



Bishop of Birmingham's Office

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Dear Prime Minister,

I write to congratulate you on your appointment and to express my gratitude for your willingness to serve the people of the United Kingdom. I recognise the sacrifice that this entails for you and your family. Please be assured of my ongoing prayers as you undertake this important and challenging role.

Before the General Election, along with many other senior Christian leaders in the West Midlands region, I signed a joint statement addressed to Parliamentary candidates. In the statement we asked those seeking election to public office to commit to working to erase systematic poverty. We urged them to commit to building an immigration system that operates with compassion, justice, transparency and speed, and encouraged them to commit to supporting efforts to create an environmentally sustainable future. I would like to offer my warm support to you as Prime Minister as you work towards these goals with your fellow MPs alongside various agencies and partners.

Going beyond the content of the joint statement, as a Christian leader committed to following the example of Jesus Christ in being an advocate for peace and reconciliation, I would like to add my own prayerful encouragement that, as far as you are able, you might be proactive in speaking up for a de-escalation of armed conflict around the world and be active in encouraging peace-making and the building of hopeful futures both overseas, and here in the villages, towns and cities of this land.

With my support and prayers as you serve the people of the United Kingdom.

Yours sincerely,

The Rt Revd Dr Michael Volland
Bishop of Birmingham