



SEPTEMBER

Peace and reconciliation

September

REFLECTION

Each September, Mothers' Union celebrates its strong connection with the Community of the Cross of Nails – a worldwide network of churches and peace-building organisations, inspired by the Coventry story of destruction, rebuilding and renewal. The concepts of forgiveness, healing, development, shared understanding and, of course, peace lie at the heart of all the work we undertake in Mothers' Union and are at the core of our Christian faith. As we pray especially this month for peace, reconciliation, hope and unity in our world and in our lives, let us reiterate the prayer central to CCN worship – 'Father Forgive'.

MONTHLY PRAYER

God of mercy and love, we come before You seeking peace and reconciliation. Heal the wounds of division within our hearts, families, and communities. Teach us to forgive as You forgive, to speak with kindness, and to listen with compassion. May Your Spirit guide leaders toward justice and unity among nations. Calm our anxious thoughts and renew our spirits with Your peace that surpasses all understanding. Help us to become instruments of Your love, building bridges where walls have stood. May Your light shine through us, bringing healing, hope, and harmony to a hurting world. In Your name, we pray. **Amen**

CREATIVE PRAYER

Make a colourful shell bead bracelet and, with each shell you add, pray for a person/group that you know needs God's reconciling love. Perhaps make it international by praying for a different part of the world where conflict needs transforming. Each shell will symbolise your love and desire for a more Christ-like world.

Wear your bracelet and tell anyone who notices it that each shell means a different prayer. Seashells are also a Christian symbol of protection and rebirth.

DAILY PRAYERS
1-5 September

Tuesday 1

Father, we surrender our pride and pain. Help us take the first step toward healing. Replace resentment with understanding, and silence with conversation. Make our brokenness a testimony of grace.

Wednesday 2

Lord, soften our hearts where bitterness lives. Help us forgive and seek peace. Restore what has been lost through love, humility, and grace. Let Your healing flow between us.

Thursday 3

Heavenly Father, break down walls of division. Fill our hearts with compassion and patience. Heal the hurt we've caused each other and lead us to peace through Your perfect love.

Friday 4

Lord, where there is distance, bring closeness. Where there is pain, bring comfort. Help us listen, forgive, and rebuild our bond through Your grace and mercy. Make us whole again.

Saturday 5

God of restoration, mend what's broken between us. Let words of kindness replace anger, and understanding silence pride. Bring reconciliation through Your Spirit and teach us to love again.



WAVE OF PRAYER

1-2 September: Harare in Zimbabwe; Machakos in Kenya; Ogori-Magongo & Ekiti in Nigeria; Southwark in England and Phulbani in India

3-5 September: Khartoum in Sudan; Dar es Salaam in Tanzania; Bari & Ilesa in Nigeria; Gloucester in England and Dugapur in India

DAILY PRAYERS
6-12 September

Sunday 6

'Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.'
Matthew 5:7 (NIV)
Merciful Father, help us to show mercy as You do. Teach us to forgive freely, love deeply, and reflect Your compassion daily. Blessed are the merciful, make us among them.

Monday 7

We continue to wound You by selfish actions, yet You are always there with open arms and ready to forgive. May we follow Your example and forgive people who, by word and action, give us cause to retaliate.

Tuesday 8

Lord, it is so difficult to turn the other cheek, and it sometimes takes a lifetime to forgive past wrongs. Help us to lay that burden down, that healing might replace the scars of past hurts.

Wednesday 9

We pray for Your world where anger, fear and yearning for power and control dominate so many lands. Where pain and hurt are inflicted by so few on so many. And we can only help by prayer.

Thursday 10

Merciful Lord, make us instruments of Your love and peace by our words and actions. Give us the ability to have time to stop and listen, no matter how much we have to do.

Friday 11

Give us the grace to know that You are always there beside us. Help us to keep faith and hold on to You with one hand and hold out the other hand to someone who needs encouragement.

Saturday 12

Father, remind us that forgiveness is freedom. Release us from the chains of hurt and pride. May mercy reign in our hearts, and healing begin through grace.

WAVE OF PRAYER

7-9 September: Pacong in South Sudan; Southern Nyanza in Kenya; Kutigi & Ijesha North in Nigeria; Bristol in England and Karnataka Central in India

10-12 September: Pretoria in South Africa; North Mbale in Uganda; Oke-Osun in Nigeria; Exeter in England; and Barbados

DAILY PRAYERS

13-19 September

Sunday 13

'He will judge between the nations and will settle disputes for many peoples. They will beat their swords into ploughshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war any more.'
Isaiah 2:4 (NIV)

Monday 14

God of all nations, break down barriers of hate and fear. Unite our leaders in wisdom, our people in love, and our world in peace. May justice and mercy reign.

Tuesday 15

Lord of all people, draw the nations into harmony. Let justice guide our leaders, compassion shape our actions, and peace fill our borders. Make us one in Your perfect love.

Wednesday 16

Prince of Peace, we pray that the world may be filled with peace and harmony. Bind all nations together with respect and understanding to end conflict and lead to lasting peace.

Thursday 17

Prince of Peace, silence the weapons of war. Teach nations the way of peace. Replace conflict with cooperation, and division with unity. Let Your kingdom of harmony grow on earth.

Friday 18

Lord, may Your Spirit of unity flow across borders. Bind leaders in mutual respect and inspire communities to build peace. Let love overcome fear, and hope rise in every nation.

Saturday 19

God of reconciliation, bring nations together in truth and grace. Heal historical wounds, mend broken trust, and unite us in our shared humanity. May peace be more than a dream.

WAVE OF PRAYER

14-16 September: Mthatha in South Africa; Namirembe in Uganda; Pankshin & Sabongidda-Ora in Nigeria; Dublin & Glendalough in All Ireland and Central Solomons in Solomon Islands

17-19 September: Buye in Burundi; Sebei in Uganda; Abakaliki & Ekiti-Oke in Nigeria; Southwell & Nottingham in England; and Belize

DAILY PRAYERS

20-26 September

Sunday 20

'Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.'
Colossians 3:13 (NIV)

Monday 21

Holy Spirit, move among us. Heal divisions, calm unrest, and bring fresh vision. Let Your peace reign in our midst, drawing us deeper into love, truth, and spiritual vitality.

Tuesday 22

Lord, as one body, we come before You. Calm our hearts, renew our minds, and align our purpose with Yours. Let Your Spirit restore and empower us to serve faithfully.

Wednesday 23

Gracious God, as one people we seek Your peace. Still our anxious thoughts, restore our passion for Christ, and renew our strength to serve with joy, humility, and faithful hearts.

Thursday 24

Heavenly Father, breathe renewal into our churches. Let distractions fade and Your peace take root. Restore our joy in worship, strengthen our unity, and set our hearts aflame with purpose.

Friday 25

Lord Jesus, make us a peaceful and renewed people. Let our gathering be filled with Your Spirit. Refresh our mission, deepen our faith, and unify us for Your kingdom work.

Saturday 26

Father, draw us together in stillness and hope. Heal our weariness, renew our vision, and let Your Spirit flow through every heart. May our unity bring light to the world.

WAVE OF PRAYER

21-23 September: Rumbek in South Sudan; Soroti in Uganda; Aba Ngwa North & Oyo in Nigeria; Peterborough in England and North Eastern Caribbean & Aruba

24-26 September: Makamba in Burundi; North Karamoja in Uganda; Lokoja & Sapele in Nigeria; Truro in England and Tirunelveli in India

DAILY PRAYERS

27-30 September

Sunday 27

'And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.'

Philippians 4:7 (NIV)

Lord of reconciliation, bless the Community of the Cross of Nails. Strengthen their witness of healing, peace, and unity. May their work sow hope where there is hurt and love instead of division.

Monday 28

God of peace, gather us in unity and grace. Silence confusion and revive our souls. Let Your love bind us together as we walk forward in strength, hope, and spiritual renewal.

Tuesday 29

Lord, unite our hearts in peace. Quiet our spirits as one body. Renew our love for You and one another, that we may reflect Your presence in all we do together.

Wednesday 30

Jesus, centre of our fellowship, still our striving. Fill our Church with peace that heals and hope that strengthens. Renew our shared commitment to love, serve, and glorify You together.

**'The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing.
He makes me lie down in green pastures,
he leads me beside quiet waters,
he refreshes my soul.'**

Psalms 23:1-3 (NIV)

WAVE OF PRAYER

28-30 September: Katanga in DR Congo; Rwenzori in Uganda; Mbaise & Egba in Nigeria; Meath & Kildare in All Ireland and Tiruchirappalli Thanjavur in India

