

## March Newsletter – Happy St. Patrick's Day



### Zoom Lady Day Service – March 25<sup>th</sup>

There will be a Service of the Word for **Lady Day**, March 25<sup>th</sup> via Zoom at 7pm. Everyone is welcome, but as numbers are limited please advise me of your email ASAP if you would like to receive the invitation. Send your details to me at [cfodpmothersunion@yahoo.com](mailto:cfodpmothersunion@yahoo.com).

### Invisible Dinner

The Ballycanew/Leskinfere/Monomolin Branch will hold their annual dinner for the 20<sup>th</sup> time this year, but it will be a dinner with a difference. Instead of the sit-down dinner many have of us have become accustomed to over the years, this year in keeping with COVID-19 restriction it will be an 'Invisible Dinner'.



You are asked to pay €10 per dinner, but someone overseas will receive the benefit of the food, not you! Please send your donations to Joan Blake.

### Annual Gathering

The Mothers' Union Annual Gathering (formerly the General Meeting) will again be held as a virtual event this year, on Saturday the 25<sup>th</sup> of September. It is hoped that the event will go ahead as planned in Belfast on the 23<sup>rd</sup> + 24<sup>th</sup> of September 2022.

### Connected

The new publication 'Connected' is on track to be distributed in early April. The mailing you receive will include fundraising information for the Mum's in May campaign, which we hope as many branches and members will get involved in as possible, despite whatever COVID-19 restriction might be in place by then.

### Christ Church Cathedral Services

The monthly services held in Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin will resume on Lady Day, 25<sup>th</sup> March, at 11.15am via live streaming from the cathedral. Our All-Ireland Chaplain, Rev. Canon Robert Deane will lead the service each month. Dates of services and the required links will be available on our diocesan website – [www.cfomothersunion.org](http://www.cfomothersunion.org)

### Spring Council

Spring Council will be held via Zoom on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> April commencing at 7pm. All are welcome to attend and it would be great if at least one person from each branch could do so. Please send your email address to me by Friday 16<sup>th</sup> April to [cfodpmothersunion@yahoo.com](mailto:cfodpmothersunion@yahoo.com) so that I can issue the Zoom invitation to you.

If you do not have access to a computer or smart phone you can also connect to the meeting via your land line. Again, please let me know if you would like to join this way so that I can send you the details, contact me on 085 8890029.

## Prayers for Holy Week and Easter

Prayers written by members, which can be found in the *Dear Lord* prayer book.

### Holy Week:

Dear Lord, you gave us Holy Week to reflect on what you went through for us. Heavenly Father, help us to make every day of our lives a holy one that we might hide your word in our heart and meditate on it day and night. In the name of your Son, Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

*Ebele Okonkwo, Mothers' Union Silver Spring, Maryland USA*



### Easter:

Christ is risen, Alleluia! Lord Jesus Christ, in dying you conquered death and rose again in glory. Through your great love and abiding grace, we will one day be with you in your heavenly kingdom. Lord, we pray that we may make each day of our earthly life worthy of your great sacrifice on the cross. Thank you that we can find sanctuary in your love because you have chosen to love us just as we are, with all our faults and failings and that, if we truly repent, you will forgive our sins. Amen.

*Margaret Delvin, Diocese of Newcastle, UK*



### Easter Recipe - Traditional Honey Cake - Racheal Anderson, Mary Sumner House

#### Method

Heat oven to 180C/160C fan/gas 4. Butter and line a 900g loaf tin with baking parchment.

#### Ingredients:

250g clear honey  
225g unsalted butter  
100g dark muscovado sugar  
3 large eggs, beaten  
300g self-raising flour

#### Optional:

1 tsp mixed spice  
½ tsp ground ginger  
or ground cinnamon

#### For the icing:

55g icing sugar  
1 tbsp clear honey  
hot water



- Cut the butter into pieces and drop into a medium pan with the honey and sugar. Melt slowly over a low heat. When the mixture to turn to liquid, increase the heat under the pan and boil for about one minute. Leave to cool for 15-20 minutes, to prevent the eggs cooking when they are mixed in.
- Beat the eggs into the melted honey mixture using a wooden spoon. Sift the flour and spices, if using, into a large bowl and pour in the egg and honey mixture, beating until you have a smooth, quite runny batter.
- Pour the mixture into the tin and bake for 40 minutes-1 hour until the cake is well-risen, golden brown and springs back when pressed. A skewer pushed into the centre of the cake should come out clean.
- While the cake is still warm, make the icing by mixing the sugar and honey together with 2-3 teaspoons of hot water. Trickle over the cake in whatever design takes your fancy.



*May God bless you at Easter, and keep you all year through.*

*May God give you all the faith it takes, to make your dreams come true.*

*May his love and wisdom always help, to guide you on your way.*

*And may his light shine down upon you now, to bless your Easter Day.*

*Wishing you all a Blessed and Happy Easter. Lesley xxx*