

Indoor Members Reflection for April 2025

As we move forward into April, I want to thank you for your prayers for March which was a whirlwind of activity for the Mothers' Union. Your prayers have been a powerful force behind everything we have engaged in, and we are truly grateful for the way they have lifted us up.

Here are just a few of the highlights from our busy March month:

- **Lent (5th March): *Living Hope*.** This theme invited us to reflect on the hope we have in Christ, especially as we face the challenges and complexities of life. It is a reminder that no matter what we go through, the hope we have in Christ is unshakable.
- On this day, we joined together in prayer with fellow members around the globe, lifting up the needs of communities everywhere. It was a beautiful reminder of the power of collective prayer and the unity we share.
- **International Women's Day (8th March):** Equity is at the heart of everything we do at Mothers' Union, and this day allowed us to reflect on how we can continue to move faster and work together to close the gender gap. This year's theme focused on advancing gender equality, a cause close to our hearts, as we support women in ways that meet their unique challenges and needs.
- **Commissioning Of Our Worldwide President (24th March):** We celebrated the commissioning of **Kathleen Snow**, our new Worldwide President, in a wonderful global gathering. Kathleen brings a wealth of experience and passion to her new role, having been a member of Mothers' Union since 1988. She has served at every level, from parish to worldwide, and has been deeply involved in our parenting programmes, including with Indigenous Peoples in Canada. Kathleen is a retired nurse.

As we continue our Lent journey, we look forward to the April theme in our prayer diary: **Love Blooms**. The reflection reminds us that as creation begins to bloom, we see God's goodness all around us. And as we approach Easter, we prepare our hearts to witness God's love blooming from the tomb in the joyous resurrection of Jesus. This is a beautiful call to action for us all – to share God's extraordinary love with the world and pass on both the planet and the Gospel message for generations to come.

April's Monthly Prayer:

Lord, I light a candle as a symbol of love. I pray that the love you send me will be strong like a flame. May it blossom and radiate your love that blossoms in all. Heavenly Father, we come before you with hearts of gratitude and praise for the wondrous way love blooms in our lives. In the gentle whispers of kindness, in the warmth of fellowship, and in the selfless acts of service, we see your love reflected. May we be vessels of your love, spreading kindness and compassion wherever we go. Amen.

Thank you once again for your faithful prayers and for being such an important part of the Mothers' Union community. Please continue to pray for the issues we have engaged with throughout March, and let us carry that prayerful spirit forward into April as we embrace the theme of *Love Blooms*.

With gratitude and blessings,
Ish Lennox, Faith and Church Relations Manager