



Mothers' Union Coventry News Bulletin

16th December 2025

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.
Romans 15:13

JOIN US, JOIN IN!

Dear friends,

What a flurry of activity there has been to bring this first year of the new triennium to a close as we continue to look for ways to encourage more to Join Us, Join In!

MU Quiet Day in November

Thank you to Revd Denise Burgess for leading the 'Walking with God' Quiet Day using various Biblical meditations to focus our thoughts and minds towards a deeper personal experience with the Living God.

The creative and interactive prayer points that were positioned carefully around the room were aimed at those seeking personal contemplation and running alongside were group sessions using the biblical mediative practise of Lectio Divina. After lunch a poem with 'wintering' at its heart was shared and generated much meaningful discussion. Grateful thanks to Viv Proctor Par for leading these sessions.

Thank you also to MU Holy Trinity members for hosting and serving refreshments throughout the day.

MU Bare Necessities Evening

The virtual Bare Necessities evening, organised as a prelude to the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender- Based Violence campaign was well supported and received positive feedback. The case studies shared provided a deeper understanding of the various types of abuse, the process involved in supporting victim survivors and the transformative projects available. Thank you to the staff at Coventry Haven and Kairos for taking time out of their normal working hours to talk to us and with such passion.

MU Advent Service

What a joy to see such a good turnout for this year's Advent Service and to enrol four new members.

Grateful thanks to Revd Denise Burgess for leading the service with such care and thought and to Revd Gail for her uplifting and encouraging sermon towards the Mothers' Union 150th anniversary

next year and reminding us of the importance of always keeping our own Christ light well-oiled and burning bright.

Revd. Gail has kindly forwarded her sermon (attached) for those not able to attend. Please share /use within your branch meetings as an inspiring way to kick off Mothers' Union 150th year anniversary celebrations.

Thank you to all those that took part in the service and to St Giles, Exhall Mothers' Union members for hosting and serving refreshments.

St Oswalds, Rugby Christmas Lunch

Whist members gathered at St Giles Church for the Advent Service, Julie Reid and Sandra Gudgin of St Oswalds branch, Rugby were hard at work preparing a two-course hot Christmas lunch (with all the trimmings) for members and friends, as they continue to reach out in love, whilst embracing the theme of Join Us, Join In! How wonderful to be invited to join them for this special time of fellowship and to enrol a new member also. Thank you to Julie and Sandra for organising such a sumptuous Christmas lunch and to all the members for their warm welcome and hospitality.

MU Christmas Party for the Homeless

The Christmas Party that took place for the homeless yesterday was a great success. The residents enjoyed the karaoke and the festive quiz not only provided fun and laughter but encouraged a deeper sense of fellowship. The staff were thrilled to see several residents who find social occasions particularly challenging attend and stay right until the end.

A note of thanks to Paul Morris for organising the turkeys and mince pies and being Mothers' Union main point of contact in this regard.

MU Office Christmas Dates

The Mothers' Union office is now closed and will reopen on 7th January 2026.

Grateful thanks to Patricia and Gary for all their hard work manning the office throughout the year and more.

I am available though, in the unlikely event of an emergency, please see contact details below.

MU 150th Anniversary Initiatives and Celebrations

Thank you for inviting me to your branch meetings, afternoon teas etc. You are always so kind, thoughtful and welcoming and I would be glad of some invites for 2026 also.

Please remember to send your branch programmes for 2026 to Sue Foster for the website.

Please let me know of any 150th anniversary initiatives or celebrations you have planned – even if it's still in the planning stage.

A gentle reminder that more tickets to attend the MU 150th Service at St Paul's Cathedral were released yesterday via Eventbrite and can be bought by searching mothersunion.org/150
Tickets sold out fast in the first batch so please don't delay to avoid disappointment.
Please note: tickets cost £15 each to cover the cost of the commemorative booklet and there is also a £1.96 registration fee.

Key Dates for the Diary to March 2026

1)Virtual Branch Leaders/Contacts/Treasurers/Deanery Chairs Meeting: Wednesday 14th January at 10am via zoom.

2)Candlemas: Monday, 2nd February.

3)Office Holders/Deanery Chairs Meeting: Diocesan Office, Thursday 12th February at 10am.

4)Lady Day Celebrations & the Rt Revd and Rt Hon Dame Sarah Mullaly, Archbishop Designate's Installation Service: Wednesday, 25th March. Time TBC.

Giving Thanks to the Lord in Prayer

December and January's prayers are now available via the Mothers' Union Coventry website.

A heartfelt note of thanks to Ann Gibbons for co-ordinating the MU Coventry Prayer Diary and all those that have written prayers this year.

If you feel God calling you towards this important ministry, please let me know.

It seems apt to close with a prayer taken from this month's edition, lovingly prepared by Lynda Howells:

'As life begins to get even busier, the lists get longer, BUT it's time to stop, breathe and sit, imagine our Lord Jesus sitting with us and enjoy being in His company.

During this time of ADVENT let us try to set aside a little time each day to JUST BE to sit with our Heavenly Father and reflect on His love for each one of us some "you time" to prepare our hearts and our homes for Christmas when we remember and celebrate the birth of our Saviour Jesus Christ.

To also strip away all the commercialism which has taken over Christmas and lead by example to keep the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ at the centre of our Christmas celebrations.

Amen'

As we continue to journey through this Advent season, drawing closer to Christmas, may we lift our hearts to the God of all hope, joy and peace.

Thank you for your continued support towards the ministry of Mothers' Union in all God's glory.

Wishing you all a Christmas filled with joy, hope, and the warmth of loved ones.

With love and prayers,



Karen Morris
Diocesan President
Mothers' Union Coventry
7 Priory Row,
Coventry, CV1 5EX
Tel no: 07952542776

Charity Number: 250129

Website: covmu.org