

## OUR PRAYER LINKS

**Boga, Democratic Republic of Congo**  
**Tanga, United Republic of Tanzania**  
**Manicaland, Zimbabwe**  
**Ogoni, Nigeria**  
**Carlisle, England**  
**Melbourne, Australia**

### **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.

The Wave of Prayer was inaugurated in the United Kingdom in 1921. Every Diocese in the worldwide organisation is prayed for during the midday prayers on 3 consecutive days each year. This unbroken chain of prayer provides the spiritual foundation for the mission and work of the Mothers' Union.

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Diocese of Melbourne



## **MOTHERS' UNION MELBOURNE**

**WAVE OF PRAYER**  
**JULY 30<sup>th</sup> to August 1<sup>st</sup> 2019**

**PRAYERS, READINGS & HYMNS**

**2019 THEME :**

***Listen, Observe, Act - in step with God***

**Diocese of Melbourne Mothers' Union**  
**Established in 1895**

Service is found on page 43 of  
'A WORSHIP AND PRAYER BOOK for MU AUSTRALIA'.

**THEME FOR 2019:**

*Listen, Observe, Act - in step with God*

Welcome to our Mothers' Union Wave of Prayer Service.

Lord of all, we gather in your name and pause to pray, following Mary Sumner's example; a woman of deep faith, with a heart for prayer and a determination to make a difference in the lives of others; she listened to God and acted upon his call. May we too as people of faith listen and act upon the call of God to make a difference in our present community and establish a stable future for those yet to come. **Amen.**

**Hymn: TIS 547 Be Thou my vision**

Irish text; translator Mary Byrne, 1880-1931 & Eleanor Hull, 1860-1935

***Ephesians 3:14-21*** New Revised Standard Version

*For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.*

*Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.*

**TANGA, TANZANIA**

Mothers' Union have been instrumental in the expansion of the Anglican Communion in the Diocese of Tanga; actively supporting the 2025 Mission Program, through involvement with students training for ordination, permaculture, health care, schools, churches and housing (including building and renovations). The increased number of Christians in the churches has led to a boost in the number of Mothers' Union members.

Loving God, thank you for helping Tanga Diocesan Mothers' Union President, Mrs Mary Sebwache, CDC, Joyce and Mothers' Union members carry out the work of your great commission, as they gladly share the love of Christ and build your kingdom on earth. Heavenly Father, fill them with hope and joy as they step forward with Christ in faith. **Amen.**

**Hymn: TIS 779. May the feet of God walk with you.**

**The Grace**

## **BOGA, DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO**

The Diocese of Boga is situated in the North-eastern area of the DR Congo, where tribal confrontations still occur. Innocent people are the victims, fleeing their village homes with nothing, to take refuge in churches, hospitals, or with relatives in the more main cities. There is great unrest, tension, and fear.

Mothers' Union members are lovingly reaching out to deal with the consequences of conflict: supporting and speaking out for women and children victims of sexual and domestic violence, orphans, and young people; encouraging literacy, the value of females in the family, and for the community to discover their own resources and solutions to the poverty, malnutrition and other challenges they face.

Lord God, may Mothers' Union Diocesan President, Mrs Irene Bahemuka, CDC's, Ngoy and Fabiola, and Mothers' Union members be upheld by your constant and faithful presence, as they try to bring comfort, healing, peace and hope, to their community and souls to Christ.

As a local clergy man commented: "we know if you are with us and we pray together, God is there to help us." **Amen**

***All this day, O Lord,  
let me touch as many lives as possible for thee:  
and every life I touch, do though by thy spirit quicken,  
whether through the word I speak, the prayer I breathe,  
or the life I live. In the name of Jesus. Amen.***

*Mary Sumner's personal prayer*

## **MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA**

Anglican Mothers' Union Australia, Diocese of Melbourne, uphold the theme for 2019:

***Listen, Observe, Act – in step with God.***

Loving God, we pray that Mothers' Union is actively listening to the voices of members to create a vision for the future which is based on their own views and experience within their environment. We also pray for the workshops being conducted in conjunction with our theme and for the members as they unite to explore ways in which this vision can be implemented locally.

We give thanks for all the work willingly carried out in the parishes and in the wider community by MU members.

We pray for MU Diocesan President, Elaine Longford and MU members, ensuring future generations continue to listen, observe and act – in step with God.

May MU Melbourne continue to support Northern Outreach Projects and initiatives for Peace and Reconciliation throughout the world. **Amen.**

### **MULOA Prayer**

May God enable us to become the people God calls us to be,  
and, in everything we do,  
may our lives honour the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.  
May God inspire and move us to action  
so that we fulfil God's will in response to God's amazing grace,  
so freely give to the world. Amen.

## OGONI, NIGERIA

Mothers' Union are considered the bedrock of the church, and mentors to the next generation, advocating all of society to walk as one, in Christ's love. Ameliorating the poverty condition of their people, is part of God's divine plan and destiny, Mothers' Union believes.

Initiatives include: education and healthcare (building nursery/primary schools), security (building lock up shops, apartments), consumption of natural foods (fruit and vegetables) and clean water (pure water and ice block making factories), agriculture (farming cassava/tapioca starch) and microfinance (mini soap production).

We thank you God, our creator, redeemer and sustainer, that walking with Christ empowers Boga Diocesan Mothers' Union President, Mrs Stella Gberegbara and Mothers' Union members for the life of service for which they were created; God granting them wisdom and strength **Amen.**

## MANICALAND, ZIMBABWE

The Diocese of Manicaland Mothers' Union and the church are moving forward: As Mothers' Union help support pupils in schools and at universities, pupils are starting to excel in their education. Alongside this, health conditions have improved as access to healthcare services has increased.

Dear Lord, we give you thanks and praise that Diocesan Mothers' Union President, Florida, Community Development Co-ordinator (CDC), Nelly and Mothers' Union members follow in the footsteps of Mary Sumner; being of deep faith, with hearts for prayer, they listen to God and each other, journeying together in having the determination, patience and commitment to make a difference in the lives of others, through words and deed. **Amen.**

**Hymn: TIS 106 Now thank we all our God**

## CARLISLE, ENGLAND

Diocese of Carlisle Mothers' Union projects include: Caring for children in the Safe Play Area in Haverigg Prison and sending Christmas cards to every prisoner. Organising Away From It All breaks for families, children and carers. Giving support to baptism families. Providing local hospitals with gowns for stillborn babies, hats for newborns, crosses in pockets and emergency bags with toiletries for those in need. Providing toiletries for men's hostels and women's refuges. Knitting hats for seamen. Making fiddle muffs and aprons for those with dementia. Outreach choir giving concerts in residential homes including those with dementia units. Taking services and communion into residential homes. Running parent and toddler groups, Sunday School, Messy Church, after school clubs, and holiday clubs. Providing resources for children's work in Sunday Schools, after school clubs, parent and toddler groups, Messy Church and prayer spaces in schools through the One to Five Christian Nurture Scheme.

May the Diocese of Carlisle Mothers' Union, led by their President Jane Conlan, make their message of God's love heard amidst the noise of the modern world, by reaching out to individuals and communities across their Diocese. Engaging all in a new conversation that's absolutely relevant to their lives, having recognised that the world has changed – therefore the way Mothers' Union delivers their message and engages people needs to change too.

May Mothers' Union look to the future, building on their heritage and in particular, the life and vision of their founder, Mary Sumner. **Amen.**