MOTHERS' UNION MIDDAY PRAYERS FOR DECEMBER 2026

Theme: Shining a light in the darkness

Reflection

'The light shines in the darkness and the darkness cannot overcome it.'

John 1:5

My daughter once drew and coloured me a picture in Primary School of two lightbulbs holding hands and gave it to me with the words written, "You are the light in my heart". It still hangs on my wall, a reminder to be a light for her every day. The world can feel like a dark and lonely place. As we get ready to step over the threshold into another new year, we must remember that we carry the light of Christ in our hearts, illuminating our way. So in this season of darkness and cold let us shine that light for the world around us to see. And perhaps, if we shine our lights together as members of Mothers' Union, we will make a light bright enough to light the lives of those around us.

Monday: The true light

'The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world'.

John 1:9

God in heaven,
We thank you that your light came into the world in the shape of your Son. As we celebrate the infant Jesus, in a stable in Bethlehem this Christmas, we ask that you would give us eyes to see Christ, the world's true light. In his name we pray. Amen.

Tuesday: Shine like stars

Do everything without grumbling or arguing, so that you may become blameless and pure, 'children of God without fault in a warped and crooked generation.' Then you will shine among them like stars in the sky.

Philippians 2:14-15

Almighty God,
We pray that your Spirit would so guide and govern us that in our words and our actions we may be found to be blameless and pure so that the example of our daily lives, the outworking of our faith, may point others to Christ. Amen.

Wednesday: God shines on us

'May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face shine on us'.

Psalm 67:1

God of grace,
We pray that your face would continually shine upon us that in the dark times in our lives, when all seems dread and despair, we might turn again to you and still find a flicker of light. Amen.

Thursday: Giving glory to God

'In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven'.

Matthew 5:16

Lord God,
Help us to live our faith in our own way; using our own gifts, celebrating our differences; but filled by the same Spirit, with the same call upon our lives, trusting in the same Lord Jesus Christ, beloved of the same God, giving the glory ever only to you. Amen.

Friday: The light in our hearts

'For God, who said, Let light shine out of darkness, made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge

of God s glory displayed in the face of Christ'.

2 Corinthians 4:6

God of creation,
We thank you that in the beginning you made light shine out of darkness, and we thank you still more that you have put this light into our hearts. Open our hearts that we might see your glory displayed in face of Christ, but also in the faces of all we meet. In Jesus name. Amen.

Saturday: A guiding light

Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light to my path.

Psalm 119:105

Heavenly Father
We thank you for the lessons of Scripture, teaching us as we study your Word. As we seek a deeper understanding of the Bible in our daily devotions, may it be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path. Amen.

Final Blessing

May the light of Christ shine in our hearts, in our Mothers' Union branches, in our communities and in this broken world as we seek to show Christ, our salvation, to others, and to make the darkness bright. Amen.

You bring light to the darkness, You bring hope and restore every heart that is broken, great are You, Lord. Let us shine a light for the whole world to see, a light for the glory of the Risen King. The darkness cannot overcome Your mighty power Jesus, Lord, now and forever more.
Amen

Wave of Prayer

1-2 December: Mpumalanga in South Africa**; Central Buganda** in Uganda; **Zonkwa** in Nigeria; **Bo** in Sierra Leone; **Newcastle** in England and **Barrackpore** in India

3-5 December: Akot in South Sudan; **South West Tanganyika** in Tanzania; **Aba & Irele-Ese Odo** in Nigeria; **Coventry** in England and **Cuttack** in India

7-9 December: Namibia; **Mount Kenya South** in Kenya; **Northern Izon & Ijebu North** in Nigeria and **Durham** in England

10-12 December: Lusaka in Zambia; **Shyogwe** in Rwanda; **Sokoto & Ikka** in Nigeria; **Ely** in England and **Karimnagar** in India

14-16 December: Fianarantsoa in Madagascar; **Central Tanganyika** in Tanzania; **Calabar & Igbomina** in Nigeria; **Derry & Raphoe** in All Ireland and **Banks & Torres** in Vanuatu

17-19 December: Lui in South Sudan; **Embu** in Kenya; **Orlu & Awori** in Nigeria; **The Murray** in Australia and **Medak** in India

21-23 December: Archbishops, Bishops and all clergy in the Anglican Communion

24-26 December: Refugees, internally displaced families & those living in a climate of fear

28-30 December: All involved with the responsibility of caring for & supporting family life

31 December: Mothers' Union worldwide