

## **Kumasi, Ghana (2025)**

We pray for the Diocesan President and all Mothers' Union members in Kumasi. *(A candle is lit)*

Ghana has a population of 35 million and the Mothers' Union in Ghana has around two thousand members. Kumasi is Ghana's second largest city after the capital Accra, and has a population of just under 1.5 million. Kumasi was carved out of a dense forest among hills rising to one thousand feet and is known as the Garden City because of its many species of flowers and plants.

Ghana is at the base of the Horn of Africa and is known for its lush forests and miles of sandy beaches along a picturesque coast. Over half of the population live in urban areas. The highest concentrations are on or near the coast in the southern half of the country, where Kumasi is located. Kumasi has a humid, wet climate and today the temperature there would have been around 80 degrees Fahrenheit.

Osei Tutu, a 17<sup>th</sup> century Asante king, chose the site for his capital and carried out negotiations under a kum tree, whence came the city's name. Some 32 looted artefacts from the Asante kingdom were returned to Kumasi in 2024, 150 years after they were taken by British colonisers. They have been loaned for 3 years by the British and Victoria and Albert museums and are now on display in Kumasi in the Manhyia Palace Museum.

Ghana is a multi ethnic country and is rich in natural resources. It is one of the most stable and democratic countries in West Africa; elections for the president and members of parliament were held in 2024.

In 2021 the population and housing census revealed that Pentecostal / Charismatic Christians make up the largest religious group in Ghana, reaching a share of 31%. Only 1.1% of the population had no religion.

Mothers' Union in Ghana is very active in supporting the needs of local communities from newborns to the elderly. Their activities include marriage preparation, nursery schools, prison ministry, savings and credit groups, vocational training, hospital visits and orphan care.

We thank you Lord for our members in Kumasi and all that they are doing to nurture their people. We pray that all this work will continue to improve the lives of their community. **Amen**

*Gill MU/Kumasi 2025*