

Mothers' UNION
Christian care for families

Nuneaton Deanery Service at Holy Trinity Church, Hartshill



'Faith In Action'

Thursday 11th May, 7pm

Please remain seated

Welcome

Welcome to our Mothers' Union Service of Thanksgiving. We gather to celebrate the many ways as Mothers' Union we are able to live out our faith through action. We gather to affirm that all we do is founded on love for God and our neighbour; and to praise our supreme example of love, Jesus Christ, who calls us to emulate his life of service.

Please stand for the Call to worship

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good. His love endures forever.

Psalm 136:1

Lord of all, we gather in your name to bring our love and service as an act of true worship.

Let us praise his name together. Amen

Processional Hymn: O Jesus, I have promised (501)

During which the banners will be processed. Hymn words will be on the screen

Please be seated for the Prayer of preparation

God of wonder and of joy: grace comes from you, and you alone are the source of life and love.

Without you, we cannot please you; without your love, our deeds are worth nothing.

Send your Holy Spirit, and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of love, that we may come before you now with thankful hearts and serve you always with willing minds; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Confession

Merciful Lord,

Forgive us when we shun your love and choose to follow our own selfish ways.

When we place our own comfort above the needs of your world.

Help us to model our lives on Christ, our perfect example of love,

that we may wholeheartedly serve God and our neighbour

for the glory of your name. Amen

Absolution

May our heavenly Father open wide his arms in loving forgiveness and grace. May we know the joy of restored relationship with God and his people. **Amen**

We remain seated for our first reading - 1 John 3:16-18

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn: Be Thou My Vision (51)

Please be seated for the gospel reading

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 25:35-40

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Address

Hymn: Jesus stand among us (381)

Please be seated for the Intercessions

Hymn: I will offer up my life (990)

During which the collection will be taken. The collection will be donated to Mothers' Union funds.

We confirm and celebrate our membership of the Mothers' Union, together with those to be admitted today, as we hear again the words of the objectives

Members to be enrolled proceed to the front.

Membership of the world wide Mothers' Union is open to all who have been baptised in the name of the Holy Trinity and who declare support for the Aim and Objects of the Mothers' Union. I ask both new and present members to join in affirming their commitment to the

Mothers' Union. Do you reaffirm your baptism promises?

I do, with God's help.

Will you try to uphold and support the Aim and Objects of the Mothers' Union?

I will, with God's help.

Will you continue to plan your life to include prayer and Bible reading and worship in Church?

I will, by the grace of God.

Our Diocesan President, Jane Hill, admits our new members, saying to each

I admit you to membership of the Mothers' Union, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

The Diocesan President, Jane Hill, greets each new member and they are given their membership card and badge.

Our Diocesan President leads us in welcome.

Members of the Mothers' Union, will you welcome, support and pray for each other?

We will, in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Members celebrating 25 and 50 years of membership are asked to join the President in welcoming our new members as they receive their certificates.

We commit ourselves to the work of Jesus Christ through our membership, saying together the Mothers' Union prayer:

Loving Lord,

We thank you for your love so freely given to us all.

We pray for families around the world.

Bless the work of the Mothers' Union

as we seek to share your love

through the encouragement, strengthening

and support of marriage and family life.

Empowered by your Spirit,

may we be united in prayer and worship,

and in love and service

reach out as your hands across the world.

In Jesus' name. Amen

The new members and those whose many years of commitment we celebrate return to their seats.

Hymn: Go forth and tell (178)

During which the banners will be collected.

Final blessing

Go now and proclaim the gospel, not just through words but deeds – through what you say, what you do, and who you are.

May others, as they meet with you, meet with Christ, and know his living presence for themselves.

Amen

We say the Grace together

***Please join us for refreshments in the adjacent
Community Centre after the service.***

We welcome the following new members to Mothers' Union:

Gillian Smith

Gillian Wilkes

We congratulate the following members on over 25 years
service to Mothers' Union:

Dorothy Beebe

Lynda Kelly

Sue Parr

Sandra Smith

Heather Greaves

Sally Young

We congratulate the following members on over 50 years
service to Mothers' Union:

Jean Phillips

Rita Bennett