



TOGETHER IN FAITH



Diocese of
Chelmsford

Serving the parishes of Clavering, Langley, Arkesden,
Wicken Bonhunt, Manuden and Berden

Newsletter for the week beginning 2nd February 2026 (3/26)



Welcome to our
benefice newsletter.
I am Reverend Gary
Fleming, Vicar to the
Clavering Benefice.
A group of six,
stunning rural
parishes in the
north-west of Essex.

TELLING YOUR STORY

BY REVEREND GARY FLEMING

In my sermon last Sunday, I preached on the call of the first disciples. The fishermen Andrew and his brother Peter. We also reflected that over that weekend and the coming days, we remembered the conversion or commission of Saul who would become known as Paul, to be the apostle to the Gentiles.

I reflected that Christ calls each of us to come to know him in different ways. For Andrew and Peter, it was a gentle summons, whereas for Paul, it was a sudden and dramatic experience on the road to Damascus. We each have our story of calling, of how we came to know Christ. And our stories are a powerful way of sharing our faith with those who are exploring theirs. The way in which our everyday experiences became moments of encounter can help others make Christ shaped sense of their world. And maybe encourage them to follow as we did. Amen

Services

Week 1st Feb - 8th Feb 2026

Sunday 1st Feb. Candlemass

09.30 am - Holy Communion,
Manuden

11.00 am - Holy Communion,
Clavering

4.00 pm - Pet Blessing
Service, Berden

Wednesday 4th February

9.00 am - Holy Communion,
Clavering

Thursday 5th February

9.00 am - Morning Prayer,
Manuden

4.30 pm - Evening Prayer,
Wicken Bonhunt

7.30 pm - Compline, Clavering

Sunday 8th Feb

9.30 am - Holy Communion,
Berden

9.30 am - Morning Worship,
Wicken Bonhunt

10.00 am - Crafty Church,
Langley

11.00 am - Messy Church,
Manuden

11.00 am - Morning Worship,
Clavering Christian Centre

Readings

Sunday 1st Feb

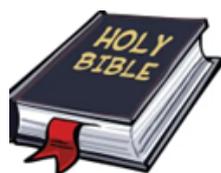
Malachi 3:1-5, Luke 2:22-40

Sunday 8th Feb

Gen 1:1-2:3, Mat 6:25 - end

New to faith or exploring what it means to you. Read on...

We intend to run an Alpha course in 2026 to support conversations for people wishing to explore faith further. The course is run over several weeks and is an enjoyable way to explore faith from the perspective of somebody who is new to faith. If you would like to be part of this discussion, please use the QR code below by simply opening your camera and focusing on the code to follow the link for the opportunity to register your interest.



Bible Study Group

The benefice bible study group is held every Thursday from 10.30-12pm at the Clavering Christian Centre, CB11 4PH. This offers us a warm venue for the winter months and good facilities. All are welcome regardless of if you have ever read the Bible or not. Tea, coffee and conversation come as standard so please do pop in, and don't worry if you can't make every week.

Prayers

Collect for 2nd Sunday before Lent

Almighty God, you have created the heavens and the earth and made us in your own image:

teach us to discern your hand in all your works and your likeness in all your children;

through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit reigns supreme over all things, now and for ever. Amen

Benefice Prayers

We pray for Archbishop Mullally for her new ministry as Archbishop of Canterbury. As we grow our ministry, we pray for the many projects underway within our benefice. We pray for Clavering for the youth group and reordering, Langley for the completion of reordering works and events, Arkesden for the reordering project, Wicken Bonhunt for the new community arrangements. Manuden for the growth of their families ministry and Berden, for their soon-to-start building works. Amen

How to get in touch

If you would like to receive this weekly notice sheet by email or have your event publicised in it, please send details to the benefice office email which is ClaveringBenefice@outlook.com.

Office admin asst: Jane Cowley working from home.

For pastoral or service related matters, please contact Reverend Gary Fleming on 07491 402273 or email on revdgaryfleming@outlook.com (Vicar does not work Mondays)

What's on

4th Feb, 4th March - Coffee and Crafts, 10am-12 - Clavering Christian Centre

4th Feb, 4th March - Soup and Sweet 12-2pm- Clavering Christian Centre



Stride by Stride Walking Group

All walks start at 10.30am

January 30th - Starting at St John's church, Langley.

February 27th - Starting at St Margarets Church, Wicken Bonhunt.

March 27th - Starting at the Cricketers Pub in Clavering.

April 24th - Starting from Poppies Café in Langley.

Volunteering at your local church

If you would like to be involved in your local church, or have an idea for a community event please do get in touch. Volunteering is a great way to make friends and be part of the community. We have many opportunities from leading groups, grounds maintenance, flower arranging and cleaning, reading in church or being a welcomer at services. Contact Reverend Gary Fleming to find out more or to have a chat.

Join us for a transformative
journey this Lent



Walking with Christ

**A course of conversation and encounter held over 6 weeks
(Attend as many as you are able)**

**All 2026 sessions run from 7-8.30 pm and will be held on
19th Feb, 26th Feb, 5th March, 12th March, 17th March, 25th March**

Venue - Clavering Christian Centre. Stortford Road, Clavering.
CB11 4PH

All are welcome to join!



**CLAVERING
BENEFICE**



PET BLESSING SERVICE

All are welcome to this fun and friendly family service. Bring your pets, big and small, including horses, sheep, water snails, alpacas, cats and dogs.

Well behaved owners also welcome!

Service Dates and Times

February 1st at 4pm – St Nicholas Church,
Berden.

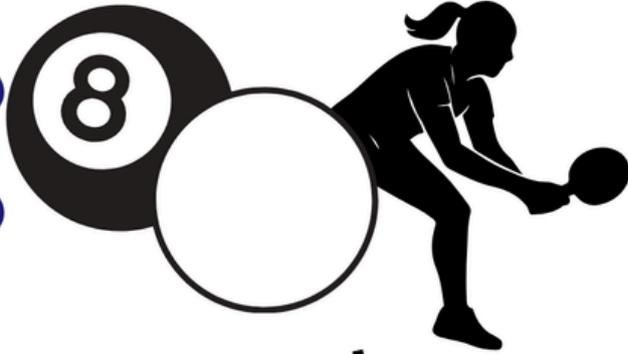
March 8th at 4pm – St Mary and St Clement
Church, Clavering

CONTACT DETAILS FOR MORE INFORMATION

REVEREND GARY FLEMING: 07491 402273,
REVDGARYFLEMING@OUTLOOK.COM



OPEN DOOR YOUTH DROP-IN



**Pool
Darts
Table Tennis
Card games
Table top games and
football**

Activities and refreshments for youths aged 11-16. Last Wednesday of the month starting 28th Jan 2026 7-8.30pm

**Scan here to register
(You must register to attend)**



Come along, have fun, meet new friends

Venue - Clavering Christian Centre.
Stortford Road CB11 4PH

Contact - Reverend Gary Fleming for more info.
07491 402273
revdgaryfleming@outlook.com



**CLAVERING
BENEFICE**