



The Acting Bishop of Lincoln

December 2022

Dear Friends,

I was a shepherd in a Nativity Play at the end of my first term at school because I like sheep. I knew that baby sheep called lambs like to run around. Because they are small, they need to know who is looking after them alongside their Mum. That person is the shepherd. Jesus was born small, but shepherds came to him to bring their love and care and to support his Mum, Mary.

You may have little brothers or sisters, or you may have older brothers and sisters. Babies and younger children, like lambs, are beautiful and funny and I hope that you are kind with babies and that your older sisters and brothers are kind to you. We, like Jesus, are going to grow up and we need the rest of our family and anyone who looks after us to help us be good people. Sometimes we fall over and get upset and we need our own special shepherds at home and at school who help us to stand up and who wipe away our tears.

Please remember this Christmas to say thank you to God for the baby Jesus. Please also say thank you for the people who love us and make us safe.

Yours ever in Christ,

The Rt Revd Stephen Conway
Bishop of Ely
Acting Bishop of Lincoln