

Mission for the month Tearfund

Tearfund suggested two questions we should consider as we face the election on 12th December.

1. International aid

Q: How will your party help protect the UK's excellent delivery of overseas aid, which positively transforms lives and enables people to lift themselves out of poverty?

2. Climate change

Q: How will your party act to urgently tackle the climate emergency and accelerate the UK's progress towards a zero carbon economy?

OVERSEAS AID

The UK should be proud of the impact its aid spending is having - helping people around the world transform their lives and lift themselves out of poverty. Whilst it is not the only solution, aid has an important role to play in tackling many of the global challenges we face.

UK aid has transformed communities. It is estimated that it saves a life every two minutes. It gives girls an education, it helps people make a living and leave poverty behind, and it helps communities prepare for, and deal with, disaster. Currently UK Aid represents a very small proportion of our national income. 0.7% of our Gross Domestic Product is spent on Overseas Development Assistance that's just 7p out of every £10 this nation earns. We should not have to choose between tackling need in the UK and around the world - it is possible to do both. People in the UK care about poverty and it is still a generous nation, as we regularly see when the public gives to our emergency appeals.

Vicar's Comment

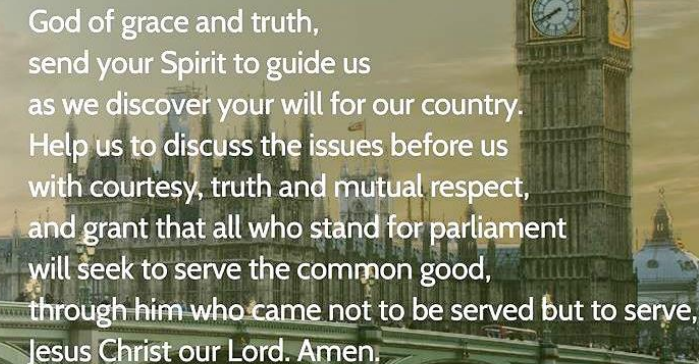
One person I know read Mark's gospel not so long ago, and was struck by the fact that Jesus knew He was going to die. It wasn't just something out of control that happened to Him. Perhaps that's a telling observation. At Christmas we recite that first nativity story, of our Lord being born. However, for so many people they never really get beyond the first part of the story.....almost as if for them Jesus never really gets out of the manger! But the Jesus of the nativity, is the Jesus of the cross, is the Jesus of the resurrection and is the Jesus who will one day return. All of it happened, and all of it holds true for us.....all of the time.

Why not pray for someone this Christmas that they come to understand more of the whole Jesus of the whole gospel?

St Christopher's Church

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A PRAYER FOR THE 2019 GENERAL ELECTION



God of grace and truth,
send your Spirit to guide us
as we discover your will for our country.
Help us to discuss the issues before us
with courtesy, truth and mutual respect,
and grant that all who stand for parliament
will seek to serve the common good,
through him who came not to be served but to serve,
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Memory Verse

'God was reconciling the world to Himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And He has committed to us the message of reconciliation.'

2 Corinthians 5:19 (NIV)

December 2019