

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

## Newsletter for the week beginning 12<sup>th</sup> Jan 2026 (1/26)



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.

### The Gift of Unity. A reflection on the Sermon for Christmas Eve

By Reverend Gary Fleming

At Christmas Eve services my sermon focused on the gift of unity that is seen as righteous by the Lord (Psalm 133). We remember that Christ came to us to reconcile all things back to God, through his sacrifice.

I called us to consider what the world about us might look like if we were to focus our time and effort on sowing seeds of unity. It was a call to be one in the body of Christ in the midst of so much that seeks to divide us through the use of language, social patterns and behaviours. Earlier in the year at Remembrance, I preached on the need for radical listening, something that Jesus modelled, to understand each other better. It is an example that I hope will lead to us locally, nationally and globally to greater unity and Christian fellowship in 2026.

## **Services - week beginning the 12th of January 2026**

### **Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> Jan**

**9.00 am** - Holy Communion  
Clavering

### **Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> Jan**

**9.00 am** - Morning Prayer  
Manuden

**4.30 pm** - Evening Prayer  
Wicken Bonhunt

### **Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> Jan**

**9.30 am** - Holy Communion  
Clavering

**09.30 am** - Holy Communion  
Langley

**11.00 am** - Holy communion  
Wicken Bonhunt

**11.00 am** - Morning Worship  
Berden

**11.00 am** - Holy Communion  
Manuden

**4.00 pm** - Café Church  
Clavering Christian Centre

We are a friendly group of Christians who welcome all, and newcomers will find our services easy to follow. For more information, please do follow the contact details at the end of the newsletter.

## **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. That is fine.

The next Bible study will be on the 15<sup>th</sup> of January 2026

## Prayers

### Collect for the Second Sunday of Epiphany

Almighty God, in Christ you make all things new:

transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your heavenly glory;

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. Amen

### Benefice Prayers

We pray this week for those returning to school after the Christmas break. We pray for all emergency services, health care and military personnel who worked over the Christmas period and are now taking some well deserved rest.

We pray for peace in the world and in particular those are that know only war this day. We pray for all peace makers and those who strive to support those in humanitarian need at home and abroad. We pray for all clergy and ministers as they return from Christmas breaks. Amen

## What's on

**15<sup>th</sup> Jan** - Tea and Chat, 2-4pm- Wicken Bonhunt Church

**22<sup>nd</sup> Jan** - Langley Lunches - Langley Community Centre, 12 noon. Contact Liz Cable at [langleychurch@gmail.com](mailto:langleychurch@gmail.com)

**24<sup>th</sup> Jan** - Burns Night - Langley Community Centre

Contact - Liz Cable at [langleycommunitycentre@gmail.com](mailto:langleycommunitycentre@gmail.com), or 01763258043, 07519 741774

**4<sup>th</sup> Feb, 4<sup>th</sup> March** - Coffee and Crafts, 10am-12 - Clavering Christian Centre

**4<sup>th</sup> Feb, 4<sup>th</sup> March** - Soup and Sweet 12-2pm- Clavering Christian Centre

---

### Church spaces for hire

If you are looking for somewhere to meet the Clavering Benefice has several venues that might work for you. Check out,

- The community Room at Berden church
- The village facility at Wicken Bonhunt Church
- The Clavering Christian Centre

---

## 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](mailto:ClaveringBenefice@outlook.com).

Office admin asst: Jane Cowley working from home.

For more information, please contact me, Reverend Gary Fleming on 07491 402273 or email on [revdgaryfleming@outlook.com](mailto:revdgaryfleming@outlook.com)

# 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  
19<sup>th</sup> Feb, 26<sup>th</sup> Feb, 5<sup>th</sup> March, 12<sup>th</sup> March, 17<sup>th</sup> March, 25<sup>th</sup> March**

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

*All are welcome to join!*