

DIARY DATES



Cathedral Prayers Winchester

A reminder that the MU have a regular monthly booking in the Epiphany Chapel from 10-11am for Prayers (although we choose to start at 10.30am) and we have been asked to ensure that we have finished our service by 11am in time for the Winchester Cathedral prayers which are said on the hour, every hour

- 1 Oct. 10.30 Cathedral Prayers – led by Bournemouth Deanery; **followed by Speaker's Forum**
- 5 Nov 10.30 Cathedral Prayers – led by members from Hedge End
- 3 Dec 10.30 St. John's Chapel, Almshouses for monthly prayers

Other Events

- 12-18 October – Prisons Week
- 15 Oct Information Day 10am – 2pm at St. John's Church, Hedge End, SO30 4AF
- 25 Nov Prayer Vigil outside Winchester Cathedral 12-2pm
- 25 Nov – 10 Dec 16 Days of Activism against Gender-based violence
- 10 Dec Charity Chalet – Christmas Market

In September our Cathedral Prayers were led by Winchester Diocese Committee Members.

The theme was "The Power of Reconciliation" with a talk by our Chaplain, Rev Terry Roberts. This was based upon the Gospel reading from Luke 15 verse 11 onwards, which tells of the Prodigal Son and the Father's delight at his return. We joined in prayers and singing and then retired to the Refectory for more fellowship and refreshments.



Diamond Wedding Anniversary

Many congratulations to Alan and Christine Matthews who celebrated their Diamond Wedding on 14th August 2025, with their family. They met at Holy Saviour Church in Bitterne, where Alan was born and where his mother belonged to the MU. They met in their late teens but were both taken to the MU meetings when they were babies! Christine has been a loyal MU member for many years, as was her mum. A card from King Charles and the Queen was an extra surprise for them.



Information Day – 15th October

Do come along and join us in Hedge End for our Information Day. Our speaker is Lucy Binns from Spurgeons, who will tell us about their work in Winchester Prison. We will also talk about the plans for celebrating our 150th Anniversary next year, as well as the activities in the diocese over the past year. **There will be a bring and buy stall too!**



THE PRISONS WEEK PRAYER

Lord, you offer freedom to all people.
We pray for those in prison. Break the bonds of fear and isolation that exist.
Support with your love prisoners and their families and friends, prison staff and all who care.
Heal those who have been wounded by the actions of others, especially the victims of crime.
Help us to forgive one another, to act justly, love mercy and walk humbly together with Christ in his strength and in his Spirit, now and every day.
Amen

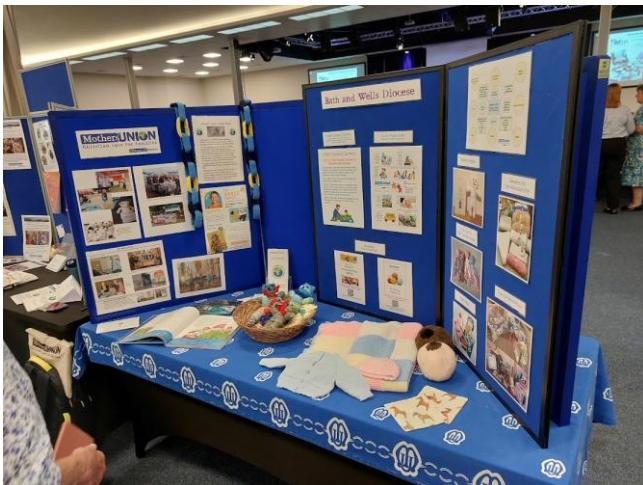
Canterbury Provincial Gathering, 27th September 2025, Oxford

Some photographs from a very interesting day. We had excellent presentations from the 4 'Clusters'; a powerful Eucharist Service led by Bishop Jo Bailey Wells; and a chance to laugh at the Parababble Puppets!

If you didn't make it this year, it's a definite date for your diary next time.



Some members helped to sew a prayer quilt during the lunch break



AFIA news

We were very happy to support the summer programme of the Local Vocals group again this year. This group is based in Bournemouth and supports families who have children with additional needs. They are celebrating their 10th Anniversary this year with a concert at St Luke's Church on 24th October. Here are a few of the photos from their activities, which included a bouncy slide at St Alban's church, a day out at PedAll near Burley and a trip to Avon Tyrell where the children were able to try their hands at archery, kayaking and the low ropes course.

Sue Murphy, Diocesan President



Christian Care for Families through praying, enabling and campaigning

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