

BISHOP'S LETTER FOR PARISH MAGAZINES: MARCH 2010

Dear Friends

Remembering Bishop King

Lincoln has more of its Bishops with designated days in the Anglican Calendar than any other except Canterbury. They are Birinus (in those days Bishop of Dorchester), Hugh, Robert Grosseteste and Edward King.

It has been said that in the old days Communion Vessels were made of wood whilst Bishops were all gold - and now it's the other way round! Well, perhaps I had better leave others to make that judgement but we can indeed be proud of the part the See of Lincoln has played in the spiritual life of our nation through its most distinguished Bishops.

That is why the visit of the Archbishop of Canterbury to the Diocese 5 - 8th March to share with us in marking the Centenary of the death of Bishop Edward King is so important. Archbishop Rowan is a person of profound holiness allied to immense learning and pastoral sensitivity. He stands with the finest leaders of our Church as an example of Christ-like faithfulness and service - and is therefore qualified more than most to do justice to the memory of Edward King.

During his time with us, he will visit Parishes in the north and south of the Diocese, meet community leaders and educationalists, and he will see at first hand some examples of our outreach to the most vulnerable people in our society. He will engage with our growing number of people in training for Ordained and Lay Ministry, and he will Preside at Eucharists in the Cathedral and St. James, Grimsby.

Tickets for the Cathedral Eucharist at 3 p.m. on Saturday 6th March have been sent to Clergy, Readers and PCC Secretaries in order to try and secure as wide a representation as possible.

But Archbishop Rowan's Lecture at 11 a.m. on 6th March in the Cathedral will be open to all - no ticket required and no charge will be made. The title is Faith, Hope and Charity in Tomorrow's World and will be of general interest to Church people and non-Church goers alike. Of course, early arrival will secure the better seats, but CCTV and screens should ensure that everyone will be able to see and hear well.

Please contact my office by telephone or e-mail (01522 534701 <mailto:bishop.lincoln@lincoln.anglican.org>) if you have any queries about these arrangements.

+ John Lincoln