



The Union of Catholic Mothers Wales is a National Organisation of Catholic Women, open to all women of all ages who support our aims and objectives in prayer, love and active witness to marriage, family and Christian life in the world.

Members of the UCM Brecon Foundation meet on the second Tuesday of each Month beginning with Mass at 6.30pm and then in the Church Hall Meeting room.

RECEIVE a friendly welcome.

FIND companionship.

EXPERIENCE a sense of belonging.

For further information contact Pauline Cutts, President 01874 611348 or Jo Taylor, Secretary 01873 890213 or come along to any of our meetings.

Objectives of UCM

To help Catholic women to appreciate the sacramental character, responsibilities and permanence of marriage and to live in unselfish love, observing the laws of God and His Church.

To assist them to bring up their children as practising Catholics and public spirited citizens.

To teach and defend Christian values in family life, and to ensure catholic education for future generations.

To offer love, sympathy and practical help to the family in difficulty.

To foster vocations in life, especially in Christian marriage and family life and in the priesthood and religious life.

To support the parish and parish priest in any way deemed necessary.

Union of Catholic Mothers

St Margaret Clitherow, Patron Saint Of UCM

St Margaret Clitherow, patron saint of The UCM was born in 1556 and baptised in St Martin-le-Grand, Coney Street, where her father was churchwarden. In 1571 she married John Clitherow, a butcher, who had a shop in the Shambles.

Margaret became a Catholic in 1574 and from 1576 she sheltered Catholic priests, trained on the Continent, so that they could celebrate Mass for Catholics in York.

On 12 March 1586 her home in the Shambles was raided and she was arrested. She refused to plead at her trial because she didn't want others to share with her the guilt of her condemnation. The penalty for this was 'pein forte et dure' – pressing to death. This happened at the Toll booth beside the Ouse Bridge. Six weeks later her body was discovered by Catholics who carried it away and buried it with honour.

Nearly 400 years later, on 25 October 1970, Margaret Clitherow was declared a Saint by Pope Paul VI, and all Members are encouraged to attend Mass on her Feast Day which is 30th August.

History of Union of Catholic Mothers

At the end of the 19th century there were many women's societies across Europe. In Tiverton, North Devon two women, Mrs Chichester and her sister, Miss Berkeley decided to create a society similar to the Mothers Union but with a Catholic emphasis. Thereby and following a mandate from His Eminence Cardinal Bourne the Union of Catholic Mothers officially came into being as part of the Catholic Women's League in 1913. By the late 1920s and following WW1, the UCM had expanded sufficiently for a constitution drawn to be drawn up and by 1930 it was a large enough organisation to push for independent existence. In 1930 a member of the UCM became the first Catholic woman councillor in the city of Manchester.

During WWII the activities of the UCM were limited to local foundation level, but members were very involved in the war effort, for example in clothing drives for families who had suffered as a result of bombings and refugees.

The UCM Annual Pilgrimage to Walsingham began in 1946 in gratitude to Our Lady for Peace and continues to the present day on the first Tuesday in July. For many years UCM was the only organisation allowed to process to the Abbey grounds and hold a service there.

In 1960, in response to a call from the Holy Father to help the world's starving, the UCM helped the National Board of Catholic Women to organise a 'Family Fast Day' to be held on Ember Friday in Lent. Families would reduce what they ate for a day and give the money saved to a Third World project. Within a few years a Commission for Overseas Development was set up by the Bishops to administer the funds raised by Family Fast Days - the beginnings of CAFOD.

Post war the organisation continued to grow and by 1963 there were approximately 28,000 members. The Golden Jubilee was held in the Royal Albert Hall, a venue large enough to accommodate the 6000 members who attended.

Throughout its history the UCM has been involved with current affairs, particularly those that have an impact on the family. The National Committee ensures that members are kept informed about parliamentary activity and encourages members to exert pressure on matters that concern them.

In the twenty first century members continue to live out the aims and objectives. In 2013 the UCM celebrated its hundredth year with a Mass in Westminster Cathedral, attended by over 1000 members from dioceses around the country. It was particularly appropriate that our centenary coincided with Pope Benedict XVI Year of Faith, 'a time of particular reflection and rediscovery of the faith'. The members of the UCM have been called to serve and share responsibility for the Church's mission and the need for the work of the UCM is vitally important in an increasingly secularised world. UCM Wales was formed in 1990.

Upcoming Events and Activities

Sunday August 26th after 11am Mass.

UCM Cake Sale



Can you bake a cake for us?
Please bring along your spare change and
purchase some delicious home-made
treats!

Proceeds to UCM sponsored charity for 2018:
"Epilepsy Action"

Saturday 1st September @ 7.00pm

Indian Curry Evening

St Michael's Church Hall



Ticket price Adults £10, Children £7,
under 5's free. Family ticket (2 adults
and 2 children) £32.

Tickets available from UCM members
after Sunday Masses.

Caring for Mother Earth



A Talk on

Managing Waste and Recycling

By

Community Champion for Tesco

Jayne Griffiths

Tuesday 16th October at 7pm

St. Michael's Church Hall, Brecon

UCM Monthly Meeting

Tuesday 4th September

6.30pm

Meeting Room, St Michael's Church Hall

New members very welcome!

Contact Secretary for further information

01873 890213

Online Information and Resources

Websites

UCM website: www.theucm.co.uk

Catholic Herald:

www.catholicherald.co.uk/news/2018/07/19/morning-catholic-must-reads-19-07-18/

Twitter

Luke Coppen, editor of Catholic Herald:

<https://twitter.com/LukeCoppen>

Catholic News Service:

<https://twitter.com/CatholicNewsSvc>

Facebook

UCM Wales:

www.facebook.com/1990catholicmotherswales/

Apps

Pray as you go:

<https://itunes.apple.com/gb/app/pray-as-you-go/id865934048?mt=8>

Universalis:

<https://itunes.apple.com/gb/app/universalis/id284942719?mt=8>

Please share your favourite resources and reads with us!

Joannetaylor129@gmail.com

UCM PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

'The harvest indeed is great but the labourers are few. Pray ye therefore, the Lord of the Harvest, that He send labourers into His harvest'. (Luke 10: 2)

God our Father, you have chosen to call men and women in every age to reveal your love and make known the reality of the Incarnation. You invite all people to follow you in a life of love and service in your church. Enkindle in us a true sense of vocation.

Grant Lord, that those whom you call to enter the priesthood may accept generously so that the sacrifice of the Mass will continue to be offered throughout the world. May priests and religious be constantly given to your Church so that people in need will always enjoy, through them, your ministry of healing and find your help.

Give us your grace to recognise the path you are inviting us to take and the courage to respond.

We make our prayers through Jesus Christ, Our Lord.

Amen.