

Ely Diocese Mother's Union Wave of Prayer 10, 11, or 12th December.

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Welcome We pray today for our link dioceses

We are in a link with 5 other dioceses, Shyogwe in Rwanda Lusaka in Zambia
Sokoto and Ika both in Nigeria, Karimnagar in India

Please add your own prayers to these on the sheet.

"Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Jesus Christ." 1 Thessalonians 5 16-17.

The Mother's 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

Rwanda the "country of a thousand hills" is home to 12 million people in East Central Africa, the majority of whom are young people. Although Rwanda is still healing from the genocide that happened in 1994, thanks to some good government policies today Rwanda's economy is growing. However there is more to be done, as 39% of Rwandans still live in poverty

Rev'nd Claudine (Diocesan President of Shyogwe) wrote to us "God bless you for your love your prayer for us about this pandemic we thank God because continue, to protect us and also we thank God because in our country the infection was going decrease and our school will reopening on 02 November. Also for us we continue to try to help the ones who have the big problem for us but our support is few because we have many people who live in miserable life who need the support but we do as our capacity then we pray for them in our every prayer for us before Christmas always we have the 2 weeks of prayer, in different parishes in our Diocese, in preparing the Christmas and new year so greet all in Mothers union of in Ely Diocese especially your president Mrs Hazel Williams. Say that all Mothers union of Shyogwe Diocese greet you so much and love you. All the best our beloved."

Diane Uwizeye a branch leader in a rural area of Shyogwe updated us with good news of the pigs. They are increasing in number and being shared around. During lock down Mothers' Union have been busy with their crafts of weaving, basket making and selling sweaters. There has been a long drought. As food has been scarce they have eaten the seed they would normally have planted. Now the rains have come they need more seed.



A Prayer for Shyogwe and Kigali We thank you Father for all the rebuilding of lives that has taken place in Rwanda, and praise you for the part that Mothers' Union has been able to play. May Rwanda be protected from a second wave of Corona virus. We give thanks that the school has been able to open. We pray for Claudine, Diane and all the MU members, that you give them wisdom and guidance so that they continue to be your instruments of peace and justice in their nation. We thank you for their love and prayers. We pray for the small businesses that have been created by the MU credit and loan scheme. Give them opportunities to develop and bring in a useful income for the families. We lift before you the impoverished farmers waiting for rain before they can sow their seed. We ask that the whole world would be motivated to pay serious attention to climate change. In Jesus name Amen

2. Zambia is a predominantly Christian country. The normal death rate is among the highest in the world, largely attributed to the prevalence of Aids leaving many children orphaned.

One-tenth of the population lives in Lusaka the capital. Large numbers of people have had to leave the rural areas and migrate to the city for work.

Mildred Hakamangwe is the Diocesan President of Lusaka



This photo shows a MU meeting during October.

Ruth Sichizya wrote from Lusaka

"The new normal" - Covid

With Covid doing its rounds, we initially didn't have church services up to May. On the 2nd of June examination classes were allowed to go back to school. Church services for up to 50 members were opened with strict observance of Ministry of Health guidelines which were hand sanitation, hand washing with good soap, face masking, temperature taking, clean surrounding, service to last 11/2hrs only and no children below 16yrs. The church leadership of the major ones weren't keen. Later in July they allowed more than 50 to attend under the guidelines and so services are going on. The hymns and choirs are functioning! My Parish has been running the services live through Facebook right from March

To date right now I am in a workshop preparing 40 parents interested in adopting a child.

Let's pray for our members in Lusaka.

Heavenly Father we praise you for the family of mothers' Union in Lusaka. We praise you for the blessing of those who have become friends in Christ. We look forward to the joy of making further precious relationships. We lift before you Mildred, and Ruth as they lead the Mothers' Union in Lusaka. Inspire them with your wisdom as they plan and lead the work among families. We ask your guidance for Ruth in the delicate work of assigning orphaned children to adoptive parents. We thank you for shared vision of a world where your love is shown through flourishing relationships. Draw us together love. In Jesus name Amen

Nigeria

The country is experiencing an increase in violence. There has been armed banditry in the north- west (Sokoto area) and attacks by Fulani militia throughout the country. Sokoto in north-west Nigeria is in a very high Muslim territory. There have been relentless attacks on Christian villages despite the Covid lockdown. Although the Nigerian constitution guarantees freedom of religion or belief to all citizens these rights are widely violated.

A Prayer for Nigeria

All powerful God, sovereign over everything, we ask for your healing upon the nation and an outpouring of heavenly justice for all those whose lives have been devastated by violence. We pray that you would bring about a Nigeria that is secure under a just and fair government. In Jesus name Amen

Felicia Omole is the Diocesan President of Sokoto.

Sokoto was able to keep the Covid virus in check with a rigorous test, isolate and trace system. On 5th November there were no confirmed cases and no deaths.

There hasn't been any news from Felicia herself during the last 5 years. Before that Mary Sumner House gave us information that Felicia's dream for Mothers' Union, was for them to

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establish their own University to make education more accessible to all young people and empower them with knowledge and skills. I found Felicia on Facebook this week and she is noted as having become **the Principal of the Royal Comprehensive School in Sokoto** dated May 2nd. What great news PTL Facebook also shows Felicia as president of Mother's Union, and Women's Guild/ Girl's Guild. The three groups work together as "Sokoto Anglican Diocese Women organisation." There are 47 members. The photo shows Felicia leading a conference on 23rd May with the theme "Faith and courage at a time like this."



A prayer for Sokoto

Almighty God our heavenly father we give you thanks and praise that Felicia has reached this influential position. May she be continually filled with your Holy Spirit. Give her your wisdom and energy to make a real difference in her community. Bless the young people who come within her care. Many of our members in Sokoto have difficult lives and live in difficult situations. Gracious God blanket their hearts with peace and fill them with courage for each day as they share the love of Christ through their lives of faithful action. We ask for your protection over each family and the work they are doing. In Jesus name Amen.

Evelynne Ekpenisi is the Diocesan President of Ika.



Awoke Ejedimu is the prayer co-ordinator and Esther **Etumudu** writes to us.

"The Ika people are one of the tribes in the Delta state have their own language. Delta state has been hard hit with many covid-19 cases". There has been no news from Esther since Easter when she wrote "*in Ika diocese we are holding chain prayers asking for God's mercy on mankind.*"

Greetings from Mama Ika and MU. We pray that God Will be our refuge in a time like this"

A prayer for Ika

Loving Lord we bring to you our praise for the fellowship and prayer support that we share with Ika. We thank you for Evelynne, Awoke and Esther, holding office and enabling the work to flourish in such difficult times. May your spirit guide them in all that they do in your name. Thank you for their courage and witness as they work in dangerous places. We pray for all the MU members that they will know your protection from harm. We thank you for lives which have blossomed through the outreach of our members, for all those who have been helped in times of adversity and all who have grown in faith. Father God we commit to you our prayer for the work in Ika. We trust in your readiness to hear and your power to answer. In Jesus name Amen

India

Hindu extremists have created a climate of intolerance towards religious minorities, mainly Christians and Muslims. This has led to an escalation of violence, hate speech and false accusations of "false conversions". In addition India's economy has been badly affected by the covid-19 crisis and a huge number of people are still struggling for food and work. Christians are often neglected when it comes to the distribution of food and aid.



Karimnaga India Rev. Priscilla Reuben leads the Women's Fellowship

which includes all the women in the

Church and is affiliated to Mother's Union.

Priscilla has just had her phone hacked.

The Women's Fellowship aims to be a centre of healing and witness, serving the welfare of the people in need, especially the poor, underprivileged and the marginalized in the rural areas.

Let us pray for KARIMNAGA.

Almighty God, we know that your love reaches to all corners of the earth. We ask you to stretch your hand of protection over the life of every person who experiences intimidation, harassment or threats from extremists. We also ask for lawmakers hearts to be changed and anti-conversion laws to be repealed so that all India's citizens can live out their beliefs in peace.

We pray for Priscilla and the members of the Women's fellowship in Karimnaga, for their work in adverse conditions. Protect them from all harm as they share the love of Christ through their witness and their work. Be with them in every part of their lives, encouraging them and leading them, sheltering and strengthening them so they may work to your praise and glory Amen.

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Ely Diocese President Hazel Williams

Many of our projects have continued despite the Covid 19.

A prayer for our diocese

Lord we thank you for Hazel our diocesan president and all our office holders. May your spirit guide them in all that they do in your name. Equip all our members as we share the knowledge of your love with the people we meet day by day. Give us your compassion to speak words of comfort to the troubled. Give us your gentleness to soothe the hearts of the vulnerable. Give us your patience to minister to the needs of the demanding. Draw us close to all those who hurt. Clothe us with compassion to share the sorrow and lessen the pain. Amen

Loving Lord we pray for marriage and family life.
Use us to build relationships which will flourish and grow
in a world where attachments so easily falter.

We pray for the poor and oppressed
Use us to challenge social injustice with a clear voice
in a world where the vulnerable strive to be heard.

We pray for those in adverse conditions.
Use us to work in partnership with mutual respect
to share God's resources with those in need.

Within our link dioceses
unite our hearts together
as members across the world
as we commit ourselves afresh to your purposes.
May we continue to serve you in the power of your spirit and for the glory of Christ. Amen

The Grace