



“Encouraging Families through Faith In Action”

MU Newsletter January 2026

Dear MU Members,

Here we are, halfway through February! I hope you were all able to enjoy a quiet January, and MU goes well for you this year.

More MU news since my last newsletter at the beginning of Jan is the announcement that the vacant Australian Council Exec Positions have been filled. Bethany Mills (Sydney) will be taking over the reins as Mia Mia Editor, and Karen Hayden (Melbourne), yes this is me! will coordinate Promotions and Communications role. We are currently attending a Strategic and Planning Workshop, to reaffirm our vision for MU in 2026, and this triennium to 2028. Look out in the next edition of Mia Mia for the Aust Exec bios introducing/reintroducing ourselves.

I apologise for the lateness of passing this on, Christine Jensen circulated 2026 prayers for Australian Council (for each day of the month) to be included in your prayers whether as a branch, or individually. I have included them in this print out for you, so it is a bit longer this month. As always, Christine also included these words:

“Prayer is a precious gift, isn’t it? We can bring all our requests to our Heavenly Father and he hears them. I love the Wave of Prayer as it widens our vision to pray for our Mothers Union members across the world. To think that there are 4 million members praying for us here in each of our dioceses is humbling.”

MU Calendar Dates MU Melbourne, and Executive office bearer list should be available through your branches. Please contact your contact person, or me for information on dates.

Australian MU President, Robin Ray has sent her newsletter for January 2026 which you can view [<<here>>](#). She has asked for your prayers as Aust Exec meet, which will still be gratefully received.

Mary Sumner House (MSH) has sent a 150 year prayer book lighting the way thank you. As you can imagine from worldwide input, not all prayers could be used, however they say to be reassured that the prayers not selected for publication will still be thoughtfully used and shared through the online platforms and other services, with proper acknowledgement wherever appropriate. The book can be purchased but, unfortunately, not available for postage to Australia (I tried).

We received correspondence from Mary, our Karen Nursery Schools (KAMB) contact. They send thanks for the funds recently received, and are ever thankful for our financial support, and in Mary’s words “the way you value us”.

“time for every matter under heaven” Ecclesiastes 3:1. There is a printed copy available at Holy Trinity.

A Reminder that Fees/Subscriptions \$45.00 are due now. For Treasurers; funds can be paid by Cheque, made out to Mothers Union Diocese of Melbourne and posted, along with corresponding forms to:

PO BOX 7097
Wattle Park Vic 3128

or

Direct Credited to our Diocese ADF Account:
Bank Name – Indue Ltd

Account Name – Mothers Union
BSB – 703 122
Account Number – 05000420

These account details are correct, and that the message generated may be safely overridden, as advised by Diocesan ADF Account Manager

If Direct Crediting, reference your ***name, 2026 subs, and branch*** if possible (we know space can be limited) ***so funds can be identified.*** PLEASE send us an email including the forms, or to advise forms have been sent separately, so we can update our records:
office@mumelbourne.org.au Individuals can direct credit fees, same procedure.

Contact me if you are unsure.

Dates of MU Happenings around Melbourne:

Friday 6th March World Day of Prayer 10.30am The Topic is Nigeria “I will give you rest:.
St Davids Uniting Church 128 Parkers Road Parkdale

Lady Day Celebrations are being finalised and will be advised as soon as possible this month (Feb).

Wednesday 25th March at 10.30am St Paul’s Ringwood (Mullum Mullum) Lady Day Service 40 Warrandyte Road Ringwood 3134

Please let me know if you have an even coming up. Placing it in the newsletter is not just notifying those who might like to attend, but lets us all know what's happening around the MU Melbourne Diocese.

Should you need more information, have any questions, please contact the Leader/President or the Secretary/Contact Person in your Branch or call me directly.

Love and Peace,

Karen

AMUA PRAYER DIARY 2026

Gracious Lord, as we look back over the 150 years of Mothers Union we give great thanks for Mary Sumner's vision and the wonderful ministry of Mothers Union throughout the world. We pray for Mothers Union in Australia and in each of our dioceses that we will continue to promote Christ's teaching on marriage and family life and so be a blessing to our nation.

Please give us wisdom and insight as we look to the future. May your name be hallowed and your kingdom come. Amen

Day 1 Australian Executive: Robin Ray - President

Elizabeth Parker - Vice President, Parenting

Wendy Mabey - Vice President Domestic Violence

Sue Milwright - Secretary

Ailsa Gill - Treasurer Diane Thomson - Overseas and Northern Outreach

Kristi Day - Social Issues and Action Bethany Mills - Mia Mia

Christine Jensen - Prayer and Spirituality

Kären Hayden - Promotion and Communication

Lindy Driver - Publication

Day 2 Adelaide: Rev. Gethzi Devasagyam and all members

Day 3 Armidale: All members

Day 4 Ballarat: Felicity Lowery and members

Day 5 Bathurst: Lorraine Clarkson and members

Day 6 Bendigo: All members 2

Day 7 Brisbane: Jenny Bullock and members

Day 8 Bunbury: Isobelle Shorteed and members

Day 9 Canberra Goulburn: Monica Short and members

Day 10 Gippsland: Lindy Driver and members

Day 11 Grafton: Gae Shorten and members

Day 12 Melbourne: Kären Hayden and members

Day 13 Newcastle: Elizabeth Bissaker and members

Day 14 Northern Territory: Pam Powell and members

Day 15 North Queensland: Kristi Day and members

Day 16 North West Australia: Jenny Jamieson and members

Day 17 Perth: Jan Rose and members

Day 18 Riverina: Rev. Sue-Ellen Childers and members

Day 19 Rockhampton: Sue Witten and members

Day 20 Sydney: Luanne Mills and members

Day 21 Tasmania: Jenny Archer and members

Day 22 The Murray: Caroline Earl and members 3

Day 23 Wangaratta: Rev. Maryann Leonard and members

Day 24 Willochra: Roz Rowett and members

Day 25 The MU Chaplains for each Diocese

Day 26 Life Vice Presidents: Elizabeth Appleby Deane Bray Jan Livingstone

Day 27 Worldwide President: Kathleen Snow

Day 28 Zone C Trustee: Pamela Abana

Day 29 Mary Sumner House staff: Bev Julien - CEO Jeanette Lawrence - Zone C

Day 30 Overseas Target Fund Project: Literacy Program in the Solomon Islands