MOTHERS' UNION

MIDDAY PRAYERS April 2026

Theme: The Measure of Love

Eastertide reminds us of the expense of God's endeavour to enfold us in gifts of love and invite a response. The cross and empty grave shape the final chapter in the salvation story – a story of tragedy and triumph, and one which endures to eternity. It is a love that does not count the cost. It is a love which will not let us go. As Christians and as MU members we are called to reflect God's love in prayer and action. May the joy of Easter warm us, and radiate from us, as we journey through our days. (Prayer Diary)

Monday: Journeying on in love / Love never wearies

Faith, Hope and Love abide and the greatest of these is love. *1 Cor 13.13*

Lord Jesus, in the quietness of the garden as night fell, you prayed for a different end; you prayed for courage to face the pain; you prayed for those you love. In the quietness of the garden, as dawn broke, you spoke to Mary Magdalene. Help us to face what we fear, to bear the sharp pain of anxiety for ourselves and for those we love. Touch us with the love of understanding. Encourage us with your quiet voice. Bless us with the hope of life to come.

The Lord is risen – He is risen indeed

Gracious God
For your love for us
Open to doubts
Encouraging questions
Making us vulnerable yet
also available for you, **We give you thanks**

Tuesday: Family love / Love is kind

"Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love." – *1 John 4:8*

Lord Jesus, your life amongst us showed your love for those in need, those who were lost, the outcast, the infirm, and those who trusted you. Even on the cross, you gazed with love upon your mother and your friend and entrusted them to each other's care. Like a mother binding our wounds and wiping our tears, assure us of your love. As we journey together as a Mothers' Union family, help us to be motherly to one another.

Gracious God,
for your love for us,
Gentle as a shower,
Wiping our tears,
Binding our wounds
Healing our pain, **We give you thanks**

Wednesday: Love for Creation / Love never ends

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing was made. *John 1:1-4*

I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End. *Revelation 22.13*

Adam (Hebrew for first man) came from Adama (the earth). We are made from the environment in which we live and move and have our being.

Lord Jesus, you were there when the world came to be. You are the Life of the world and the Light of all people… the beginning and the end. Raise us up to honour, love and care for all that you created – so that all nations and all people can thrive together.

Gracious God,
For your love for us,
Mercifully steadfast
Creatively alive
Calling us to you
Raising us to action, **We give you thanks**

Thursday: Loving service / Love is not self-seeking

'This is my commandment – that you Love one another as I have loved you' *John 13.34*

Lord Jesus, you washed the feet of your disciples: the sign of faithful, loving service. Show us how to serve our sisters and brothers with willingness, kindness and care. Open our eyes to the hidden needs in our own

neighbourhoods and across the world.
Guide the leaders of our nations to offer hope and help to one another in need, seeking service above power.

Gracious God
For your love for us
Faithfully caring
Selflessly serving
Urging us on
To love one another, **We give you thanks**

Friday: Forgiving love / Love keeps no record of wrongs

Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do." *Luke 23.34*

Lord Jesus, as we see the pain and suffering in the world – the injustices and greed – the abuse and lives cut short, the conflicts between nations and neighbours, the fear and betrayal - we see the sharpness of the thorns and the weight of the cross you carry. Lord Jesus, forgive us for we know not what we do.

Gracious God,
For your love for us
Through pain and ridicule
Giving your all
Forgiving and welcoming
Calling us home, **We give you thanks**

Saturday: Waiting in love / Love is patient

Those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint. *Isaiah 40.31*

Lord Jesus, in the silence of the tomb, wrapped in linen cloths of love and tears, you gave your all that we might see the new dawn beyond the grave. Help us to wait with you in times of stillness, ready to awake with you in joy.

Gracious God,
For your love for us
Sure as the dawn
Like the first morning
Transforming our darkness
Revealing your truth, **We give you thanks**

Blessing Prayer for the month

God of Love
In silence and in speaking, we worship you.
You are the very breath of our lives;
You are the promise of renewal;
You are the offer of forgiveness;
You are the flame of inspiration;
You are the wind of challenging change...

Renew, forgive, inspire and challenge us, and fit us for your service: in Jesus' name. **Amen**

Wave of Prayer

1 April: Toamasina in Madagascar; **Mukono** in Uganda; **Ikwerre & Ife** East in Nigeria; **Down & Dromore** in All Ireland and **Delhi** in India

2-4 April: Umzimvubu in South Africa; **Lweru** in Tanzania; **On the Niger** in Nigeria; **Cape Coast** in Ghana; **Ontario** in Canada and **Limerick & Killaloe** in All Ireland

6-8 April: Cueibet in South Sudan; **Gahini** in Rwanda; **Wusasa & Ibadan** in Nigeria and **Christchurch** in New Zealand

9-11 April: Nord Kivu in DR Congo; **Kigali** in Rwanda; **Kiteto & Kubwa** in Nigeria; **Perth** in Australia and **Kuranagala** in Sri Lanka

13-15 April: Yirol in South Sudan; **Ruvuma** in Tanzania; **Nike & Benin** in Nigeria; **Canberra & Goulburn** in Australia and **Dogura** in Papua New Guinea

16-18 April: Kindu in DR Congo; **Mount Kenya** West in Kenya; **Egbu** in Nigeria; **Te Pihopatanga O Aotearoa** in New Zealand; **Cork, Cloyne & Ross** in All Ireland and **Eastern Himalayas** in India

20-22 April: Kinshasa in DR Congo; **Victoria Nyanza** in Tanzania; **Ahoada & Warri** in Nigeria; **Oxford** in England and **Port Moresby** in Papua New Guinea

23-25 April: Kisangani in DR Congo; **Kagera** in Tanzania; **Awka** in Nigeria; **Sunyani** in Ghana; **Manchester i**n England and **Popondota** in Papua New Guinea

27-29 April: Port Sudan in Sudan; **Muhabura** in Uganda; **Niger Delta West & Yewa** in Nigeria; **The Northern Territory** in Australia and **Chennai** in India

30 April: Aru in DR Congo; **Kigezi** in Uganda; **Ikeduru** in Nigeria; **Ho** in Ghana; **York** in England and **Guyana & Suriname** in Guyana