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## THIS WEEK

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- Church of England continues path towards same-sex blessings
  - New anti-bullying guidance still contains trans ideology
  - Is Labour government really 'unburdened by doctrine'?
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## Church to split over same-sex blessings?

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On Monday, the General Synod of the Church of England voted to proceed with blessings for same-sex couples and to explore allowing clergy to enter same-sex civil marriages and engage in homosexual sexual activity.

The vote narrowly passed, where a swing of two votes could have blocked the motion.

An evangelical coalition, the Alliance, which includes HTB, New Wine, Church of England Evangelical Council (CEEC), Renew, Church Society, has come together to oppose these plans, stating that “we do not believe it is possible for us to flourish within the Church of England's current structures.”

- [Read an update and analysis from Christian Concern's Ben John, who is also a member of Synod](#)
- [Read the Alliance's response](#)
- [Read CEEC's response](#)

[Read more >>](#)



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## **New CofE guidance still contains trans ideology**

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The Church of England (CofE) also released new anti-bullying guidance for its schools.

Flourishing for All is set to replace Valuing All God's Children. The previous guidance followed the trans ideology of groups like Mermaids and Stonewall, even thanking Stonewall employees for their help with the document.

But is the new guidance better? Head of Education Steve Beegoo shows that the guidance is still in thrall to gender ideology.

[Read more >>](#)

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## **Will Labour government be free from ideology?**

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This week, the new Prime Minister Sir Keir Starmer chose the ministers who would serve in his cabinet.

He claimed that the government would be “unburdened by doctrine”, emphasising action over words.

But some of his appointments tell a different story - is this new government really free from ideology?

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**“Far from being ‘grown up’, gender ideology reverts us all to the state of toddlers who don’t yet understand the difference between men and women.”**

**Andrea Williams**

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[Read more >>](#)

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**Where next for The Muslim Vote?**

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This election saw a new phenomenon in UK politics: a coordinated campaign to get Muslims voting en bloc exclusively on Islamic issues.

A group called The Muslim Vote ran a campaign to support candidates adopting Islamic values.

Head of Public Policy Tim Dieppe [analyses the Islamic influence](#) on the 2024 election.

[Read and watch >>](#)

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**TAKE ACTION**

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**Help speak truth to the new parliament**

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One week ago, the nation voted for a new government and a new Prime Minister.

Already, it's clear to see that there will be great challenges ahead. Vital issues of life, family and freedom are at stake - and the battles are only going to get harder.

We need your help today to build relationships with parliamentarians and to make your voice heard in Westminster.

[Read Andrea's message >>](#)



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With over half of MPs being new to parliament, now is an ideal time to contact them and introduce yourself.

MPs' contact details can now be found on the Parliament website, including email addresses.

Could you contact them, saying that you are a Christian, saying that you will pray for them and asking them to value life, family and freedom?

[Contact your MP >>](#)

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## IN THE NEWS

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## Gender

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The Darlington nurses' story was covered by [Fox News](#) and [Talk TV](#) this week, with [Riley Gaines posting her support for them on X](#).

The nurses are challenging an NHS Trust for forcing them to share a changing room with a biological male, sexually active, transgender colleague.

You can stand with the Darlington nurses and their right to safe spaces by signing this petition.

[Sign and share the petition >>](#)

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## Islam

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This week, Head of Public Policy Tim Dieppe spoke to Bob of Speaker's Corner about the challenge of Islam in the UK.

Tim and Bob discussed the Islamification of the West, and the sad reality that much of the Church has not been strong enough in resisting Islamic ideology.

[Watch >>](#)

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## Freedom

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The Coalition for Marriage (C4M) expressed its support for Christian Legal Centre client Felix Ngole, after a tribunal commended the decision to discard the social worker because of his Christian beliefs.

Felix's story was also commented on this week by the Christian Post and Decision Magazine.

[Read more >>](#)

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## Sexuality

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Social commentator and writer James Esses challenged Peter Tatchell's views on the 'Progress' Pride flag in a debate on GB News this week.

You can still make your voice heard in the stand against Progress Pride flags by signing and sharing our petition.

[Sign and share the petition >>](#)

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## IN DEPTH

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**How does freedom, law, and gospel go together?**

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Society has arrived at a place where the courts of law rule the Bible as "abusive" and "not compatible with human dignity."

Our Chief Executive Andrea Williams continued her series for TBN, as she shares what she has learnt from her life as a barrister, and how she partnered her profession with her Christian faith to spend her life proclaiming the law of God.

Andrea sounds the wake-up call for Christians across the UK and the world, as she cites examples from hundreds of our cases where freedom is under threat.

[Watch >>](#)

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## EVENTS

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**Sat 13 July: Scunthorpe**

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Benjamin John will be at Grace Church in Scotter on Saturday 13 July, speaking about the current state of our nation and how we can win a nation for Christ. Looking back at the goings on in our country over the last 50 years, Ben will explain how Christians should respond to the issues affecting society today, including the more controversial issues such as abortion and transgenderism.

[Find out more >>](#)

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## **Sat 20 July: London**

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Our co-founder Pastor Ade Omooba MBE will be a special guest at the Christ Apostolic Church (Bethel) UK, the first Christ Apostolic Church founded outside the continent of Africa, to celebrate their golden jubilee which is this year.

[Find out more >>](#)

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## **Mon 22 - Thu 25 July: Moray**

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Christian Concern will also be exhibiting at Refuel Scotland from 22-25 July, and you can visit our stand for more resources and the chance to meet some of our team.

[Find out more >>](#)

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**Christian Concern**

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