



March 2016

Easter Letter from the Bishop of Lincoln

Very soon it will be time for us all to think about Easter and what that means for each one of us. We'll soon be on holiday from school, and of course we'll have Easter eggs. And we have these things because it's Easter.

Hands up if you think Easter is just about the Easter eggs!

Well, I hope you are all very lucky and are able to enjoy your Easter eggs when Easter comes; but actually, Easter is about something much, much more than just chocolate eggs.

At Easter we remember that when Jesus was alive, he wasn't afraid to tell people that God loved us all so much that he wanted things to be different from the way they were. The things he said made some powerful people so angry that they killed him on the cross.

What Easter is *really* about is that God wouldn't let things stay that way. That was because God wanted us to know that even when we're very, very sad, things can get better. That's why Jesus came to life again.

When Jesus died, his friends lost someone who had been really special to them. They were so sad. They couldn't imagine life without him. They thought that all the good and happy times had come to an end. But God made sure that Jesus dying on the cross wasn't the end of everything at all: God made sure it was actually the beginning of something new and exciting.

Maybe you know a little bit about how Jesus' friends felt when he died. Maybe you feel hurt and sad sometimes. But because of what happened to Jesus on the cross, God knows what that feels like too. So, it's ok to be sad sometimes. Even when good things come to an end and we are sad about that, we are not on our own: we can trust God to be there with us until a new and happier time comes along. The promise of Easter is that we can get through the sad times and a happier time *will* come.

That's a really important thing for us to remember at Easter: even though everything changed for Jesus' friends when he was gone, God was able to do something completely new and unexpected which actually made things much better for everyone.

May God bless you, your homes and all those you love this Easter - and enjoy your Easter eggs.

+ Christopher Lincoln :