

## ZIMBABWE

We give thanks and pray for our Southwark Anglican links in Zimbabwe. As elections take place in the country, we pray that the new government will be just and fair. We pray for protection for our Christian family seeking to show God's love and compassion to all. We ask for comfort for those who mourn and for the many young orphans. We pray for the availability of medicine for all those in need of it. We pray for the continued support of children accessing education. We ask for your provision for all those who are out of work. God bless Zimbabwe, protect her children, transform her leaders, heal her communities and grant her peace.  
Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

## OXFORD DIOCESE

We give thanks and pray for Alison Bennett, Diocesan President, and for all MU members as they care for families in the Oxford diocese.  
Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

We pray for our Honoured Patron, her Majesty Queen Elizabeth. We give thanks for her faithful witness and her devoted service to us all. Pour out your blessing upon her and her family.  
Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

In this year of triennial elections, we pray for those standing for office, and for all elected to roles within Mothers' Union. We pray for God's guidance that all the roles may be filled, and that those elected will be strengthened and sustained by the power of the Holy Spirit in their lives. We pray this special prayer, written by Archbishop Justin for the Mothers' Union this year.

**Loving God, we thank you for the work of the Mothers' Union over the years; for all the women who have given tirelessly of their time and resources in your service, over many countries and continents. We thank you for their faithfulness and perseverance, and for their witness to your immense love for humanity. We pray for women around the world, united by their faith and their commitment to work together for the common good. We pray that they would witness powerfully, work faithfully and rejoice in each other's fellowship. In the name of Jesus Christ your Son, our Saviour and our friend. Amen**

*Hymn of your choice*

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.**

We conclude our worship as we share the grace with one another.  
**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all today and always. Amen.**



**Mothers' UNION**  
Christian care for families  
Diocese of Southwark

## WAVE OF PRAYER

**31<sup>st</sup> AUGUST – 2<sup>nd</sup> SEPTEMBER 2018**

On the 9<sup>th</sup> August we celebrated our Founder's day. It is good to remember and to give thanks for Mary Sumner. As we walk in her footsteps throughout this year, we also remember that she was a grandmother when she started the Mothers' Union in 1876, and was moved to help young mothers as her children started having families of their own. Today we rejoice and give God the glory as we reach out to families across the world in 84 countries. Hence we have the Wave of Prayer, which itself was started in the early 1920s.

**Wave of Prayer** for our linked dioceses of Ekiti and Ogori-Magongo in Nigeria, Harare in Southern Africa, Machakos in Kenya, and Phulbani in North India.

Prayers are included for our link Diocese of Oxford and for our Anglican Links in Zimbabwe.

Leader: We meet in the name of God

**ALL: Father, Son and Holy Spirit**

Leader: O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness

**ALL: Let the whole earth stand in awe of Him**

Leader: God is spirit

**ALL: They that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth**

Leader: As we begin our worship, let us pray to our Father

**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. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory, are yours, now and for ever. Amen.**

Leader: The Lord reigns, let the earth be glad

Let the distant shores rejoice. Psalm 97 v 1

Through our weakness and ineffectiveness we hinder the coming of God's kingdom. Let us ask for pardon and forgiveness, saying together

**O most merciful Father,**

**We confess that we have done little to forward your kingdom and to advance you glory. Forgive our failures, pardon our shortcomings and equip us for your service, for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.**

*Hymn of Psalm of your choice*  
*Bible Reading of your choice*

Leader: As we meet for this Wave of Prayer, let us say the Mothers' Union prayer together.

### **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.**

Leader: Heavenly Father, rejoicing in our differences and our diversity, we bring before you, through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, the thanksgivings and needs of our linked dioceses. In this election year, we pray for leaders in all these areas to come forward, and to be strengthened in your love and service to follow in Mary Sumner's footsteps.

*Pause*

### **EKITI**

Ekiti State of Nigeria, is one of the country's 36 states: its motto is The Fountain of Knowledge. The Diocese of Ekiti is one of the oldest dioceses in the Church of Nigeria, officially inaugurated as a diocese in October 1966. Since then several new dioceses have been created out of the Ekiti Diocese.

We give thanks and pray for the Bishop and his wife, Mrs Janet Abe, who is the Diocesan President. Also for the vision of the diocese - raising godly people that are heavenly conscious through committed pragmatic evangelism, discipline and Christian living – and for projects and programmes, involving educating and increasing awareness on the importance of family life.

Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

### **OGORI-MAGONGO**

The Diocese of Ogori-Magongo is located in the Kogi State of Nigeria, the Confluent State. It is one of the youngest dioceses in the Province and was officially inaugurated as a missionary diocese in 2009.

We pray for the Bishop and his wife, Mrs Susan Davies, the Diocesan President; also bless all the members and strengthen them in their work of evangelism, outreach to the needy, and income generating projects. We pray too for all those in the hostels run and maintained by Mothers' Union members

Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

### **HARARE**

Harare is Zimbabwe's capital city, and an industrial hub for the country. Situated in the centre of Zimbabwe, there is much outreach into the urban and tight-knit communities by Mothers' Union members.

We pray for the Diocesan President, Faith Gandiya, and all the members in Harare Diocese who are dedicated to outreach to those who are vulnerable within the

community. We pray particularly for their work raising awareness of environmental issues with schoolchildren, for their efforts to raise general awareness of gender-based violence and HIV infection, and to support the survivors of both as they deal positively with their situations. We pray for Lizzie Zimunya, the Community Development Co-ordinator, as she continues to set up new local projects in the Chitungwisa Archdeaconry, under the Central Mothers' Union Church & Community Mobilisation Process. We pray for the continuing support of vulnerable mothers with the provision of baby boxes.

Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

### **MACHAKOS**

Machakos in Kenya is a satellite town 64 kms southeast of the capital, Nairobi. An urban centre with a rapidly growing population, it is surrounded by a high number of family farms.

We pray for the new Diocesan President, and all the members in Machakos. We give thanks for the work of the Mothers' Union Daystar Hostel which provides a safe space for vulnerable young girls, accommodating those who might otherwise fall into prostitution or develop drug and alcohol related issues. As well as for this major project we pray for the success of the many conferences, seminars and vocational skills training which contribute to the life of the church and the community. We pray for the members' continuing support of, and outreach to, the sick and needy.

Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

### **PHULBANI**

The diocese of Phulbani is in North India. It is scattered over the hilly areas of four districts in the north, and is known for its variety of flora and fauna. We pray for the MU Provincial President Neerja Prasad, and for Jharana Natal, President of the Women's Fellowship for Christian Service.

The Women's Fellowship have a number of ongoing activities which address the issues faced in the area. We pray for their work with the sick, the elderly, broken families and raising of children in the Christian faith. We pray for the work to address gender and, in particular, tackling gender-based violence. We give thanks for the computer training institute which offers places to young people from vulnerable communities like the Dalits and other tribal groups.

Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

**SOUTHWARK DIOCESE** covers the area between the South Bank of the Thames through the suburbs of London to the villages and towns of East Surrey and the borders of Gatwick airport.

We give thanks and pray for Cynthia Smith, the Diocesan President, Bishop Christopher, the Revd Esther Foss, MU Chaplain, the Trustees and all who have a particular role in the MU throughout the diocese. Grant them wisdom and supply their needs. We give thanks and pray for all the projects, especially remembering before you our new initiative for women to teach English to women. We pray that we will be able to produce a resource to help women learn English, and that volunteers will come forward to be trained as teachers.

Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**