

## January Newsletter



### MU Prayer Diary Monthly Prayer - January

Loving Lord, transform our lives that we may reflect the glory of Christ. Continue in us the work of your Spirit; the miracle of transformation to reflect the glory of Christ and share his love in the world. Amen.

**HAPPY NEW YEAR  
2022!**

## 2022 Theme: Transformation - Now!

The evolving response of the Mothers' Union to the effects of a global pandemic, combined with the start of a new triennium, presents an opportunity to look to the future with fresh vision as we adapt and learn to thrive in these changing times.

In 2020/21, Mothers' Union members showed amazing resilience, responsiveness and adaptability. Now is the time to build on this experience to:

- Transform ourselves, personally and spiritually, to live out our faith.
- Transform the churches and communities we work with, and of which we are a part, to reflect Christ's kingdom.
- Transform Mothers' Union to be relevant for 21st century life.

Resources to help make this theme a reality can be found at <https://www.mothersunion.org/2022-theme>

### ON-LINE SERVICES

During Advent I ran on-line services which proved very popular, with a regular attendance at each one. In 2022 I hope to continue these services via Zoom, at least until it is safe to meet in numbers again. These will all be at 7pm and will begin with the Feast of the Epiphany (January 6<sup>th</sup>).

Other services over the next few months will be:

The Week of Christian Unity (January 21<sup>st</sup>)  
Candlemas (February 2<sup>nd</sup>)  
Ash Wednesday (March 1<sup>st</sup>)  
World Day of Prayer (March 4<sup>th</sup>)  
Lent (March 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> and April 4<sup>th</sup>)  
The Feast of the Annunciation (March 25<sup>th</sup>)  
Holy Week (April 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>)



A link will be sent out this week for the service on Thursday. This link will be the same for all the services listed above, and please pass it onto your members who may be interested in joining in.

### BRANCH OFFICERS MEETING via ZOOM

I will be holding a ZOOM meeting on Friday the 28<sup>th</sup> of January at 7pm for all Branch Officers. I would hope as many of you as possible will attend to discuss any issues you may have within your branches, all things financial, insurance procedures, fundraising during COVID, and anything else that comes to mind.

The Zoom invitation will be sent a few days prior to the meeting to any email addresses I have on file, so please let me know asap if you think you may not be on my list or you have recently taken over an officer role.

### COMPETITION IDEAS

The All-Ireland competitions were a great success last year and kept many of us entertained for endless hours, crafting, taking photographs, writing poems, hymns and prayers, and designing Christmas cards and logos.

I would like to run a few competitions within our diocese and am looking for suggestions on what we might do. There will small prizes awarded for each competition. Let me know your ideas at:

[cfodpmothersunion@yahoo.com](mailto:cfodpmothersunion@yahoo.com)

### SUBSCRIPTIONS for 2022

**Subscriptions** are now due for payment at the rate of **€35** per member for **2022**. Payments should be sent to Joan Blake or transferred via EFT by the end of January please, along with an updated list of subscribing members. Diocesan Members will receive a form in the coming weeks to subscribe for the year ahead.

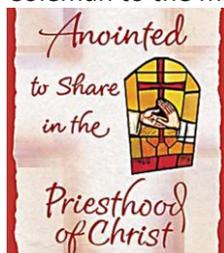
Joan Blake, Unit Co-Ordinator for Finance and Central Services, Ballaghboy, Leskinfere, Gorey, Co. Wexford.  
or Lesley Bayley, Diocesan President, 48 Coolattin Oaks, Carnew, Co. Wicklow. Y14YY61

*Details for an Electronic Fund Transfer are* IBAN: IE49 AIBK 9336 4315 4830 63 BIC: AIBKIE2D

**\*\*If paying any money into the diocesan account via EFT please write the branch name and details of what the payment is for into the narrative space \*\***

### ORDINATION

The ordination service of Reverend Patricia Coleman to the ministry of Ordained Local Minister, will take place on Sunday the 30<sup>th</sup> of January at 4pm in Old Leighlin Cathedral.



We wish Pat well in her future ministry and we hold her in our prayers on this most special and holy occasion.

### LET US KNOW

Please let us know if any members are celebrating significant birthdays, anniversaries, etc so that we can arrange to send them cards.

Also please inform us if a member passes away, so that we can offer our sympathy to the family and remove their name from any mailing/text list, thereby avoiding any upset to their relatives in the future.



### THE FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY

Matthew chapter 2 verses 1-2 and 9-12

When Jesus was born in the village of Bethlehem in Judea, Herod was king. During this time some wise men from the east came to Jerusalem and said, "Where is the child born to be king of the Jews? We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him." And the star they had seen in the east went on ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. They were thrilled and excited to see the star. When the men went into the house and saw the child with Mary, his mother, they knelt down and worshiped him. They took out their gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh and gave them to him. Later they were warned in a dream not to return to Herod, and they went back home by another road.

