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Leader: We pray for the royal Patron of Mothers’ Union Worldwide, HRH the Duchess of Edinburgh, for King Charles, Queen Camilla and all the Royal Family. Deliver them from the stress of illness and pour out your blessings upon them.

Lord, hear us. **Lord graciously hear us.**

**SOUTHWARK DIOCESE** covers the area between Kew and Thamesmead along the South Bank of the Thames and south through the London suburbs and rural areas of East Surrey and a small part of Kent to the middle of the runway at Gatwick airport. Special projects include Tea@2 at the Evelina Hospital; ‘Tea and Talk’ in Croydon, as well as strong support for the Away From It All scheme, local refuges and hospitals, continued engagement with Metamorphosis encouraging change and renewal, and in the eradication of modern-day slavery and domestic abuse. Prayer for our renewed efforts to support prisons.

We give thanks and pray for Penny Lochead, the Diocesan President, Bishop Christopher, our Area Bishops, the Revd Sandra Schloss, MU Chaplain, and the Venerable Carol Coslett, Deputy 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 praying that volunteers will come forward to be trained in all these areas.

Lord, hear us. **Lord graciously hear us.**

Leader: We say together the Collect for Mothers’ Union Southwark

**God our creator and redeemer, help us to grow in holiness, unity, effectiveness, and numbers that we may flourish together. Draw us closer to you and those around us. Give us enthusiasm in our faith, and wisdom in sharing it with young and old.  Open our eyes to new opportunities, our lips to sing and speak of you, and our hearts to welcome the stranger as we care for families. Grow your kingdom in us and the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Leader: We draw our prayers together praying as our Saviour has taught us:

**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.**

*Hymn of your choice*

Leader: We conclude our worship as we say together Mary Sumner’s Personal Prayer and share The Grace with one another.

**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.**

**May 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.**

**Diocese of Southwark**

**WAVE OF PRAYER: 31AUGUST – 2SEPTEMBER 2025**

We rejoice and give God the glory as we seek to encourage others to Join Us, Join In. giving thanks for; our personal renewal and our call to active participation and inclusive community-building. Today, as we celebrate the 120th anniversary of Southwark Diocese, and approach the 150th anniversary of Mothers’ Union itself, we share in the Wave of Prayer, to praise the holy name of the Lord, to share the glorious news of grace, to rejoice in his love and to pray together especially for our linked worldwide dioceses, our UK link Diocese of Oxford and our Anglican Links in Zimbabwe.

Leader: We meet in the name of God

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

Leader: Gentle God,

**ALL: Breathe love within us, breathe love between us.**

Leader: From one moment to the next,

**ALL: you hold us in the power of your hand.**

Leader: As we begin our worship, 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: Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.  *Matthew 5: 16*

Leader: Let us ask for pardon and forgiveness, saying together,

**O King enthroned on high, filling the earth with your glory: holy is your name, Lord God Almighty. In our sinfulness we cry to you to take our guilt away, and to cleanse our lips to speak your word, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**.

Leader: May the Father forgive *us* by the death of his Son and strengthen *us* to live in the power of the Spirit all *our* days. **Amen.**

*Hymn or Psalm of your choice*

*Bible Reading*: Micah 6: 6 - 18 or *your choice*

Leader: Heavenly Father, rejoicing in our differences and our diversity, through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, we bring before you the thanksgivings and needs of all our linked dioceses. We pray for members in all these areas to have hope and confidence in your love and be inspired by your call to follow the example of Mary Sumner encouraging others to join us and join in to work to your praise and glory. **Amen**.

*Pause*

**EKITI**

Ekiti is one of Nigeria’s 36 states and its diocese is one of the oldest dioceses in the Church of Nigeria, officially inaugurated in October 1966, where the Women’s Guild Humanitarian Foundation affiliated with the MU. The slogan of the diocese is “We preach the Gospel: we keep the faith,” and is committed to teaching, preaching and praying.

We give thanks and pray for Bishop Andrew Ajayi and his wife, Abimola, the Diocesan President, for all their members as they actively engage in projects and programmes educating and raising awareness of the importance of stable family life and the rȏle young people have to play; as they meet regularly for Bible Study, prayer and fellowship as well as running World Day of Prayer services; for their training conferences on a variety of subjects as well as an Annual Conference that follows the yearly prayer theme and for the Anglican girls’ hostels within the diocese where members assist.

Lord, hear us. **Lord graciously hear us.**

**OGORI MAGONGO**

The Diocese of Ogori-Magongo, north of Ekiti, was officially inaugurated as a missionary diocese in 2009.

We pray for Bishop Festus Davies and his wife, Susan, the Diocesan President, and give thanks for work in education and hospitality within the diocese. Bless all the members and strengthen them in their work of evangelism, outreach to the community, setting up income generation initiatives and visiting the sick. We pray too for all those in the hostels run and maintained by Mothers’ Union members, and for members of the Girls’ Guild and Women’s Guild with whom MU members work.

Lord, hear us. **Lord graciously hear us.**

**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. The watchword of the diocese is “Christian seek not yet repose: watch and pray.”

We pray for the Diocesan President, Letwini Mutamiri, 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 support of the Shearly Cripps children’s home as they aim is to provide a family environment for the children. We give thanks and pray for Lizzie Zimunya, the Community Development Co-ordinator, Letty Mutamri, our contact, and for their new project: building a Mothers’ Union conference centre in Ruwa, 23km south east of Harare.

Lord, hear us. **Lord graciously hear us.**

**MACHAKOS**

Machakos in Kenya is a satellite town southeast of the capital, Nairobi. An urban centre with a rapidly growing population, it is surrounded by many of family farms. It has one of the most advanced economies in East Africa.

We pray for Bishop Joseph and his wife, Mrs Mutungi, the 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, giving thanks for the 100s of new members enrolled lately.

Lord, hear us. **Lord graciously hear us.**

**PHULBANI**

The diocese of Phulbani is in North India, and is part of the United Church of North India formed from Anglican and other Protestant churches. It is scattered over the hilly areas of four districts in the north: the Bishop is the Rt. Revd Violet Nayak. The Women’s Fellowship for Christian Service is active in many of the issues faced in the area

We pray for the MU Provincial President and for the President of the Women’s Fellowship, and give thanks for their work with families: more particularly with those most vulnerable and deprived, the victims of human trafficking and gender-based violence, supporting refugees, marriage preparation and running health awareness courses. We pray for success in their effort to recruit men into the WFCS to help to combat domestic abuse.

Lord, hear us. **Lord graciously hear us.**

**ZIMBABWE**

We give thanks and pray for our Southwark Anglican links in Zimbabwe: Southwark Cathedral with Masvingo, Croydon Episcopal Area with Central Zimbabwe, Kingston Area with Matabeleland and Woolwich Area with Manicaland. Food poverty and hunger are major issues in Zimbabwe following severe droughts.

We pray for the 21,000 MU members who actively seek out and engage with the most vulnerable people through work in hospitals, prisons, maternity clinics and on the streets. We particularly ask your blessing on their involvement with the MU Church & Community Mobilisation Project, helping both women and men to worship together and learn better ways of producing their own food to feed their families and to sell in the markets. God bless Zimbabwe, protect her children, transform her leaders, heal her communities and grant her peace.

Lord, hear us. **Lord graciously hear us.**

**OXFORD DIOCESE** We pray for the Val Bolan, Tricia Campbell and Jenny Searle, the Trustee Board and all MU members as they care for families in the Oxford Diocese, remembering particularly their ‘Children Seen and Heard’ project, providing interventions and support for children with a parent in prison. We give thanks for their Diocesan Projects Fund, set up to award grants to local people who qualify under the MU aims and objectives: particularly for “Dignity through Dressmaking,” giving initial income and future work skills within the community. We pray for the forthcoming Canterbury Provincial Gathering being hosted by Oxford.

Lord, hear us. **Lord graciously hear us.**

Leader: We thank you, O Lord, for all those in office, and for all elected to roles within Mothers’ Union, and pray that they may be strengthened and sustained by the power of the Holy Spirit in their lives,

Lord, hear us. **Lord graciously hear us.**

Leader: We pray for the royal Patron of Mothers’ Union Worldwide, HRH the Duchess of Edinburgh, for King Charles, Queen Camilla and all the Royal Family. Deliver them from the stress of illness and pour out your blessings upon them.

Lord, hear us. **Lord graciously hear us.**