# Praying with Purpose: Prayers for projects and initiatives

## *These prayers focus on specific aspects of Mothers’ Union mission.*

## *They may be adapted to suit your specific situation or style of praying.*

## Away From It All

Loving Lord,

we pray for Away From It All

and thank you for the blessing it is

to so many families who are struggling

and carrying heavy loads.

We pray for volunteers involved in AFIA:

May your strength sustain them in all their work;

where problems arise may solutions be found.

Loving Lord, who gives us rest

lift their burdens and hear our prayers.

We pray for families who enjoy these times:

May they be refreshed in body, mind and soul;

may the benefits they gain be rich and lasting.

Loving Lord, who gives us rest

lift their burdens and hear our prayers. Amen

## Loving relationships

God of relationship,

We thank you that marriage is enriched

when you are at the centre;

the third strand in a cord of love. Amen

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Lord, we pray for our work to support marriage

May those involved reflect your love

to the couples they will meet.

May they help relationships to be built

on a basis of love and respect.

We pray for those who prepare couples for marriage

and all who counsel when challenges arise.

May they advise with the wisdom of God,

the source and sustainer of love.

We pray that couples will be helped

to build their marriage on solid foundations.

May they reflect the love of God

in their care for one another. Amen



## Family life

Father God, we pray for our work with families.

We ask that parents will have family life enriched through sharing and learning together

with other parents.

We pray that parents and children will be helped

to develop harmonious relationships.

Father God, fill them with your unity

though the highs and lows of family life.

We pray that families everywhere may experience joy in the adventure of parenting.

In confidence and trust we bring our prayers

to our Father God. Amen

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Heavenly Father,

we pray for those who care for families

by encouraging them to grow in faith;

showing ways to encounter God

hand in hand together.

We thank you that you love us all,

adults and children alike,

and call us into relationship with you.

We pray that families

will be helped to enjoy faith

as a natural part of family life;

experiencing the love of God

hand in hand together. Amen

## Self-reliance

Lord, we ask for your blessing on initiatives to encourage self-reliance:

*(Add name of particular one if appropriate)*

May these enable women and men

to be better equipped for life.

May families’ lives be transformed

through the knowledge they attain.

We pray for facilitators who provide education

which can lead to prosperity and respect.

Lord, help them to teach clearly,

and with true consideration.

We pray for those who are learning new skills

that knowledge will be quickly absorbed.

Lord, help them to learn extensively,

and with true understanding.

We pray for the growth of these initiatives

that many more families would profit and thrive.

Lord, open doors to new opportunities

For people to access your tools for life. Amen

## Campaigning for social justice

Let us not turn from the world,

but be engaged within it.

Where there is injustice

may we find ways to eradicate it.

Where peoples' human rights are so exploited

that they have no life to call their own –

let us fight for equality and dignity.

May our politics be based upon Gospel values,

our motives be to serve our God alone,

and through our God, to transform this world.

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Righteous God,

we pray for all initiatives

to share your love through

speaking out for the helpless

and campaigning for social justice.

Righteous God,

we pray for success in our campaigns

for equality and justice for all.

Help us play our part in creating

a just and peaceful society

for your people on earth. Amen

## Gender-based violence

Compassionate God,

may those experiencing all forms of violence

be given courage, hope and the means

to break free from their abuse.

Lord Jesus,

be with those who work to support

survivors of gender-based violence.

May they be given abundant resources

of money, knowledge and time.

Merciful God,

bless those working with perpetrators

of gender-based violence.

May they be helped to bring about

lasting transformation of lives.

We pray for all to follow Christ’s example

of treating women with equality and respect.

We pray for the dawn of a better world

where justice and peace may flourish. Amen

## Community initiatives

Lord, we pray for community initiatives.

*(Add name of particular one if appropriate)*

We thank you for communities which

have improved their lives

 through working together to share resources.

We pray that many will be empowered to create

a better future for their communities.

Lord, provide riches of every kind

to counter the challenge of poverty.

We bring to you those who work with communities

to explore creative ways to thrive .

Lord, provide riches of relationships

to counter the challenge of harsh locations.

We bring to you those who work with communities

struggling with loneliness and isolation of all kinds .

Lord, provide riches of care and compassion

to counter the challenge of vulnerability. Amen

## Prisons

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We pray for the work of Mothers’ Union

to help those in prison and their families:

Bless our efforts to support the families

to cope with the challenges they face.

Give us favour with authority

for access to those who need our care.

We pray for prisoners and their families

as they cope with the challenges of being apart.

Please give them hope when life gets tough.

We pray for those who run parenting courses in prison.

May they help parents to strengthen their family relationships

in the present and for the future. Amen



## Hospitality

Loving Lord,

we thank you for the ministry of hospitality

shown by Mothers’ Union throughout the world.

Whether in catering for social gatherings,

providing essential food for the hungry,

or welcoming all with tea and love.

We pray that on every occasion

we will nourish both body and soul

by providing sustenance

with God’s love and grace. Amen

## Practical provision

Loving Lord,

we thank you for the provision for personal needs

supplied by Mothers’ Union throughout the world.



Whether these have occurred through poverty,

Health issues, as a result of conflict,

or broken relationships.

We pray that each gift of practical supplies

will clothe each recipient with dignity

and be accepted as a token of God’s grace. Amen