

Mini Re-imagining MU Conference

Following on from Valerie and myself attending the Re-imagining MU conference in Liverpool, in early July, we have decided to hold a mini version to share our experiences with you.

This will be held on **Saturday 27th of August** in the **Hoban Hotel, Kilkenny** (beside Woodies DIY on the ring road). The conference will start at **10am** and end mid-afternoon.

Please let me know if you intend to join in on the day, as we need to confirm numbers with the hotel in advance for set-up purposes: cfodpmothersunion@yahoo.com or 085 8890029.

August Newsletter



Mary Sumner Day

The weekly on-line services continue every Tuesday at 8pm via Zoom, and all are welcome to attend.

This year our **Mary Sumner Day** (9th August) service will be held on-line too.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6851708835?pwd=T2Z2ZS9wVTRRbzJqbJ4S2ZnTDBwZz09>

Meeting ID: **685 170 8835**
Passcode: **8nkAht**

National Ploughing Championships

The **National Ploughing Championships** will take place in **Ratheniska, Co. Laois** on the **20th, 21st and 22nd of September 2022**. We are still looking for members to volunteer in the **Baby Changing Tent** over the **3 days**.



Please let Linda Ward or Margaret Jacob know if you can help out for a half day.

MU Prayer Diary Monthly Prayer - August

Loving Lord,
we give thanks
for your faithfulness to Mothers' Union
through many years. Unite us
together in vision and love
that we may continue
to reach out as your hands
across the world
to carry out your mission
on earth. Amen.

The War in Ukraine

As the war in Ukraine continues, MU members pause and pray together every evening at 7pm.



God of peace and justice,
we pray for the people of Ukraine today.
For all who fear for tomorrow;
Lord, bring them hope and reassurance.
For all who are injured or bereaved;
Lord, bring them healing and comfort.
For all who have fled to safety;
Lord, bring them security and calm.
And for all who have stayed behind to fight;
Lord, bring them safety and peace.
We ask all this in the name of Jesus Christ,
our Lord and Saviour, the Prince of Peace. Amen.



My name is Valerie Power, and I am the Unit Co-Ordinator for Action and Outreach for Mothers' Union in CFO. I support 'Thursdays in Black' to show compassion for the millions of vulnerable people who suffer all sorts of violence and abuse in our world – reminding ourselves to show respect for one another. Each person is a gift from God, one of his children – and each should have the right to live life to the full. The statistics are shocking, 1 in 3 women and girls globally will experience some form of gender-based violence at some point in their life time. This is so often invisible, except to the person who suffers – and to the person who carries out the violence – as victims of violence are often silent, due to fear of further violence.



My name is Naomi Besanson, and I am the Vice President for Action and Outreach for Mothers' Union in CFO. I support 'Thursdays in Black' in the hope that the domestic abuse and violence that women, men and children are going through every day can come to an end. Gender-based violence is an epidemic around the world and it cannot be ignored any longer! I pray that in these very uncertain times people will learn to stand up to their abusers, and look for help that is available to them.



My name is Joan Blake, and I am the unit Co-Ordinator for Finance and Central Services for Mothers' Union in CFO. I support 'Thursdays in Black' to identify with the campaign to help eradicate violence against women, children and men. I in 3 women worldwide have experienced domestic or sexual abuse. This is unacceptable. Actions speak louder than words, and whilst each action we take may appear a drop in the ocean, the ocean gradually fills. As Christians there is no room for apathy. No one should have to fear a bully.



My name is Revd. Margaret Sykes, and I am the Vice President for Faith and Policy in Mothers' Union CFO. As a member of Mothers' Union wearing black on Thursdays is very important. I am identifying with and focusing on gender based violence and domestic abuse so prevalent in society today. It is a call for prevention and elimination of violence against women and girls in particular but also men are subject to such abuse as well. Mothers' Union world-wide campaigns to raise awareness of this scourge in society and seeks to bring, support, hope and comfort through prayer, reflection and to the world an awareness of those who suffer from such violence and abuse.



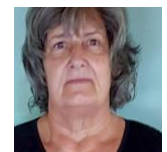
My name is Phyllis Grothier, and I am the Training and Safeguarding Representative for Mothers' Union in CFO. I support Thursdays in Black as a means of raising awareness of the scourge of Domestic Abuse, all forms of Coercive Control, Gender Based violence and of generating a fair and equal society. Thursdays in Black supports the vision created by Mothers' members of "a world where all thrive, are respected and live free from domestic abuse".



My name is Linda Ward, and I am the Social Policy Representative for Mothers' Union in CFO. I support Thursdays in Black, which was an initiative of the World Council of Churches, is designed to draw attention to the campaign to end gender-based violence and support those affected by it. GBV is rooted in gender inequality and creates social environments in which power and control are both persuasive and normalised. Mothers' Union continues to raise awareness of, and offer support to, anyone who is a victim of domestic abuse in any form.



My name is Cecily Jones, and I am the Ferns and Leighlin Indoor Members Representative for Mothers' Union in CFO. I support Thursdays in Black with the hope that by speaking out will give a positive impact on the lives of all men, women & children who are being abused on a continual basis - physically, mentally and verbally in their own homes and environments. No person should be isolated from their families, live in fear and have no self-respect. Abusers need to be stopped and abuse should never be tolerated. We need to support by listening and believing in them. Every person needs to feel safe, valued and respected. Enough is enough!



If you would like to be involved then please send me a photo and short piece about why you wear Black on Thursdays. As part of our on-going advocacy these will feature in the Diocesan magazine, and on the website and Facebook page.