

DECEMBER

Shining a light in the darkness

December

REFLECTION

'He was in the beginning with God. The light shines in the darkness and the darkness cannot overcome it.' John 1:2,5 As we get ready to step into another new year, after the celebrations of our 150th year, let us take the joy and motivation with us into another year, carrying the light of Christ with us. During this time of cold and dark, let us shine the light of Jesus on all those around us. Let people see how much Mothers' Union impacts our faith and actions.

MONTHLY PRAYER

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 (Inspired by Hillsong Worship)

CREATIVE PRAYER

Shine a light into the darkness with a torch. Write the names of those you wish to pray for on pieces of paper and wait until it is dark, then shine your torch around until you come upon a name. Pray for that person when your light shines upon them. Get some children in your life involved in this creative prayer, it's a lot of fun!

DAILY PRAYERS
1-5 December

Tuesday 1
During this time of 16 Days of Activism, Father God, we ask that You be very close to survivors and victims of violence. Father, grant them strength and resilience.

Wednesday 2
As Mothers' Union highlights the issue of domestic violence around the world, Father God, offer those who are suffering a resolution to their situation. For through You, Father, nothing is impossible.

Thursday 3
For the women and children who live with abuse daily, may they know the love of Jesus alongside them, and may the Holy Spirit inspire hope in the darkness.

Friday 4
Lord, bring healing to all who are suffering from pain and hurt caused by domestic violence. Let Mothers' Union members bring hope to the hopeless and bring light into dark places.

Saturday 5
You, O Lord, will never leave us or forsake us, for we are your chosen children. Help us persevere in crisis. Jesus, light the path towards peace and resolution.



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

DAILY PRAYERS
6-12 December

Sunday 6
'When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, 'I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.'
John 8:12 (NIV)

Monday 7
Empower Mothers' Union members to reach those who are hurting and to bring ease to pain and suffering. May our voice be heard across all nations, seeking peace for the victims and fairness for the downtrodden.

Tuesday 8
Jesus, shine a light on the dark places in our lives and show us the door to escape from the temptations that beset us. Send Your Holy Spirit to guide and lead us to change our ways and to reach safety.

Wednesday 9
Comforter, healer and friend, be close to all who are suffering in silence, and those who are living in fear of retribution. Empower them by Your Holy Spirit to seek help and lead them to a place of safety.

Thursday 10
(International Human Rights Day)
On this last day of 16 Days of Activism, we pray for all affected by domestic violence and gender-based violence, and we pray that all nations will recognise the right of every person to justice, fairness and equity.

Friday 11
Help us to prepare through Advent for the coming of Your precious Son, Jesus. Let it not be all about presents, glitter and tinsel, but the true message of revelation, the birth of the saviour of the world.

Saturday 12
In the busyness of preparations, remember the baby – born to be a king, born to be the saviour, born to be a light to the whole world, one who would lead us back into relationship with Father God.

WAVE OF PRAYER
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

DAILY PRAYERS
13-19 December

Sunday 13
'The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel. (which means 'God with us').'
Matthew 1:23 (NIV)

Monday 14
The importance of this baby for the world is immeasurable. The love, grace and mercy that gave us the one and only Son of God to save all humankind is truly amazing. Thank You, God, for this marvellous gift.

Tuesday 15
In Mothers' Union, we remember Mary, the mother of Jesus, on Lady Day, and wonder at how such a young girl could have been so brave, but we are thankful that she was. May we be as open to God's promises as Mary was when she said 'Yes' to God.

Wednesday 16
God be with us in Mothers' Union, lead and guide us in the projects You want us to take up, light our pathway to see the needs around us.

Thursday 17
A baby is a life full of promise and hope for the future. As Christ brings hope to all who live in darkness, may we in Mothers' Union help to shed light in dark places.

Friday 18
May the Christ-light in each Mothers' Union member shine out before all people, so that Christ will be in our words, Christ will be in our touch, and Christ will grant us compassion for all whom we meet.

Saturday 19
Lord of Life, Lord of hope and Lord of peace, be with Mothers' Union members as they assist in church services and events for Christmas and may they bring glory to Your name.

WAVE OF PRAYER
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

DAILY PRAYERS
20-26 December

Sunday 20
'The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.'
John 1:5 (NIV)

Monday 21
The wise men started on their journey following a star that led to Jesus. May Mothers' Union follow Christ in all we seek to do, helping families and children in adversity.

Tuesday 22
As Joseph was obedient to God, so may Mothers' Union grow in faith in You, Lord Jesus, that we shall see mountains move and wondrous miracles take place. Light up the dark places of our world so all shall see You as King of kings and Lord of lords.

Wednesday 23
How uncomfortable Mary must have been, about to go into labour, riding on a donkey, and there not even being an inn where she could give birth. Father God, many live in poverty and insecure housing. Lead Mothers' Union as we seek to improve living conditions for people in need.

Thursday 24
(Christmas Eve)
As the angels foretold the wonderful news of the birth of the Christ child to the shepherds, so may all nations come and seek the baby who saved the world. May we all kneel before Him, lost in wonder, love and praise.

Friday 25
(Christmas Day)
Celebrate today the birth of our Saviour, for Jesus, the light of the world, has come. God is with us in every stage of our lives. Father God, we are so grateful that you sent Jesus to us.

Saturday 26
God's planning was perfect. The birth in a stable was foretold by the prophets, and His plans for us are still before us. Help Mothers' Union members fulfil their God-given destinies in this New Year.

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

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

DAILY PRAYERS
27-31 December

Sunday 27
'Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.'
Hebrews 13: 8 (NIV)

Monday 28
As the Christ child grew from a baby to a man and faced a new life as Christ on earth, so we look towards a new year and a new beginning on our walk with Christ. God behind us, God beside us and God ahead leading the way.

Tuesday 29
In the celebrations of 150 years to come, Jesus Christ, be beside the leadership of all Mothers' Unions everywhere to lead and guide as we move through a New Year, celebrating our successes and encouraging new members.

Wednesday 30
Lead us, Father God, on the new paths that You place before our feet. Encourage us to step out in the name of Christ. MayYour Holy Spirit give us confidence to move forward as we hear Your voice assuring us of Your love.

Thursday 31
An exciting year for Mothers' Union unfolds tomorrow as we all celebrate 150 years of Mary Sumner's vision. Father God, guide us through this year, that we will say Your words to those we meet as we build Your kingdom here.

WAVE OF PRAYER
28-30 December: All involved with the responsibility of caring for and supporting family life

31 December: Mothers' Union worldwide





THINKING AHEAD

As Advent draws to a close, we've been holding space for stillness, reflection, and expectation. As we step into the new year, consider how the spirit of Advent might continue to shape your journey.

How might the themes of hope, peace, joy, and love guide your plans for 2027?

Now is the time to begin prayerfully shaping the year ahead – building rhythms of reflection, action, and connection that draw your branch, group or diocese deeper into spiritual growth and community life.

Let's carry forward what Advent and our 150th year has stirred in us and let it shape a Mothers' Union year marked by faith, fellowship, and purpose.

Use pg 104-105 to help with your planning