

Weekly update for Sunday 16th August 2026

The Benefice of
Hopton, Corton & Gunton

09:30	Morning Prayer	St Benedict's, Gunton
11:00	Holy Communion	St Margaret's, Hopton

THIS WEEK

Monday 17th August 10:00 – 12:00	DROP-IN at St Margaret's, Hopton. Meet and chat with others over a cup of tea or coffee. All are welcome.
Wednesday 19th August 10:00 – 10:30	MIDWEEK HOLY COMMUNION at St Peter's, Gunton. A short, said, service of Holy Communion followed by the Coffee Morning for Gunton Woodland Burial Park in the church annex. All are welcome.
14:00 – 16:00	FRIENDSHIP CLUB at St Peter's, Gunton annex. A group to get together to enjoy friendship, games, and activities. This week: a quiz. All are welcome.
Saturday 22nd August 10:00 – 14:00	CRAFT FAYRE at St Margaret's, Hopton. Refreshments to eat in or take out are available from Penny's Pantry. Donations for the tombola are gratefully received.
10:30 – 13:00	OPEN CHURCH at St Bartholomew's, Corton. Church open to visit; stay for coffee and cake. All are welcome.

OTHER NOTICES

SHANTY CHORUS at St Margaret's, Hopton: Sunday 23rd August, 2.30pm. The Rogues Shanty Chorus will be performing the traditional songs of fishermen and sailors. Tickets £10 from Irene Nickerson, or on the door.

BENEFICE SERVICE at St Benedict's, Gunton: Sunday 30th August, 10.30am. For the 5th Sunday in the month, we will gather together for worship at St Benedict's. This will be a service of Holy Communion.

RURAL DEAN: Following the end of Revd Helen Jary's term of office, Revd Sharon Lord has been appointed as the next Rural Dean for Lothingland. The Rural Dean serves local clergy, churchwardens, and others by co-chairing the Deanery Synod and acting as the bishop's officer in the area. Please give thanks for Helen's service in recent years and pray ahead for Sharon as she takes on this additional responsibility.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

- The family and friends of **Phillip List**, whose funeral was held on Friday 14th August, especially Joan and their daughter Alison.
- **Sam Trowbridge & Emma Youngman**, whose wedding is at St Peter's, Gunton, on Saturday 22nd August.
- Couples whose **Banns of Marriage** are being read on Sunday: Danny Perring & Isobel Williams (Corton).

SUNDAY 23rd AUGUST

09:30	Holy Communion	St Bartholomew's, Corton
11:00	Morning Worship	St Margaret's, Hopton
11:00	Holy Communion	St Peter's, Gunton

The Benefice of Hopton, Corton & Gunton

Rector: Revd Alastair Gledhill

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COLLECT

O God, you declare your almighty power
most chiefly in showing mercy and pity:
mercifully grant to us such a measure
of your grace,
that we, running the way of your
commandments,
may receive your gracious promises,
and be made partakers of your
heavenly treasure;
through Jesus Christ your Son our
Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

ISAIAH 56:1, 6-8

This is what the LORD says:

‘Maintain justice
and do what is right,
for my salvation is close at hand
and my righteousness will soon be
revealed. [...]

⁶ And foreigners who bind
themselves to the LORD
to minister to him,
to love the name of the LORD,
and to be his servants,
all who keep the Sabbath without
desecrating it
and who hold fast to my
covenant –
⁷ these I will bring to my holy
mountain
and give them joy in my house of
prayer.

Their burnt offerings and sacrifices
will be accepted on my altar;
for my house will be called
a house of prayer for all nations.’

⁸ The Sovereign LORD declares –
he who gathers the exiles of
Israel:
‘I will gather still others to them
besides those already gathered.’

PSALM 67

For the director of music. With
stringed instruments. A psalm. A
song.

1 May God be gracious to us and
bless us
and make his face shine on us –
2 so that your ways may be known
on earth,
your salvation among all nations.

3 May the peoples praise you, God;
may all the peoples praise you.

4 May the nations be glad and sing
for joy,

for you rule the peoples with
equity
and guide the nations of the earth.

5 May the peoples praise you, God;
may all the peoples praise you.

6 The land yields its harvest;
God, our God, blesses us.

7 May God bless us still,
so that all the ends of the earth
will fear him.

ROMANS 11:1-2a, 29-32

I ask then: did God reject his people?
By no means! I am an Israelite myself,
a descendant of Abraham, from the
tribe of Benjamin. ² God did not
reject his people, whom he foreknew.

[...] for God’s gifts and his call are
irrevocable. ³⁰ Just as you who were
at one time disobedient to God have
now received mercy as a result of
their disobedience, ³¹ so they too
have now become disobedient in
order that they too may now receive
mercy as a result of God’s mercy to
you. ³² For God has bound everyone
over to disobedience so that he may
have mercy on them all.

MATTHEW 15:21-28

²¹ Leaving that place, Jesus withdrew
to the region of Tyre and Sidon. ²² A
Canaanite woman from that vicinity
came to him, crying out, ‘Lord, Son of
David, have mercy on me! My
daughter is demon-possessed and
suffering terribly.’

²³ Jesus did not answer a word. So his
disciples came to him and urged him,
‘Send her away, for she keeps crying
out after us.’

²⁴ He answered, ‘I was sent only to
the lost sheep of Israel.’

²⁵ The woman came and knelt before
him. ‘Lord, help me!’ she said.

²⁶ He replied, ‘It is not right to take
the children’s bread and toss it to the
dogs.’

²⁷ ‘Yes it is, Lord,’ she said. ‘Even the
dogs eat the crumbs that fall from
their master’s table.’

²⁸ Then Jesus said to her, ‘Woman,
you have great faith! Your request is
granted.’ And her daughter was
healed at that moment.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Lord of all mercy,
we your faithful people have
celebrated that one true sacrifice
which takes away our sins and brings
pardon and peace:
by our communion
keep us firm on the foundation of the
gospel
and preserve us from all sin;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.