

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

THIS WEEK

Monday 21st September 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 23rd September 14:00 – 16:00	FRIENDSHIP CLUB at St Benedict's, Gunton. A group to get together to enjoy friendship and activities. This week: Bell ringers. All are welcome.
Thursday 24th September 09:15 – 11:15	LITTLE FOOTPRINTS at St Margaret's, Hopton. Play & Stay for pre-school children (0-4) and their parents/carers.
Saturday 26th September 10:00 – 14:00	CRAFT FAYRE at St Margaret's, Hopton. Refreshments are available to eat in or take out. Donations for the tombola are gratefully received.

OTHER NOTICES

HARVEST FESTIVAL dates for your diary:

- **St Bartholomew's, Corton** on Sunday 27th September at 09:30.
- **St Peter's, Gunton** on Sunday 27th September at 11:00.
- **St Margaret's, Hopton** on Sunday 4th October at 11:00.

Donations of dry packaged food and tins will be collected for a local food bank.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOXES will be collected at St Margaret's, Hopton, on behalf of Samaritan's Purse. Fill a shoebox with gifts to be shared with a child in need this Christmas. Empty shoeboxes can be collected from St Margaret's, or you can use one you have at home. A sheet with information of appropriate gift ideas is available. The deadline for returning filled shoeboxes to St Margaret's is Sunday 8th November.

NEW ARCHDEACON: Following the retirement of the Venerable Steven Betts, the Diocese of Norwich has announced that the next Archdeacon of Norfolk will be **the Revd Christopher Bunce**. He is currently Team Rector of the Hitchin Team Ministry and Vicar of St Mary's, Hitchin in the Diocese of St Albans. The installation will take place on 3rd December 2026 at 5.30pm at Norwich Cathedral.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

- **Luca Patterson**, who is being baptised at St Margaret's, Hopton, on Sunday 20th September.
- The family and friends of **Joan Grimmer**, whose ashes are being interred at St Peter's, Gunton, on Wednesday 23rd September.

SUNDAY 27th SEPTEMBER

09:30	Harvest Festival <i>with Holy Communion</i>	St Bartholomew's, Corton
11:00	Morning Worship	St Margaret's, Hopton
11:00	Harvest Festival <i>with Holy Communion</i>	St Peter's, Gunton

COLLECT

O Lord, we beseech you mercifully to hear
the prayers of your people who call
upon you;
and grant that they may both perceive
and know what things they ought to
do,
and also may have grace and power
faithfully to fulfil them;
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.

JONAH 3:10 – 4:11

¹⁰ When God saw what they did and how they turned from their evil ways, he relented and did not bring on them the destruction he had threatened.

⁴ But to Jonah this seemed very wrong, and he became angry. ² He prayed to the LORD, 'Isn't this what I said, LORD, when I was still at home? That is what I tried to forestall by fleeing to Tarshish. I knew that you are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abounding in love, a God who relents from sending calamity. ³ Now, LORD, take away my life, for it is better for me to die than to live.'

⁴ But the LORD replied, 'Is it right for you to be angry?'

⁵ Jonah had gone out and sat down at a place east of the city. There he made himself a shelter, sat in its shade and waited to see what would happen to the city. ⁶ Then the LORD God provided a leafy plant and made it grow up over Jonah to give shade for his head to ease his discomfort, and Jonah was very happy about the plant. ⁷ But at dawn the next day God provided a worm, which chewed the plant so that it withered. ⁸ When the sun rose, God provided a scorching east wind, and the sun blazed on Jonah's head so that he grew faint. He wanted to die, and said, 'It would be better for me to die than to live.'

⁹ But God said to Jonah, 'Is it right for you to be angry about the plant?'

'It is,' he said. 'And I'm so angry I wish I were dead.'

¹⁰ But the LORD said, 'You have been concerned about this plant, though you did not tend it or make it grow. It sprang up overnight and died overnight. ¹¹ And should I not have concern for the great city of Nineveh, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who cannot tell their right hand from their left – and also many animals?'

PHILIPPIANS 1:21-30

²¹ For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain. ²² If I am to go on living in the body, this will mean fruitful labour for me. Yet what shall I choose? I do not know! ²³ I am torn between the two: I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far; ²⁴ but it is more necessary for you that I remain in the body. ²⁵ Convinced of this, I know that I will remain, and I will continue with all of you for your progress and joy in the faith, ²⁶ so that through my being with you again your boasting in Christ Jesus will abound on account of me.

²⁷ Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ. Then, whether I come and see you or only hear about you in my absence, I will know that you stand firm in the one Spirit, striving together as one for the faith of the gospel ²⁸ without being frightened in any way by those who oppose you. This is a sign to them that they will be destroyed, but that you will be saved – and that by God. ²⁹ For it has been granted to you on behalf of Christ not only to believe in him, but also to suffer for him, ³⁰ since you are going through the same struggle you saw I had, and now hear that I still have.

MATTHEW 20:1-16

²⁰ 'For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the

morning to hire workers for his vineyard. ² He agreed to pay them a denarius for the day and sent them into his vineyard.

³ 'About nine in the morning he went out and saw others standing in the market-place doing nothing. ⁴ He told them, "You also go and work in my vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right." ⁵ So they went.

'He went out again about noon and about three in the afternoon and did the same thing. ⁶ About five in the afternoon he went out and found still others standing around. He asked them, "Why have you been standing here all day long doing nothing?"

⁷ "Because no one has hired us," they answered.

'He said to them, "You also go and work in my vineyard."

⁸ 'When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, "Call the workers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last ones hired and going on to the first."

⁹ 'The workers who were hired about five in the afternoon came and each received a denarius. ¹⁰ So when those came who were hired first, they expected to receive more. But each one of them also received a denarius. ¹¹ When they received it, they began to grumble against the landowner. ¹² "These who were hired last worked only one hour," they said, "and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the work and the heat of the day."

¹³ 'But he answered one of them, "I am not being unfair to you, friend. Didn't you agree to work for a denarius? ¹⁴ Take your pay and go. I want to give the one who was hired last the same as I gave you. ¹⁵ Don't I have the right to do what I want with my own money? Or are you envious because I am generous?"

¹⁶ 'So the last will be first, and the first will be last.'