



**“Religion is an essential factor in motivating individuals to protect the environment and address climate change”**

<i>Faith Perspective</i>	<i>Church of England</i>
<p>Fundamental Principle of the Faith</p> <p><i>What the faith teaches about taking care of the environment (sacred texts)</i></p>	<p>We believe in God as Creator, who sees his creation as good, Jesus as the ‘Second Adam’ who reconciled all things to God through his blood shed on the cross, and the Holy Spirit as Sustainer of Life.</p>
<p>Application of the Principle to the Motion of the debate</p> <p><i>What responsibility the faith tradition’s teaching passes to individuals</i></p>	<p>As people reconciled to God, we need to obey God’s call to Adam to care for God’s earth, which means love and service expressed through sustainable (you can keep it going) lifestyle and community life, ensuring justice and care for all environmentally vulnerable people and places.</p>
<p>Implications for the debate</p>	<p>We need to live more simply so that others, and not just humans, might simply live. We</p>





<p><i>Things to think about when preparing for the debate</i></p>	<p>look for all to flourish (do well and thrive) and want to encourage all to work to this end, but also recognise that ultimate flourishing will only fully happen when Christ returns to renew all things.</p>
<p>Documentary references and interpretations</p> <p><i>Useful references from sacred text(s)</i></p>	<p>The Environment Working Group 3-year plan 2019-2022 summarises the new determination of the Church of England to promote care of creation through its Five Mark of Mission.</p>
<p>Examples of faith-based environmental protection organisations and activities</p>	<p>The Church of England has an Environment Working Group which promotes creation care providing Creationtide and Lent resources, raising the profile of environmental education for its clergy and lay ministers and in its church work. We are working with the worldwide Anglican Communion Environmental Network (ACEN) and with ecumenical and interfaith partnerships to affirm human interdependence in the world's ecosystems, to transform unjust structures of society</p>





and to reduce violent impacts on other species. We work to promote and expand Eco Church, to improve energy efficiency of Church of England buildings, to integrates sustainability into National Church institution structures, to improve local environmental action and awareness and to engage in the public debate on environment and climate change.

