

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

Newsletter for the week beginning 19th Jan 2026 (2/26)



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.

LIVING OUT BAPTISM

BY REVEREND GARY FLEMING

Last Sunday we celebrated the Baptism of Christ. In doing so, we remembered that Christ's ministry in the spirit started from that point. Immediately after His baptism, Jesus is led into the wilderness by the Holy Spirit and resists temptation three times, establishing on earth His dominion over darkness.

Reflecting on this event as part of the Epiphany celebration, I asked the question, is our baptism a one-time event, or a lifelong event that has meaning every day. Of course, the answer is that it is a lifelong event. And that, like Christ, we are baptised not only into the body of the church, but into a life of ministry. When we consider our baptism this way, we understand that we all have a calling that we live out. We are each tempted every day as Christ was, but we are called as he was to resist, and in our ministry to be strong in the faith.

Services

Week 19th -27th Jan 2026

Sunday 18th Jan. Epiphany 2

9.30 am - Holy Communion
Clavering

9.30 am - Holy Communion,
Langley

9.30 am - Morning Worship,
Berden

11.00 am - Holy Communion
Wicken Bonhunt

11.00 am - Holy Communion
Manuden

4.00pm - Café Church
Clavering Christian Centre

Tuesday 20th Jan

9.45 am - Holy Communion
Arkesden

Wednesday 21st Jan

9.00 am - Holy Communion
Clavering

Thursday 22nd Jan

9.00 am - Morning Prayer
Manuden

4.30 pm - Evening Prayer
Wicken Bonhunt

7.30 pm - Compline, Clavering

Sunday 25th Jan. Epiphany 3

9.30 am - BCP 1662 Holy
Communion, Langley

11.00 am - Holy Communion
Arkesden

4.00 pm - Evensong, Berden

Readings

Sunday 18th Jan - Isaiah 49:1-7, John 1 29-42

Sunday 25th Jan - Isaiah 9:1-4, Matthew 4 12-23

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 the Third Sunday of Epiphany

Almighty God,
whose Son revealed in signs and miracles the wonder of your saving presence:

renew your people with your heavenly grace, and in all our weakness sustain us by your mighty power;

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 who are lonely and isolated within our communities through health or other reasons. We pray for all carers and neighbours who support those in need. We pray for all social care and medical staff who pay home visits to those in need of care within our communities. We pray for patience with our neighbours and that we may have time to be good and attentive neighbours to each other. Amen

What's on

24th Jan - Burns Night - Langley Community Centre

Contact - Liz Cable at langleycommunitycentre@gmail.com, or 01763258043, 07519 741774

28th Jan - 7-8.30 pm Launch of Open Door Youth Club at clavering Christian Centre.

Contact Revd Gary Fleming for more details - 07491402273 or revdgaryfleming@outlook.com

29th Jan - Langley Lunches - Langley Community Centre, 12 noon. Contact Liz Cable at langleychurch@gmail.com

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

4th Feb, 4th 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 community space 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.

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)

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.

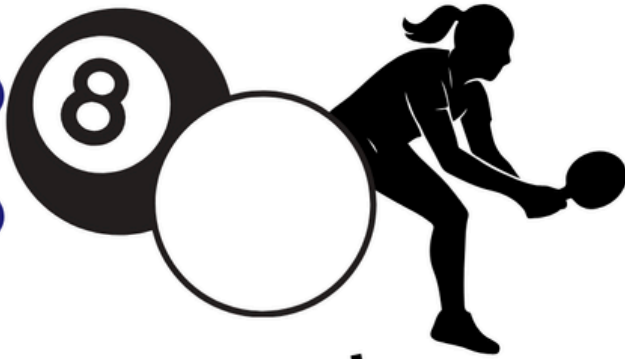
March 8th at 4pm – St Mary and St Clement
Church, Clavering

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
B E N E F I C E**