

## February: Works of transformation

### Reflection

There is a difference between tending to a wound by covering it with a sticking plaster and actually addressing the root cause of the damage. The latter not only brings about total healing but may also ensure the wound doesn't reoccur, whilst the plaster brings some protection, the underlying pain sometimes remains. Similarly, as we serve our communities, let's pray for the understanding, resources and supernatural power to effect total transformation, rather than a superficial, temporary covering over of issues.

May our starting point be the sharing of God's transforming love in all we do and are.



### Monthly Prayer

Generous, loving God, you have provided all the resources for works of transformation which create a sustainable future. Help us to use your provision well to effectively serve our communities, wherever we live in your world. Amen.



**Please note that the Diocesan Festival Service is postponed until Monday April 8th**

### Mothers' Union Enterprise

For all your cards, gifts, MU badges, and lots, lots more, please contact Naomi on 087 7674447 or [cfomuenterpise@gmail.com](mailto:cfomuenterpise@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.

### Prayer for Annabella Hayes – Mabel Besanson

Lord, we thank you for Mothers Union All Ireland, may we reimagine MU for the 21<sup>st</sup> century in the spirit of Annabelle Hayes and Mary Sumner. May the Holy Spirit lead us to develop this wonderful organisation, so that we spread your loving Word worldwide, with prayer and action. We pray for those who lead that they may be filled with the Holy Spirit. In the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. **Amen.**



## Dates for your Diary 2024

Annabella Hayes Day - February 7<sup>th</sup>

All Ireland Big Hymn Sing - March 2<sup>nd</sup> St. Canice's Cathedral, Kilkenny at 2pm

Lady Day - March 25<sup>th</sup> on-line service at 8pm

Festival Service - April 8<sup>th</sup>

Spring Council - April 27<sup>th</sup> in the Dolmen Hotel, Carlow at 10.30am

Retreat/Break-Away - May 17<sup>th</sup>- 18<sup>th</sup> Hotel Minella, Clonmel

International Widow's Day - June 23<sup>rd</sup> service and supper Kilkenny

Mary Sumner Day - August 9<sup>th</sup> Diocesan 'Big Hymn Sing' for Mum's in May

Autumn Council - October 26<sup>th</sup> in the Dolmen Hotel, Carlow at 10.30am

CFO Diocesan Holy Communion Service - November 7<sup>th</sup> in St. Mary's, Carlow at 11.30am

Respond  
Inform      Unite  
Support     Pray  
Empower



### RISE UP

Mothers' Union invite **branches** and **churches** to engage with the **RISE UP Challenge**, as we seek to combat domestic abuse in our communities.

We believe that together we can make a difference in the lives of those affected by domestic abuse, and create a brighter, more secure future for everyone.

If you would like to get involved contact:  
[muchangingthistory@gmail.com](mailto:muchangingthistory@gmail.com)



**THE MU RISE UP CHALLENGE**



- ❖ Put up a domestic abuse poster
- ❖ Commit to praying regularly
- ❖ Support local domestic abuse service
- ❖ Church works towards MU Bronze, Silver and Gold awards



Respond... Inform... Support... Empower... Unite... Prayer... 



**Mothers' UNION**  
Christian care for families  
Diocese of Cashel, Ferns & Ossory

#### Church Pledge

The RISE UP pledge is a call to action, an invitation, a voluntary choice, and an opportunity to affirm your commitment to end domestic violence.

Taking the pledge says that your Mothers' Union branch or church will help end domestic violence by pledging to support the Mothers' Union RISE UP challenge, by committing to pray regularly for victims of domestic abuse throughout the whole world.

We \_\_\_\_\_ pledge to pray for victims of domestic abuse in Ireland, Britain and throughout the world.

*'Therefore, I tell you, whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.'*  
Mark 11:24

This pledge can be taken by a Branch Leader, Incumbent or Select Vestry.

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> – Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> of May  
@ The Hotel Minella, Clonmel



Break-Away Retreat of Relaxation, Spirituality,  
Mindfulness, Arts & Crafts, Fun and Friendship.

€250 pp sharing

(twin rooms only - 1 night B+B, dinner & lunch,  
including full use of leisure facilities)

**Mothers' UNION**  
Christian care for families  
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€100 deposit due at time of booking to secure your place, with balance due by Friday the 26<sup>th</sup> of April. Spaces are limited, so early booking is recommended. For further details or to book your place contact Lesley on 085 8890029 or [cfodpmothersunion@yahoo.com](mailto:cfodpmothersunion@yahoo.com)



### St. Brigid's Blessing

May Brigid bless the house wherein we dwell.  
Bless every fireside, every wall and door.  
Bless every heart that beats beneath its roof.  
Bless every hand that toils to bring its joy.  
Bless every foot that walks portals through.  
May Brigid bless the house that shelters us.