

- **Our Christian Heritage**

“I expect that the Battle of Britain is about to begin. Upon this battle depends the survival of Christian civilisation.” – Winston Churchill in his “Finest Hour” speech on 18th June 1940.

“The past, at least in Europe, was Christian .. People thought in Christian and spoke in Christian and reasoned in Christian, even as the public square became ever more plural. Belief was ubiquitous, shaping even the minority who did not believe.” - Nick Spencer

The institutions and values that are precious to us in our nation have not come from the Cave Men or the Greeks or the Romans .. they have come from Jesus Christ, and His followers seeking to follow His life and teaching...in the ancient world there was simply no conception of a common humanity

But the influence of Christian faith in our extraordinary War Effort was not just confined to seeking to protect the values and institutions that are so precious to us... Rather it is very clear as you read of those times, how vital was a belief in the **power** of God, expressed in prayer

... King George VI called for a National Prayer Day in May 1940 to plead for divine intervention as the British Army lay trapped at Dunkirk, facing annihilation.... so widespread and deep was faith in God that literally millions of people flocked into churches to pray.

... Field Marshall Montgomery, on the ending of the war in Europe in 1945, wrote to all his troops, with these words in the opening statement: “We must remember to give praise and thankfulness where it is due. “This is the Lord’s doing and it is marvellous in our eyes” (Psalm 118:23)

- The sacrifice that our people and others have made.
- The remarkable focus that was required by all through our country to ensure victory.
- Responding today – the Preciousness of Christian Faith, Sacrifice, Focus ... the Climate Crisis.