

Mother's Union prayer diary for October 2024

Bless the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name.
(Psalm 103)

Father God, help us to pray in faith. Let us remember that you are El Elyon
The Lord Most High. Please call to our minds those particular situations we
need to pray about as we journey with you this month.

1st October. International Music Day. Let us give thanks for musicians and
songwriters, especially those who use their gifts to help us worship you.

2nd October. Then Miriam the prophet, Aaron's sister, took a tambourine in
her hand and all the women followed her, with tambourines and dancing.
(Genesis 15 v 20). We thank you for the rich heritage of musical traditions
through which we can express our worship. Perhaps sing or listen to a favourite
hymn or song today!

3 - 5th October. Francis of Assisi who died on 3rd October 1226. He is known
for his ministry to the poor and underprivileged and his care for animals and the
natural world. May we thank the Lord for his example and seek to care for
those around us as part of your creation. St Francis also founded the order of
The Franciscans and the Poor Clares, so we pray for those who are called to the
monastic life.

Sunday 6th October. For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the
earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but he rested on the seventh day.
(Genesis 20 v 8). Spend some time resting with the Lord today

7th October - 11th October. Lydia (Acts 16 v 13 - 15). Over the next few days
the characteristics of Lydia, a woman of Philippi who heard the gospel from Paul
and Silas, is our inspiration for prayer.

Lydia, a dealer in purple cloth. We pray for the businesses in our local area,
that they may prosper and provide wholesome employment. May the Lord give
wisdom and guidance to those who have responsibility for making economic
decisions, both in business and in government. We pray especially for the MU
Virtual Business Meeting on the 10th October, giving thanks for MU members
who use their organisational and business skills for your service, and asking that
you may give them wisdom and guidance regarding the decisions they need to
make.

Lydia was a worshipper of God. We lift up to God our brothers and sisters in the church we attend, in the Coventry diocese, and in our nation. Please give us wisdom, grace and faithfulness sufficient to meet the challenges of living in today's society

The Lord opened her heart to respond to God's message. Give thanks for those who have been baptised or confirmed this year, may they continue to grow in faith. We pray for those on our heart who don't yet know the Lord.

Lydia invited Paul and Silas to her home. We thank you that as MU members we have opportunities to offer hospitality. We pray that you may bless the communities we serve in this way, particularly with an understanding of God's love for them.

'Come and stay at my house' Lydia said. And she persuaded us. In our families, among friends or at work, wherever we are, help us to use our influence and skills of persuasion to encourage and foster what is pleasing in your sight.

12th October. We ask that you may bless the MU Members Celebratory Lunch taking place at St Peter's Church, Wellesbourne today. May those who are hosting and preparing for this event find satisfaction in this work, and may those who attend be encouraged by sharing time together.

13th October. May we reflect today on areas of our lives that need forgiveness and healing, using the Jesus prayer: Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

14 - 16th October. We pray for those in authority in our government Have mercy on our MPs as they carry the great responsibility of government. Father God, please give them wisdom to make decisions which lead to peace and justice for all. We pray for those who serve in our local authority and local councils. May they have a good understanding of the needs of the communities they provide for and be able to work together with partner organisations including churches to create services which meet those needs

Thank you for Christians who get involved in politics at local and national level. May they be encouraged by being salt and light in this area of life.

17th October. Jehovah Shalom. The Lord is peace. Father God, we pray for peace in our families, in our nation, and in countries around the world.

18th October. Luke the Evangelist. Luke's gospel is written 'so that you may know the certainty of the things you have been taught' (Luke 1 v 4).

Strengthen us in faith, we pray.

19th October. Thank you Lord that the Mother's Union is an international community. May you give wisdom to those who lead. Help us to continue to work together and support one another, and grant us the joy of bearing fruit for your kingdom.

Sunday 20th October. A Celtic prayer God to enfold me, God to surround me, God in my speaking, God in my thinking, God in my sleeping, God in my waking, God in my watching, God in my hoping, God in my life, God in my lips, God in my soul, God in my heart, God in my sufficing, God in my slumber, God in mine ever-living soul, God in mine eternity.

21st October. National Apple Day. We praise and thank you for the harvest, and for the work of farmers and growers. May you bless them with good conditions for growing and may they continue to be able to provide food for others.

22nd October. Desiring also a spiritual harvest, we pray for the fruit of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control to be developed in us so that we may be equipped to meet the challenges of daily life.

23rd October. We pray for those who have caring responsibilities for family members or friends. Fill them with your Holy Spirit so that they may be equipped with the patience and wisdom they need each day.

24th October. United Nations Day. Heavenly Father may you bless the UN in its aim of bringing people of different nations together to discuss common problems and find shared solutions that benefit all of humanity. We pray for perseverance and courage for both those in leadership and for those who have the practical tasks of implementing the various projects.

25th - 26th October. Jehovah Rapha. The Lord our healer (Genesis 15 v 26) Father God, we lift up to you those who are unwell or in hospital. Please give wisdom to the medical staff who are treating them. We pray for those who are experiencing anxiety, depression or other mental health issues. We ask that those who have addictions may turn to you, to receive your gift of healing.

Sunday 27th October At the end of the day, we reflect on where we felt closest to God today and choose one aspect of the day to pray about. May we commit the coming week to the Lord.

28 - 29th October. At half term, we pray for families, may the children have a restful break from school. Give wisdom to parents and grandparents as they seek to meet the demands of family life. We thank you for the work of teachers, teaching assistants and other school staff, may they too have a restful break. We ask that they may be thoughtful about how to teach the children in their care, especially those who have additional needs.

30th October. Jehovah Raah. The Lord our Shepherd (Psalm 23 v 1). May we turn to you as our shepherd to seek guidance for those areas of our lives where we are having difficulty.

31st October. We finish this month of prayer with a prayer of St Thomas Aquinas (1225 -1274). Grant me O Lord, a mind to know you, a heart to seek you, wisdom to find you, conduct pleasing to you, faithful perseverance in waiting for you, and a hope of finally embracing you.