

# Weekly update for Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2026

The Benefice of  
Hopton, Corton & Gunton

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|-------|------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 09:30 | Morning Prayer                     | St Benedict's, Gunton |
| 11:00 | Holy Communion <i>with Baptism</i> | St Margaret's, Hopton |

## THIS WEEK

|                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Monday 19<sup>th</sup> October</b><br>10:00 – 12:00    | <b>DROP IN at St Margaret's, Hopton.</b> Meet and chat with others over a cup of tea or coffee. All are welcome.                                                                                   |
| <b>Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> October</b><br>10:00 – 10:30 | <b>MIDWEEK HOLY COMMUNION at St Peter's, Gunton.</b> 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                                             | <b>FRIENDSHIP CLUB at St Peter's, Gunton</b> annex. A group to get together to enjoy friendship and activities. All are welcome.                                                                   |
| <b>Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October</b><br>09:15 – 11:15  | <b>LITTLE FOOTPRINTS at St Margaret's, Hopton.</b> Play & Stay for pre-school children (0-4) and their parents/carers.                                                                             |
| <b>Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> October</b><br>10:00 – 14:00  | <b>CRAFT FAYRE at St Margaret's, Hopton.</b> Refreshments are available to eat in or take out. Donations for the tombola are gratefully received.                                                  |

## OTHER NOTICES

**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 8<sup>th</sup> November.

**LOWESTOFT LIVING WORD** is held at Christ Church Lowestoft on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> & Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October, 19:30 – 21:00, at Christ Church Lowestoft (NR32 1XD). The theme is 'Inner Renewal' with talks each evening from Isaiah 40. The speaker is Revd Ed Veale, vicar of St Mark's Church in Mitcham, south London. More information can be found online at [lowestoftlivingword.co.uk](http://lowestoftlivingword.co.uk)

**BABY LOSS SERVICE** will be held on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> November, 15:00, at St Margaret's, Hopton (All Saints' Day). This is a service of remembrance for all the babies who are always loved, always remembered. Held in partnership with Max's Legacy. All are welcome to attend.

## FOR YOUR PRAYERS

- **Ikora Fayers**, who is being baptised at St Margaret's, Hopton, on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> October.

## SUNDAY 25<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER

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

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The Benefice of Hopton, Corton & Gunton

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## COLLECT

God, the giver of life,  
whose Holy Spirit wells up within your  
Church:  
by the Spirit's gifts equip us to live the  
gospel of Christ  
and make us eager to do your will,  
that we may share with the whole  
creation  
the joys of eternal life;  
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 45:1-7

**45** 'This is what the LORD says to his  
anointed,  
to Cyrus, whose right hand I take  
hold of  
to subdue nations before him  
and to strip kings of their armour,  
to open doors before him  
so that gates will not be shut:  
<sup>2</sup> I will go before you  
and will level the mountains;<sup>[a]</sup>  
I will break down gates of bronze  
and cut through bars of iron.  
<sup>3</sup> I will give you hidden treasures,  
riches stored in secret places,  
so that you may know that I am the  
LORD,  
the God of Israel, who summons  
you by name.  
<sup>4</sup> For the sake of Jacob my servant,  
of Israel my chosen,  
I summon you by name  
and bestow on you a title of  
honour,  
though you do not acknowledge  
me.  
<sup>5</sup> I am the LORD, and there is no  
other;  
apart from me there is no God.  
I will strengthen you,  
though you have not  
acknowledged me,  
<sup>6</sup> so that from the rising of the sun  
to the place of its setting  
people may know there is none

besides me.

I am the LORD, and there is no  
other.  
<sup>7</sup> I form the light and create darkness,  
I bring prosperity and create  
disaster;  
I, the LORD, do all these things.

## I THESSALONIANS 1:1-10

I Paul, Silas and Timothy,  
To the church of the Thessalonians in  
God the Father and the Lord Jesus  
Christ:  
Grace and peace to you.  
<sup>2</sup> We always thank God for all of you  
and continually mention you in our  
prayers. <sup>3</sup> We remember before our  
God and Father your work produced  
by faith, your labour prompted by  
love, and your endurance inspired by  
hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.  
<sup>4</sup> For we know, brothers and sisters  
loved by God, that he has chosen you,  
<sup>5</sup> because our gospel came to you not  
simply with words but also with  
power, with the Holy Spirit and deep  
conviction. You know how we lived  
among you for your sake. <sup>6</sup> You  
became imitators of us and of the  
Lord, for you welcomed the message  
in the midst of severe suffering with  
the joy given by the Holy Spirit. <sup>7</sup> And  
so you became a model to all the  
believers in Macedonia and Achaia.  
<sup>8</sup> The Lord's message rang out from  
you not only in Macedonia and  
Achaia – your faith in God has  
become known everywhere.  
Therefore we do not need to say  
anything about it, <sup>9</sup> for they  
themselves report what kind of  
reception you gave us. They tell how  
you turned to God from idols to  
serve the living and true God, <sup>10</sup> and  
to wait for his Son from heaven,  
whom he raised from the dead –  
Jesus, who rescues us from the  
coming wrath.

## MATTHEW 22:15-22

<sup>15</sup> Then the Pharisees went out and  
laid plans to trap him in his words.  
<sup>16</sup> They sent their disciples to him  
along with the Herodians. 'Teacher,'  
they said, 'we know that you are a  
man of integrity and that you teach  
the way of God in accordance with  
the truth. You aren't swayed by  
others, because you pay no attention  
to who they are. <sup>17</sup> Tell us then, what  
is your opinion? Is it right to pay the  
poll-tax to Caesar or not?'  
<sup>18</sup> But Jesus, knowing their evil intent,  
said, 'You hypocrites, why are you  
trying to trap me? <sup>19</sup> Show me the  
coin used for paying the tax.' They  
brought him a denarius, <sup>20</sup> and he  
asked them, 'Whose image is this?  
And whose inscription?'  
<sup>21</sup> 'Caesar's,' they replied.  
Then he said to them, 'So give back to  
Caesar what is Caesar's, and to God  
what is God's.'  
<sup>22</sup> When they heard this, they were  
amazed. So they left him and went  
away.  
**POST COMMUNION**  
God our Father,  
whose Son, the light unfailing,  
has come from heaven to deliver the  
world  
from the darkness of ignorance:  
let these holy mysteries open the eyes  
of our understanding  
that we may know the way of life,  
and walk in it without stumbling;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.