

April

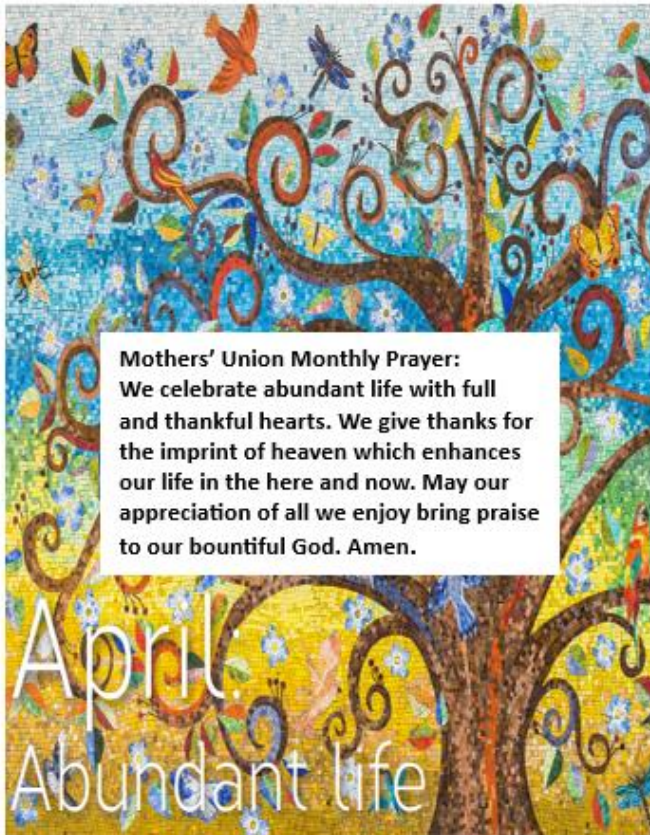
Mothers' UNION
Christian care for families

Newsletter

Diocese of Cashel, Ferns & Ossory

Reg. Charity 2007331

Revenue 5161



Mothers' Union Monthly Prayer:
We celebrate abundant life with full and thankful hearts. We give thanks for the imprint of heaven which enhances our life in the here and now. May our appreciation of all we enjoy bring praise to our bountiful God. Amen.

Dates for your Diary 2024

Lady Day Festival Service – Monday April 8th at 7pm in St. Peter's, Kiltegan
Spring Council – Saturday April 27th in the Dolmen Hotel, Carlow at 10.30am
International Widow's Day – Sunday June 23rd service and supper Kilkenny
Mary Summer Day – Friday August 9th Diocesan 'Big Hymn Sing' for Mam's in May – Christ Church, Gorey
Autumn Council – Saturday October 26th in the Dolmen Hotel, Carlow at 10.30am
CFO Diocesan Holy Communion Service – Thursday November 7th in St. Mary's, Carlow at 11.30am

Diocesan Festival Service will take place in St. Peter's Church, Kiltegan on Monday April 8th

Spring Council
Saturday the 27th of April
Dolmen Hotel, Carlow
starting at 10.30am.

Light refreshments on arrival (from 10am). Lunch = €15 per person.

Confirmation of attendance please, by Friday the 19th to Cecily at: cfomusecretary@gmail.com

Please also confirm if you want to have lunch and if you have any special dietary requirements.



Join us at 8pm on Tuesdays:
April 2nd - 16th - 23rd - 30th
Zoom link available on request

Mothers' Union Enterprise

For all your cards, gifts, MU badges, and lots, lots more, please contact Naomi on 087 7674447 or cfomuenterprise@gmail.com

Naomi is happy to travel to branch meetings or events, but a contribution towards her petrol costs would be appreciated.

Cards ordered over the phone or via email and text can now be paid for by Credit Card.





Mothers' Union are equipping communities to RISE UP and address domestic abuse. Will you join the challenge?

Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM) is held annually in April, and is a campaign which aims to raise public awareness about sexual assault and to engage with individuals and communities in education and dialogue about how we can all play a part in preventing and eradicating sexual violence.

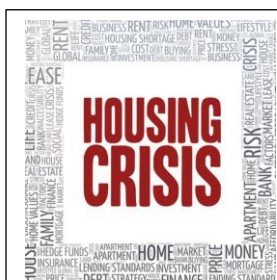
SAAM was started in 1975, when a group of women gathered in London to take a stand against this form of abuse, and the first official 'Take Back the Night' rally took place.

The theme for SAAM 2024 is 'Building Connected Communities'. The NSVRC says that, 'Building Connected Communities is instrumental in reducing the likelihood of sexual abuse, assault, and harassment in our neighbourhoods, workplaces, campuses, organisations, and online spaces. Every gathering spot constitutes a community where people unite, and even if we feel distant, we are still essential parts of many communities.'

There are several ways in which to get involved:

- The Day of Action – this is held on Tuesday the 2nd of April and provides an opportunity to raise awareness. Show your support for survivors of sexual harassment and abuse by wearing teal, the colour of sexual violence prevention, and then post a selfie on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram using #SAAM2024.
- Denim Day – takes place on the last Wednesday of the month, when people are asked to wear denim to combat victim blaming and educate others about sexual violence. The event was originally created in response to an Italian Supreme Court case in which a rape conviction was overruled because the victim's tight jeans implied consent.
- 'Take Back the Night' – is a night-time event which can include a march or rally, candlelight vigil or perhaps having a survivor speak to your group.

The NRVCs website has a range of resources to help promote SAAM 2024, including Zoom backgrounds, Social Media graphics and downloadable posters. Check out their website at: www.nsvrc.org/saam/2021/saamgraphics and help raise awareness about sexual assault throughout April and beyond.



Mothers' Union All Ireland and the Housing Crisis

The on-going housing crisis affects us all! A template letter has been issued to all branch officers and members are asked to fill in their name and address, and send the letter by post or email to all their local and national politicians. This is a countrywide campaign. For further details contact Lesley and Cathy at musocialpolicy@gmail.com