



The Acting Bishop of Lincoln

December 2019

One of the things I most like about living here is that I can so easily see the stars. In Lincolnshire I just have to look up into our huge skies, and there they are! These are the same stars that the wise men saw when they came to see Jesus.

You know the story. The wise men followed a special star to Bethlehem and the baby. And when they got there they gave him special gifts. I hope you will hear this story again in school or church at Christmas and that you will talk about it with your families and friends.

The wise men gave Jesus gifts and he is God's gift to them and to us.

The wise men chose their gifts with care, and so can we. Some of my favourite gifts were made for me by my own children. The simplest of gifts can bring the greatest pleasure. We need to look after our gifts. By doing this we show respect to the person who has given them and to each other.

For Christians, Jesus is God's greatest gift, but we also believe that God has given us the world as a gift. This year we have been talking a lot in Lincoln Diocese about how we care for the world. Water, soil and air are precious and we must not pollute them.

As a New Year begins, why not make a resolution to use less plastic? And why not take Jesus as an example of how to show love and respect?

I wish you and your families a very Happy Christmas! Remember to look up at the stars! We are all invited to celebrate the birth of Jesus.

With best wishes,

The Right Reverend Dr David Court
Bishop of Grimsby
Acting Bishop of Lincoln