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

THIS WEEK

Monday 16th November 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 18th November 10:00 – 10:30	**HOLY COMMUNION with A TIME TO REMEMBER 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. This service will include a special time to remember and give thanks for the lives of loved ones who have died. All are welcome.
14:00 – 16:00	**FRIENDSHIP CLUB at St Peter's, Gunton** annex. A group to get together to enjoy friendship and activities. All are welcome.
Thursday 19th November 09:15 – 11:15	**LITTLE FOOTPRINTS at St Margaret's, Hopton.** Play & Stay for pre-school children (0-4) and their parents/carers.
Saturday 21st November 10:00 – 14:00	**CRAFT FAYRE at St Margaret's, Hopton – Christmas special!** Browse table-top stalls from a range of local crafters. Tea & coffee and sweet & savoury treats are available to eat in or take out. Free to enter.
10:30 – 13:00	**OPEN CHURCH at St Bartholomew's, Corton.** Tea & coffee and a range of sweet & savoury treats are available. All are welcome.

OTHER NOTICES

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOXES – a big thank you to everyone who donated a shoebox with gifts for a child this year! A total of 31 boxes were donated from St Margaret's – a great achievement.

MEN'S BREAKFAST run by the Lowestoft Christian Men's Network is on Saturday 21st November. Martello Coffee House at Sparrow's Nest, 07:45 for 08:00 start. Full English breakfast and hot drink for £11.50. The speaker is Sam Porter from the Lowestoft Food Bank. All (men!) are welcome.

BENEFICE SERVICE on Sunday 29th November, Advent Sunday. For the 5th Sunday in the month, we are joining together for a Christingle service at St Margaret's, Hopton, at 10:30. The service will be suitable for all ages (including – but not *just* – families and children).

SUNDAY 22nd NOVEMBER

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

Rector: Revd Alastair Gledhill 01502 781545 rector@hoptoncortongunton.church

Sunday 15th November 2026

2nd Sunday before Advent

COLLECT

Heavenly Father,
whose blessed Son was revealed
to destroy the works of the devil
and to make us the children of God
and heirs of eternal life:
grant that we, having this hope,
may purify ourselves even as he is
pure;
that when he shall appear in power
and great glory
we may be made like him in his
eternal and glorious kingdom;
where he is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

ZEPHANIAH 1:7, 12-18

7 Be silent before the Sovereign
LORD,
for the day of the LORD is near.
The LORD has prepared a sacrifice;
he has consecrated those he has
invited. […]

12 At that time I will search Jerusalem
with lamps
and punish those who are
complacent,
who are like wine left on its dregs,
who think, "The LORD will do
nothing,
either good or bad."
13 Their wealth will be plundered,
their houses demolished.
Though they build houses,
they will not live in them;
though they plant vineyards,
they will not drink the wine.'

14 The great day of the LORD is
near –
near and coming quickly.
The cry on the day of the LORD is
bitter;
the Mighty Warrior shouts his
battle cry.
15 That day will be a day of wrath –
a day of distress and anguish,
a day of trouble and ruin,
a day of darkness and gloom,
a day of clouds and blackness –
16 a day of trumpet and battle cry
against the fortified cities
and against the corner towers.

17 'I will bring such distress on all
people
that they will grope about like
those who are blind,
because they have sinned against
the LORD.
Their blood will be poured out like
dust
and their entrails like dung.
18 Neither their silver nor their gold
will be able to save them
on the day of the LORD's wrath.'

In the fire of his jealousy
the whole earth will be consumed,
for he will make a sudden end
of all who live on the earth.

MATTHEW 25:14-30

14 'Again, it will be like a man going on
a journey, who called his servants and
entrusted his wealth to them. 15 To
one he gave five bags of gold, to
another two bags, and to another one
bag, each according to his ability. Then
he went on his journey. 16 The man
who had received five bags of gold
went at once and put his money to
work and gained five bags more. 17 So
also, the one with two bags of gold
gained two more. 18 But the man who
had received one bag went off, dug a
hole in the ground and hid his
master's money.

19 'After a long time the master of
those servants returned and settled
accounts with them. 20 The man who
had received five bags of gold brought
the other five. "Master," he said, "you
entrusted me with five bags of gold.
See, I have gained five more."

21 'His master replied, "Well done,
good and faithful servant! You have
been faithful with a few things; I will
put you in charge of many things.
Come and share your master's
happiness!"

22 'The man with two bags of gold also
came. "Master," he said, "you
entrusted me with two bags of gold:
see, I have gained two more."

23 'His master replied, "Well done,
good and faithful servant! You have
been faithful with a few things; I will
put you in charge of many things.
Come and share your master's
happiness!"

24 'Then the man who had received
one bag of gold came. "Master," he
said, "I knew that you are a hard man,
harvesting where you have not sown
and gathering where you have not
scattered seed. 25 So I was afraid and
went out and hid your gold in the
ground. See, here is what belongs to
you."

26 'His master replied, "You wicked,
lazy servant! So you knew that I
harvest where I have not sown and
gather where I have not scattered
seed? 27 Well then, you should have
put my money on deposit with the
bankers, so that when I returned I
would have received it back with
interest.

28 "'So take the bag of gold from him
and give it to the one who has ten
bags. 29 For whoever has will be given
more, and they will have an
abundance. Whoever does not have,
even what they have will be taken
from them. 30 And throw that
worthless servant outside, into the
darkness, where there will be
weeping and gnashing of teeth."

POST COMMUNION

Gracious Lord,
in this holy sacrament
you give substance to our hope:
bring us at the last
to that fullness of life for which we long;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

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