



The MU Big Sing

Excitement continues as we draw towards the end of our 13 national activities to celebrate '13 Decades of Love & Service' in Ireland.

The MU Big Sing takes place in The National Concert Hall on 9th September.

A **Service of the Word** to celebrate the 130 years will be screened on RTE television at 11am on Sunday, 24th September.

Women's Weekend 2017: 20th/21st October; Radisson Blu Hotel, Rosses Point, Sligo

All-Ireland Prayer Vigil in November 2017 – details on page 2

All-Ireland Mothers' Union Chaplain's Day



On Wednesday, October 4th, 2017 Mothers' Union is hosting a morning for our Diocesan Chaplains in St. Michan's Church, Church Street, Dublin 8. Diocesan Faith & Policy Coordinators will also attend. The aim of the morning is to enhance the role of the Chaplain and to discuss how best we can support each other and to be updated on the work of Mothers' Union.

The morning will be led by Dean Raymond Ferguson, All-Ireland Chaplain, Phyllis Grothier, All-Ireland President and Jacqui Armstrong, All-Ireland Faith & Policy Coordinator.



Helping mums like Violet give their children a future

Unable to find work, Violet and her family lived a hand to mouth existence in Zambia. In years of poor harvest, they simply starved. It's hard to imagine the daily heartbreak of struggling to raise a family while never knowing where their next meal might come from.

With Mothers' Union she learnt how to plant pumpkins for her family to eat, and how to dry the leaves to sell. With this income she started a small baking business, earning enough to send her children to school.

No longer fearing hunger and with her children realizing their potential, Violet feels confident and proud about her family's future.

Together we can bring a Summer of Hope - teaching business skills to women so they can make a stable income.

Mothers' UNION
Christian care for families

Mothers' Union Downloadable Posters

A new batch of posters highlighting the work of Mothers' Union around the world are now available for downloading to help promote Mothers' Union activities.

Please do use them on your notice boards or anywhere else you think our work can be promoted!

<http://www.themothersunion.org/content/marketing->

[posters?utm_source=The%20Mothers%20Union&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=8564296_Mothers%27%20Union%20August%20Newsletter&utm_content=Poster%20image%20link&dm_i=1I8Y,53K94,8M2AWY,JJGOR,1](http://www.themothersunion.org/content/marketing-posters?utm_source=The%20Mothers%20Union&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=8564296_Mothers%27%20Union%20August%20Newsletter&utm_content=Poster%20image%20link&dm_i=1I8Y,53K94,8M2AWY,JJGOR,1)



16 Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence All-Ireland Prayer Vigil

"It is one of the most pervasive violations of human rights in the world, one of the least prosecuted crimes, and one of the greatest threats to lasting peace and development.....I am talking about violence against women and children." (*Lakshmi Puri - Acting Head of UN Women*)

In solidarity with women across the world, Mothers' Union is supporting the **16 Days of Activism Campaign** with an All-Ireland Prayer Vigil. This initiative highlights and calls for an end to violence against women locally, nationally and internationally.

Mothers' Union in your diocese will be hosting a Prayer Vigil. We wish to spread the very important message that violence against women and children IS NOT OKAY!! We need to take action; we need to change attitudes. Diocesan dates and venues may be viewed here:

<http://mothersunion.ie/ContentBuilder/DisplayPage.aspx?DataId=DA000004>

Sierra Leone



Mothers' Union in Sierra Leone is responding to the needs of thousands affected by the mudslides that hit the country's capital, Freetown. Scores of people have been killed and many people are still missing.

Head of Development and Policy, Nicola Lawrence, has said, "This is a terrible tragedy that has hit a country only just getting back on its feet after the Ebola crisis. We are in regular contact with Mothers' Union in Freetown and monitoring how we can support their efforts further and in the long-run. In the meantime, we are praying for all those who have been affected."

A prayer for all those affected by the recent mudslides in Sierra Leone.

*Lord, we pray for all affected by the mudslide in Sierra Leone:
For those bereaved or physically harmed we pray for your comfort;
for those left homeless and in practical need we pray for your provision;
for those involved in the clean up and rescue we pray for your strength.
Just as you heard the psalmist's cries for rescue from the mire,
please answer our prayers for your people in crisis.*

In your mercy and grace

Amen

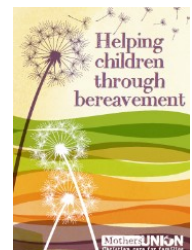
<http://www.themothersunion.org/sierra-leone-mudslides-mothers-union-mobilises>

Families In Church Leaflets



Mothers' Union has produced a series of leaflets which focus on different aspects of family life and how the church can be a part of it. The three available are:

Helping Children Through Bereavement
Celebrate With Us
Families And Baptism



Cost is £1 for a pack of 10 leaflets. Order through your Diocesan MUe Rep or from <http://www.mothersunion.org/members/im-member/resources-order>

If you would like a sample set of the three leaflets, please contact Jacqui at jacquelin.armstrong.donegal@outlook.com

Thank you for your continued support for Mothers Union. Further details of Mothers Union activities can be found at www.mothersunion.ie or at www.mothersunion.org

1887 – 2017

Women's Weekend 2017 *20th/21st October*

'Celebrating Our Gifts'

Conference Leader: Mary Good
Key Note Speaker: Alice Leadbeter

Contact

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Raddisson Blu Hotel & Spa
Rosses Point, Road, Sligo

Everyone Welcome!