are taught candle-making, production of flower pots, tie dye, also making detergents. The women can then start small businesses to support

their families. Members work in their communities on parenting schemes, visiting the sick and elderly in hospitals, among many other projects.

LET US PRAY

Lord, bless the Mothers' Union leaders in Mombasa. Give them strength and courage to reach out to all their members, helping them in the communities in which they live. Guide them in their work as they continue to help the less fortunate. Surround them with your love, that they may achieve many goals as they pass along life's way. We pray for all the families whose lives they touch, with understanding and compassion. Amen.

READING: Colossians 2 vs. 8 - 21

SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

GWAGWALADA and EKITI WEST (Nigeria)

The two dioceses with which we are linked are Gwagwalada and Ekiti West. Nigeria is Africa's most populous country with over 200 million inhabitants. 40% of its population is under 14. It is one of Sub-Saharan Africa's largest economies and relies heavily on oil as its main source of revenue. Even so, 60% of the population live in extreme poverty. The Anglican Province of Nigeria has separated itself from the rest of the Anglican Communion and at present there is no relationship between Mothers' Union and Nigeria. However, we pray for all Mothers' Union members in the dioceses of Gwagwalada and Ekiti West. We bring before God their many projects and particularly their work in raising awareness of HIV/AIDS in the community. We pray for their Diocesan Presidents Rebecca Tabwaye and Tolu Adejopu. We acknowledge the rift between Nigeria and the rest of the Anglican Communion and pray that Mothers' Union may be able to help towards reconciliation.

LET US PRAY

We ask you Lord, to help us grow in faith, love and understanding. May a deeper commitment to you enable us to help and reconcile families and cultures. Guide us, as individuals, to help others who are suffering trauma and persecution and, as communities, enable us to understand and to welcome other cultures. With your guidance, Lord, may we achieve unity in families and within society. Amen.

Come, Holy Spirit, come. Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with us. Open our eyes, Father, to your world full of your beauty, love, grace. Remind us of your Son, our Saviour, who brings forgiveness, reconciliation and hope to broken hurting people. May your Holy Spirit equip us with wisdom, truth and the desire to bring about your kingdom in our hearts, homes, communities and world. Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with us. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

READING: Genesis 45 vs. 1 – 5, 9

SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

TEMOTU, SOLOMON ISLANDS

Temotu is the easternmost province of the Solomon Islands; these are a chain consisting of several large volcanic islands to the south east of Papua New Guinea, as well as outlying islands and atolls. The terrain is mountainous and heavily forested. In 2013 there were a lot of earthquakes, followed by a tsunami. This devastated a lot of the livelihoods and much time has been spent rebuilding and restoring over the last few years.

96% of the population is Christian and 70% are under 30. This has enabled MU to really grow and develop over the years since it began in the 1930s reaching almost 1,450 in membership. They have become outreaching and some of their activities include: training workshops (nutrition, vocational skills), Sunday School, Girls Friendly Society, hospital visits, Parenting Programme, prison ministry, adult literacy, women's refuges, Mothers' Union guesthouses.

In February this year, the Rev'd Willie Tungale was installed as the Bishop of Temotu. He is 54 years old and he and his wife, Ruth, have 5 children. We look forward to their support of MU and to us forging strong links with the Mothers' Union in Lata.

Let us pray. May we reflect the compassion of our Father as we reach out to comfort the troubled in the world in which He loves. Let our eyes be your eyes showing compassion, warmth and love. Let our hands be your hands bringing healing with their touch. Let our ears be your ears listening where there is need. Let our words be your words bringing comfort, joy and peace. **Amen.**

READING: 2 Corinthians 1 vs. 3 - 5

SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

LEICESTER (Province of Canterbury)

Diocesan President: Yvonne Smith

We are a very diverse County with many different cultures and faiths. It is mainly agricultural with small pockets of industry. Members meet in branches, at deanery and diocesan events and services. There are emergency prayers chains supporting those who have met with sudden adversity or illness. We raise monies for Away From It All holidays to take families to the coast, including providing their transport and food boxes on arrival. Knitting is still popular, which includes garments for the Neo-Natal Units in the county. Local hospitals are appreciative of emergency toiletry bags donated by members. Mental Health Units are given chocolate bars for patients at Christmas.

Three times a year we hold a short service of prayer and fellowship in the Cathedral. It is led by deaneries in turn, but all members are invited to attend. This year we are holding an Advent Carol Service in the Cathedral.

LET US PRAY for the work of the Mothers' Union in the Leicester Diocese, for Yvonne our Diocesan President, and for Sharon Harper our Worldwide President, for all who hold any kind of office, for Trustees, Branch, Deanery, Diocesan, and Indoor Members. For our new administrator, Heather, and Diane our Diocesan Chaplain. Let us ask for God's blessing on all work done in His name by MU in this Diocese. Amen.

Lord of all, we give thanks for the far-reaching vision of our founder, Mary Sumner. We look back with praise and gratitude for her witness and the way she inspired so many people. Our members worldwide have been beacons of hope for their communities, both with prayer and practical help, bringing joy and reflecting the love of our Saviour Jesus Christ. We pray that we will be able to continue her vision, ensuring that the role of Mothers' Union will flourish and grow as we unite to be helping hands across the world. Amen.

READING: Psalm 117

SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

LET US PRAY

Lord Jesus Christ, teach us that whatever today may hold and whatever tomorrow might bring, the future is secure, for you are with us, the same yesterday, today and for ever. Help us, then, to live each moment with you, in quiet confidence and joyful celebration, knowing that we are yours and you are ours, for all eternity. Amen.

ARCHBISHOPS PRAYER: God of hope, in these times of change, unite our nation and guide our leaders with your wisdom. Give us courage to overcome our fears, and help us to build a future in which we all may prosper and share, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE LORDS PRAYER

THE MOTHERS' UNION PRAYER

1 John 4 v. 16

As we pray here today, ready to give our pledge of lifelong love and commitment, we look to God, who is love. He will give us all we need to honour our vows. He will share in our joys and support us in our cares. He will join our love with his to create security and strength in all our relationships.

HYMN, to be sung or said: Brother Sister, let me serve You

If you would like to add the Prayers for each day you will find them on page 46 of FAMILIES WORLDWIDE Prayer Diary titled TRANQUILLITY.

We end our time of fellowship by holding hands (if possible) and saying The Grace.