**The Dean of Westminster**

**Introduction**

The following text is an individual informative text with the purpose of informing about the life of the Bishop of Westminster.

**Summary of his life**

Herbert Edward Ryle was born in Onslow Square, London, on 25 May 1856. He was a son of John Charles Ryle, Bishop of Liverpool. He was educated at Eton College and King's College, Cambridge. Ryle was elected a Fellow of King's College in April 1881, and began a career of twenty years as a teacher. was ordained deacon in 1882 and priest in 1883. In December 1898, he became a chaplain ordinary chaplain to Her Majesty's service.

Ryle in December 1900 was appointed bishop of Exeter, and was consecrated at Westminster Abbey in January 1901.

In December 1910, he was appointed Dean of Westminster. During World War Ryle used to take the intercessory noon service in person, and was responsible for many inmates special services in wartime.

He was important in the creation of the cult of the Unknown Soldier, because strongly supported the idea with Prime Minister Lloyd George. There was initial opposition by King George V and others, but a wave of emotional support from the large number of families in mourning secured its adoption. The inscription on the tomb was composed by Ryle.

In the fall of 1924 his health broke down. After five months in a nursing home in Bournemouth returned in May 1925 to the Dean's Office, where he died on 20 August. He was buried on August 25 in Westminster Abbey in a place near the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

The grave of Herbert Edward Ryle, dean of Westminster, is at the center of the nave of Westminster, near the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. A new stone with cast-iron letters was established in 1983. The inscription reads:

"Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit. Herbert Edward Ryle KCVO, DD Dean of Westminster from 1911 to 1925. Born on May 25, 1856. Died 20 August 1925. Bishop of Exeter from 1901 to 1903, Bishop of Winchester 1903-1911 . you incline me to show the way of life. In your presence is fullness of joy. "