

IN CONVERSATION WITH THE CHAPLAINCY

As I write this, we are beginning the Christian season of Advent. It is the season before we celebrate Christmas on 25th December and often skipped over in our busy world and longing for the Christmas holiday break. And yet Advent is important, one of the themes of Advent is 'hope'. For me as a Christian hope is not about some kind of wishful thinking when things appear bleak but, it is based on something tangible. It is not limited to the fulfilment of individual life. Christian hope insists that personal and communal hope are inseparable. As Christians, we work and hope for the transformation of life within our communities.

Next week we return to the ballot box with renewed hope to vote for a new government. In 2017 approximately 69% of the population voted – just imagine the impact if the other 31% had voted too! Many people I have spoken to are struggling to know how to vote. I have been reflecting on some of the things we might want from our candidates and their parties and their policies, do they:

- Promote and help to grow a strong economy, not just for accumulation of wealth by individuals, the state or global companies but to benefit society as a whole.
- Encourage people to take responsibility and involve them at a deeper level in the decisions that affect them most.
- Assist distinctive communities, whether defined by geography, religion or culture, which make up the nation and enable all to thrive and participate together.
- Treat the electorate as people with roots, commitments and traditions and address us all in terms of the common good and not just as self-interested consumers.
- Demonstrates that the weak, the dependent, the sick, the aged and the vulnerable are persons of equal value to everybody else.

Finally, as a person of faith I would want to add do their policies enhance or threaten human dignity? We pray for guidance and wisdom.

Revd Dr Fiona Stewart-Darling

Highlights



Moshe and Ibrahim both recently took part in separate panel discussions around how faith impacts our lives and wellbeing in the workplace from a Jewish and Muslim perspective in Morgan Stanley.



During Interfaith Week we held a panel discussion in partnership with Citi. The theme was 'Why is God not going away, even in the corporate world'. We have a very engaging discussion with a distinguished panel. [See our Blog](#)



Fiona once again was invited to the Ethical Finance Conference in Edinburgh. She gave a short presentation at the round table dinner on the topic of 'Multifaith communities - how and why is it important for them to work together in a structured, systematic way on shared values?' You might be interested to hear that our Video blogs I

mentioned in our last newsletter have been added to the [Global Ethical Finance website](#).

Events & Activities

UPCOMING EVENTS

The Annual

Candles & Carols Service

Tuesday 10 December @ 6pm
East Wintergarden

There are still a few places left.
To book please [register](#) here.

This year our Christmas cards were designed by children from St Luke's CofE Primary School on the Isle of Dogs. The one here was designed by a year 5 pupil.



We wish
you all a
very
Happy
Christmas

For more information about our activities, visit <https://canarywharfchaplaincy.co.uk>. Read our blogs and sign up on our website to receive our newsletters and event info.

[@CW Chaplaincy](#)

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#safeplacetochat #ethicsvaluesfaith