

Mothers' Union newsletter ...February 2020

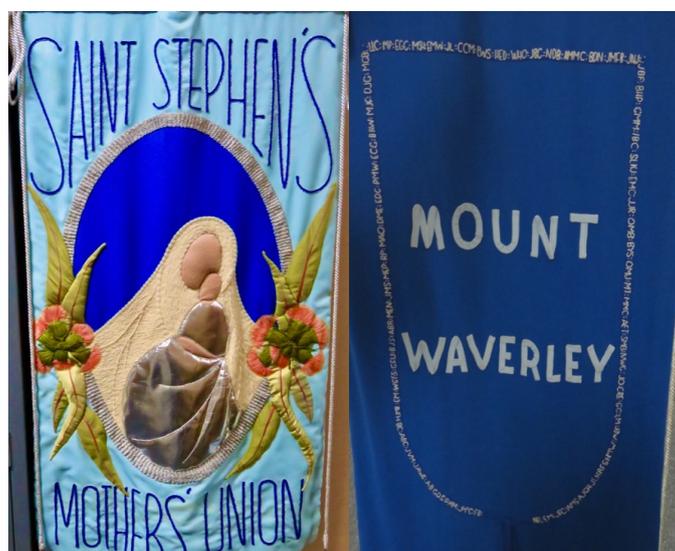
Dear MU members and friends,

This is the late edition of our newsletter, February being a little shorter and somewhat busier than usual. However, for Mothers' Union we made a very positive start at our first meeting with 24 members attending our opening Eucharist on Feb. 25th celebrated by the Venerable Dianne. We are as always grateful for her support and encouragement of Mothers' Union in the Parish. Thank you also to Norma and Nora for the delicious pancakes which reminded us that we began our Mothers' Union year on Shrove Tuesday ...commonly known as Pancake Tuesday or Mardi Gras which means fat Tuesday, a celebration indulgence before Lent in many European countries that seems to have little to do with preparation for a Lenten fast!

Our program for 2020 is attached and hopefully you will see speakers and events which address our theme *Building Hope and Confidence through Faith*. One very important celebration for Mothers' Union worldwide is, when members gather to acknowledge the great courage and faith of Mary, the Mother of Jesus in accepting God's call to be part of a great miracle... the Incarnation... God becoming human in the person of Jesus. We will be celebrating Lady Day on Sunday March 22nd at St Pauls Cathedral Melbourne. Below is a photograph of our Parish Mother's Union banner which we don't see very often. Do you know the story of this banner? Maybe a long serving member might be able to share this with us all? Who are the women represented by the initials on the back of the banner?

If you intend to attend the service, the best way of travelling will be by train. I will provide an update by email if there are any closures on the line that week. Otherwise trains leaving Glen Waverley at 1.05pm or 1.25 pm (13.05 /13.25 if you are digital) and Mt. Waverley 4 minutes later will arrive at Flinders Street Station close to 2pm, giving you enough time to walk over to the Cathedral in time for the service. If you have never been to Lady Day or have difficulty with mobility, please let me know as I will take my car into the Cathedral that day.

Love and peace, Irene



MU is an organisation which cares...

Knitting for others

If you are someone who knits or have friends who do MU in the Melbourne Diocese is supporting the following local projects:
Beanies and mittens for the *Mission to Seafarers*. Adult sizes and colours welcome;
Knitting or crocheting quilts for bassinets and cots at the *Monash Medical Centre*. Please do not use pure wool as this will felt when washed;
Washable quilts in fabric are also welcome, same sizes and bright colours. Joan West will coordinate collection of these knitted items & quilts.

MU is an organisation which prays...

At the last meeting Norma Schultz handed out slips of paper to members so that we can pray for each other and perhaps send a greeting on that person's birthday. Norma has a birthday book in which those who choose can list their birthday. This is a service which Norma has undertaken for many years. Celia Gant has kindly volunteered to take over for the next year MM also provides members with a booklet *Families Worldwide* issued twice a year, that lists points for prayer drawn from our worldwide membership. Like the copies of *Mia Mia*, MU Australia's magazine, the copies supplied do not always match our number of financial members, but I do have some spare copies. Please ask if you would like one.

Our parish has a strong pastoral care program for parishioners and their families. If you are sick it is encouraging to know that some is praying for you or to receive a telephone call or card to support you. Please contact MU pastoral carer Elizabeth Woods if you need prayer or help. We live in stressful times, so the assurance that some cares for you can be helpful.

Dates for your diary

Friday Mar. 6th	10am	ACW World Day of Prayer @ High St. Rd UCA
Sunday Feb. 22nd	2-30pm	Lady Day @St Paul's Cathedral
Monday Mar. 23rd	1-30pm	MU next meeting: Gippsland project



A prayer for you ...

*Let nothing disturb you.
Let nothing make you afraid.
All things are passing.
God alone never changes.
Patience gains all things.
If you have God, you will want for nothing.
God alone suffices*

... from Teresa of Avila

