

# Perspectives of Paradox

**Epiphany** (6<sup>th</sup> in the series inspired by Northumbria Community Prayer Guide 2024-25\*)

With the birth of a baby the world was turned upside down. A new realisation of God's presence came into our lives. The old barriers were broken down; kings found a new kingdom and shepherds ventured into new pastures.



***\*'In our time spent alone with God, or sharing in worship together, may we also be open to God's spirit preparing us to venture out into mission beyond our walls.'*** \*

***'Lord, help us to accept the challenges of being in the world, but not of it, of engaging with our daily lives and upholding Kingdom values.'***

Mothers' Union is about prayer and action locally and globally. Members of all ages and abilities unite to make a difference. Even if our personal environment is limited or our days of travelling are over, we remain integral to a world-wide community of women and men seeking to unfold the five marks of mission across the world. Prayer underpins all we do. Our 'giving' of ourselves takes many forms and every small offering is of worth.

We are called to tell the good news in words and action.

We are called to teach and inspire our children and newcomers to the faith.

We are called to tend the vulnerable, the sick and the weary.

We are called to transform the injustices in our societies.

We are called to treasure God's creation and safeguard it for future families

***\*'May God bless us with the foolishness to think that we can make a difference in the world, so that we will do the things which others tell us cannot be done.'*** \*

*(from the Paradox Blessing in Celtic Daily Prayer p1088)*

***\*May we be open to receive this blessing of foolishness. The birth of a baby once made all the difference, so we, too, can trust the small beginnings within us and nurture and bring forth the life which wants to be born through us into this world.\****

Nov 2024



\*with thanks to

