

Reflection February 2024



My Dear Friends,

I hope this finds you happy and content even if it is the middle of winter.

I was just reading from Matthews Gospel and the passage I was reading was from chapter 5: 3-12 when Jesus is speaking to his disciples about true happiness.

It got me thinking about how happy it makes me when I think about how fortunate I am to be a part of such a wonderful and loving organisation.

An organisation that sets out to work for peace, helping those whose life has met with adversity because of war or unrest, offering not only practical but prayerful support. It supports those who have been or are being persecuted because of their beliefs, or who live in an abusive situation, through its campaigning.



It shows mercy to those who find themselves in prison, by visiting and supporting both prisoners and families to find a way forward into the future. It gives support to those who are affected by poverty by supporting food banks, caring for refugees and offering holidays to those who most need them through the AFIA scheme.

All this and so much more, all done in the name of LOVE.

Such a little word but one which speaks volumes, because without it we cannot call ourselves children of God, because God is love, pure and simple.

So, I hope you are feeling happy today filled with the Holy Spirit, because the MU is there for all of us, me too, whatever the need, it just takes one simple action on our part, we just need to pick up the phone and speak to an MU friend then we will be either able to give or receive God's love.

We don't need to be able to see someone to know if they are happy or sad, we will be able to hear it in their voice. I hope you, like me, are feeling happy today, but if not still try and take that one important step, pick up the phone and receive God's love and comfort from those who love you.

As we enter February we celebrate The Presentation of Christ at the Temple, a time of great celebration, and the end of epiphany [when I return my Nativity scene and the wise men to the loft] and move forward into Lent the start of the preparation for Easter, the next great event of celebration when love once again shines forth in our lives.

So be as happy as you can because we have much to be thankful for even in the middle of winter.

Love & Prayers, Jenny

Let us Pray

Father God, we give you thanks that you have brought us together as members of the Mothers' Union. Help us to share your love and be ready to listen to those who feel sad at this time. Be with those countries who are suffering because of national disasters or as a result of war. Bless all who walk beside them and offer help in the best way possible, may they know your love and be given your strength. We ask in the name of Jesus our Saviour. Amen

O Lord our heavenly Father, we bring before you all who work at Mary Sumner House, asking your blessing on all that they do, working tirelessly to ensure that our members are helped to become the best they can be in order to help those around them. We pray especially for Bev, Rob, Adam and Richard, may they know your love and peace in their lives. We pray too for our Worldwide President Sheren and the members of the Worldwide Board of Trustees, Mary, Marie, Thembsie, Roshini, Kathleen, Pamala, Catherine, Julia, Iris, Paul and Jenny. Surround them with your love as they too carry out the work you have set before them. In Jesus name. Amen

A prayer for Lent

We thank you, Father, for those days in the desert when, through prayer and fasting, Jesus discovered your will for his life and overcame the temptation of the evil one. Help us, during these days of Lent, to come close to you and to listen to your voice. Give us strength to overcome the temptation to please ourselves and live life without you. Teach us your way. For Jesus' sake. Amen

