

OVERSEAS PROJECTS

Since 2022 the MU Diocese of Leicester has been raising funds to support the MU Diocese of Kiteto, Tanzania, in their campaign to eradicate **Female Genital Mutilation** in their region.

The Kiteto Diocese has a population of one million people and the majority of these are from the Maasai community. A high proportion of girls within that community are affected by the practice of FGM.

The former Bishop and his wife, Isaiah and Ezereda Chambala, were uniquely positioned to start this project to make real changes in the local Maasai community, and have launched an education and awareness-raising campaign using posters, videos and dramas, which aims to reach from households to villages and across districts.

As FGM is still a problem within the church, Mothers' Union are teaching the teachers within the churches in these areas about how harmful FGM is. They've also been meeting with local government leaders, to help them to engage with, and actually implement the law, because it **IS** illegal in Tanzania to practice FGM, but nobody is enforcing that.

We have, so far, raised £3452.00 towards the FGM awareness project in Kiteto and in September 2025 our Diocesan President, Ruth Fryer, will be travelling to Tanzania to see how the project is going!

LINK DIOCESES

We also pray regularly for our Link Dioceses across the world.

The Link Dioceses for MU Leicester are:

- MU Temotu - Solomon Islands
- MU Eastern Zambia
- MU Mombasa - Kenya
- MU Gwagwalada - Nigeria
- MU Ekiti-West - Nigeria

It is not always easy to keep in touch with our link dioceses, but our members continue to pray for them and for the valuable work they do.



MOTHERS UNION DIOCESE OF LEICESTER

REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 250038

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Mothers' **UNION**
LEICESTER

WHO ARE WE?

524 MEMBERS

20 BRANCHES

6 FELLOWSHIP GROUPS

63 DIOCESAN MEMBERS

Mothers' **UNION**

is a global community of,
predominantly, women, who
share one goal:

To provide Christian care
and love to the most
vulnerable members of
society whilst seeking to
make the world fairer.

Mothers' Union Leicester - Making a Difference around the corner and across the world!

LOCAL PROJECTS

AWAY FROM IT ALL (AFIA)

Every Summer our AFIA committee arranges to take **ten Leicestershire families** away for a caravan holiday on the Lincolnshire Coast.

Transport to the caravan park is provided, and the families are supported for the duration of the holiday by the AFIA team. They arrange treats for the families during the week - offering care and support - whilst making it clear that their caravan door is always open!

The holiday is paid for by Mothers' Union members' donations and fund-raising events, and by grants from other local charities.

MODERN DAY SLAVERY

Mothers' Union in Leicester supports the work of Christians in Leicester and Leicestershire Against Modern Day Slavery (CLLAMS).

In October 2024 MU funded a diocesan forum to which members of voluntary organisations were invited. Key speakers were Bishop Alistair Redfern from the Clewer Initiative and Jim Hatton from Leicestershire Police.

We are now engaged in forming a partnership with other organisations to: promote awareness, recognise areas where we can make a difference, discover how we can bring perpetrators to justice and support victims.

SUPPORTING HOMELESS PEOPLE

Members of MU Leicester support vulnerable and homeless women by knitting hats, gloves & scarves and by collecting toiletries and underwear.

"These items are very well received and enable us to provide for those who have nothing. Rest assured your stitches are keeping women warm and looking well cared for."

Sarah - Specialist Midwife

BABY BASICS

Baby Basics Leicester is a volunteer-led project aiming to support the most vulnerable new mums and families, who are struggling to meet the financial and practical burden of looking after a new baby.

Families are referred to Baby Basics by social workers, midwives and health visitors and vary from families who are struggling to afford the last few items they need for their baby, to families who need everything.

Our MU Leicester members support Baby Basics by donating toiletries, for both mums and babies, and hand knitted blankets.

KNITTED TEDDIES

Our members enjoy making knitted teddies. These are given out to many different groups and charities across the county including:

Local Primary Schools - to be handed out to reception children on their first day at school.

Women's Aid - For children in refuge at a local women's shelter.

PACT - The Prison charity who give them out to smaller children at their family days.

We also give a knitted teddy to every child who comes away with us on our annual AFIA holiday.

PRISON ADVICE CARE TRUST (PACT)

PACT is a national charity that supports prisoners and their families by providing rehabilitation and sustaining family relationships during a period of incarceration.

Children, especially, are the unseen victims of crime and suffer greatly when one of their parents is in prison. Research has shown that prisoners who keep in touch with their families during imprisonment are much less likely to re-offend in the future.

MU members support PACT by donating Easter Eggs and Christmas gifts and crafts which are distributed during family days.

"We know supporting work around prisons isn't always a popular cause, so we are especially grateful for your support".

PACT Family Engagement Worker