

130th Anniversary

2018 is a special year for the Mothers' Union in the Oxford Diocese as we will celebrate 130 years since we were founded. This landmark anniversary provides an ideal opportunity for prayer in thanksgiving for all that has been achieved in those years and to ask for guidance to develop plans for a long and successful future.

Please set aside time to pray together for our future during the year.

MU Oxford Diocesan Thanksgiving Prayer as we celebrate 130 years

Living Lord,

We give grateful thanks for the Mothers' Union in the Oxford Diocese and for your love that continues to inspire us into active service as we celebrate our 130th year. Strengthen us to do your work, encouraging us to reach out into our communities bringing your hope to those in need.

We thank you for all our members, past and present and pray that you will guide others to join us, so that together we may fulfill your vision for our work. Be with us in this special year and help us to make wise plans that enable us to grow and thrive for many generations to come.

Amen

Creative idea, make a thanksgiving tree

You might like to make a prayer tree with thanksgiving leaves (using the template below) to recognize what has been achieved and the projects that your branch has been involved with. Give each person a leaf, different coloured paper/ card can look effective, A4 sheets are available from The Works, W.H. Smiths or Ryman's. You might like to discuss what projects, major events and the people you have helped over the years (this will help newer members to realise just what we have achieved). Remember to think about fundraising and support for overseas projects.



Each person should write something on the leaf that they are thanking God for that is connected to their membership of the Mothers' Union. Ideas can range from friendship to the outcomes of specific projects. A simple "tree" to hang them on can be made out of branches cut from the garden or twigs that are sold at a garden centre. Use a hole-punch to make holes in the stem of each leaf and use ribbon to tie the leaves to tree.

Below are some 130th cards to print off, so that you can keep one in your handbag or purse. Print and then cut along the lines to make 8 per printed sheet.