

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

My dear People of "Riseholme,"

April, 1954.

There are certain things in connection with the Church which you will want to know, and as your Vicar I take this early opportunity of giving you the following information:—

- (1) You are now living in the Parish of St. Nicholas.
- (2) For arrangements, therefore, about Baptisms, Churchings, Marriages, etc., you come to me. For Funerals it is usual to make arrangements directly with the Undertakers, though I of course will be "in the picture" if you have called me in beforehand.
- (3) St. Nicholas Church and Vicarage are in Newport—about the middle, on opposite sides, and 100 yards apart.
- (4) I am also responsible for the churches of St. Matthias (corner of Burton Road and Yarborough Crescent), St. Christopher's (Long Leys Road), and St. Mary's (Riseholme Village).

(5) There are 10,000 people in the old part of the Parish, and when your Estate is completed there will be 10,000 more.

(6) A dual-purpose Church - Church Hall and a Parsonage house are to be built as soon as possible on the site reserved for them in the corner made by Laughton Way and Sudbrooke Drive (facing you as you come in by the Ravendale Drive entrance).

(7) This will make five places of worship for me to look after, and what with 20,000 people I shall not see as much of you as I could wish, for so far I am singlehanded. But an Assistant Curate is coming at Michaelmas and I hope for another before then.

(8) One of these will, in time, live among you, and the Estate will, perhaps, eventually be made a separate Parish on its own—whether in our life-time I don't know.

MEANWHILE we have to get the buildings up—the dual-purpose one first (the "church" part of it will be partitioned off)—so that you may have your own Church Hall and place of worship.

New building areas are springing up all round the fringes of Lincoln and £50,000 will be needed for Church purposes. Of this sum the Riseholme Estate will need £10,000. The "dual-purpose" must not cost more than £6,500 if we are to benefit fully from the grant of 40 per cent of its cost promised by the Church Commissioners at Westminster. We and the rest of the City must find the balance.

The church folk in the "old parish" of St. Nicholas have been saving up all through Lent to give a start to the LINCOLN CHURCH EXTENSION SOCIETY Fund to which, as I say (and thank goodness!) the whole City will be asked to contribute.

You too will want to do your share towards getting your own buildings.

FOR THIS PURPOSE I hope you have taken, or will take, a savings box into your new home and will fill it before the middle of June when it will be called in for the first time.

I hope, too, that you have taken, or will take, the Parish Magazine (3d. monthly) and so will be able to keep abreast of what is happening. In the May issue will appear the names and addresses of people in the Estate itself who have volunteered to be magazine distributors and centres of information generally.

On Monday, 3rd May, at 7-30 p.m. in the St. Nicholas Parish Hall (in St. John's Road off Newport, opposite the Vicarage) you have the opportunity of coming along and expressing your views on the type of building we might put up. I shall welcome your advice. Remember the date.

I hope you are all enjoying your new life here, and I pray that God will richly bless you all in your homes and families. As we try to love and serve Him we learn how to love and serve one another. I'm sure we all want "Riseholme" to stand for one happy family, although a big one!

Yours very sincerely,

W. T. ARMSTRONG (Vicar).

St. Nicholas Vicarage, Newport.