

JUNE Newsletter



Festival Service

Thank you to all those who took the time to attend our Zoom Festival Service on Trinity Sunday afternoon, and special thanks to Bishop Michael and our All-Ireland President June Butler. We hope to have a link to the recording of the service on our website in the coming weeks.

Special Council Meeting – Rebuilding Hope and Confidence

A special All-Ireland Council meeting will be held on June 22nd to discuss the safe reopening of branches in the autumn.

We will then hold our own special council on **Wednesday the 30th of June at 7pm.**

Please ensure that at least one member from your branch can attend on the evening. A Zoom link will be sent out nearer the time.

2021 Theme: Rebuilding hope and confidence



Applications are open throughout the year for our 'Reimagined AFIA' grant scheme, which as well as offering funding for short breaks, childrens camps, and limited travel expenses, now offers vouchers for supermarkets, garden centres or toyshops, etc and 'One4All' vouchers. All applications will be treated with the upmost respect and privacy.

Application forms can be obtained by emailing **cfoafia@gmail.com**



Applications for the **School Book and Uniform Bursary** can be obtained by emailing **cfosub@gmail.com**

All applications must be accompanied by a letter of recommendation from a school principal, school secretary, clergy person or MU member.

Mums in May '21 in 21'

June will complete two of her three walks in our diocese in July, with the third one to be done in the autumn.

July 8th – Kilkenny and July 12th – New Ross area

Further details will be sent to branches later this month and we ask that members will join June for part of her 7km walks, but only as the government restrictions permit us to.

And don't forget the fundraising continues for the remainder of the year and any money collected can be sent to Margaret Jacob, Joan Blake or myself, or if you prefer to give electronically you can do so at

www.justgiving.com/fundraising/MumsinMay21

Mary Sumner Day

I would appreciate suggestion for ways in which we might celebrate **Mary Sumner Day** this year, as it is 145 years since she founded the Mothers' Union, and this year also marks the centenary of her death.

As there will still be restrictions on numbers gathering together inside in person, perhaps we could have an outdoor get together of some kind.

Maybe some members would like to share their memories of their time in the MU or perhaps we could do some sort of show and tell. Let me know what you think and we will get to work on it.

Annabella Hayes

This year also marks the centenary of the death of the founder of Mothers' Union in Ireland, **Annabella Hayes**. Work is currently being carried out to restore her burial site in Sutton, and we have been fortunate enough to secure a Heritage Council grant to help cover the cost.

A Zoom meeting will be held on Saturday the 14th of August, with guest speakers from the heritage sector, and on Saturday the 21st June Butler will complete a 7km walk from Raheny Church, where Annabella's husband was rector for 45 years, to the gravesite in Sutton, where a service of blessing will take place.



Simple Summer Recipe - Strawberry Shortcake Slice

Ingredients:

600ml double cream
1 tbsp vanilla bean paste
1 tbsp orange blossom water
125g icing sugar, plus 2 tbsp
500g shortcake biscuits, plus 3 crushed
350g strawberries, sliced

Prep time: 25 Minutes

Overnight chilling

Serves: 14

STEP 1: Line a 20cm cake tin or dish with cling film, leaving an overhang. Whip 500ml of the cream, the vanilla, orange blossom water and 125g icing sugar with an electric whisk until thick and billowy.

STEP 2: Add a layer of biscuits to the tin, and spoon over some of the cream, about 1cm thick all over. Add a layer of strawberry slices, then repeat with the cream, biscuits and strawberries until you fill the tin, finishing on a layer of biscuit. You'll have some strawberries left over to serve. Press everything down well so every biscuit is covered in cream. Cover and chill overnight.

STEP 3: To serve flip the tin onto a serving plate and remove the cling film. Whip the remaining 100ml cream with 1 tbsp icing sugar and dollop on top of the cake, swirling it around. Top with the remaining strawberry slices in lines, sift over the remaining 1 tbsp icing sugar, and sprinkle the biscuit crumbs in between the rows of strawberries. Cut into slices to serve.

Gardening Tips for June

- ❖ Lettuce, salads, strawberries and early potatoes can be harvested now.
- ❖ Keep on top of weeds with regular weeding/spraying.
- ❖ Water flower beds, pots and hanging baskets frequently.
- ❖ Mow the lawn at least once a week if the weather permits.
- ❖ Plant out summer bedding plants and make sure to regularly water them.
- ❖ Stake any tall perennials to stop them breaking or collapsing.
- ❖ Tie in the new shoots of climbing roses, and spray roses regularly to protect them against insects and diseases like blackspot.