



CLAVERING
BENEFICE

TOGETHER IN FAITH



Diocese of
Chelmsford

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

Newsletter for the week beginning 26th Jan 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.

LETTING GO

BY REVEREND GARY FLEMING

In last Sundays sermon, I reflected on the changes that faced John the Baptist as he handed over his ministry to make way for Christ. John had developed a followership of disciples of his own, but was always of the understanding that he had a role to play and that he was to help build and stand aside for the kingdom of God, and not to focus on his own empire.

John reminds us that every calling is ultimately for Christ's glory. Success in ministry is measured by how faithfully we point others to Jesus, not by how much attention we receive. John willingly decreased so that Christ could increase. In a world that celebrates self-promotion, we are called to embrace humility and surrender our ambitions to God's purposes. When John released his disciples to follow Jesus, it was an act of worship. Likewise, when we let go of control—our plans, positions, or influence—we declare that Jesus is Lord over all.

Services

Week 25th Jan - 1st Feb 2026

Sunday 25th Jan. Epiphany 3

9.30 am - BCP 1662 Holy Communion, Langley
11.00 am - Holy Communion, Arkesden
4.00 pm - Evensong, Berden

Wednesday 28th Jan

9.00 am - Holy Communion, Clavering

Thursday 29th Jan

9.00 am - Morning Prayer, Manuden

4.30 pm - Evening Prayer, Wicken Bonhunt

7.30 pm - Compline, Clavering

Sunday 1st Feb. Candlemass

09.30 am - Holy Communion, Manuden

11.00 am - Holy Communion, Clavering

4.00 pm - Pet Blessing Service, Berden

Readings

Sunday 25th Jan

Isaiah 9:1-4, Matthew 4 12-23

Sunday 1st Feb

Malachi 3 1-5, Luke 2 22-40

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 Candlemass

Almighty and ever-living God, clothed in majesty, whose beloved Son was this day presented in the Temple, in substance of our flesh: grant that we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts, by your Son Jesus Christ 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 personnel serving in our armed forces and emergency services. We pray for all in political, military and religious leadership positions. We pray for all who serve overseas in humanitarian services to meet the needs of the vulnerable and at risk. We pray for Christian unity and for all persecuted Christian communities who suffer for simply choosing to follow Christ.

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



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.

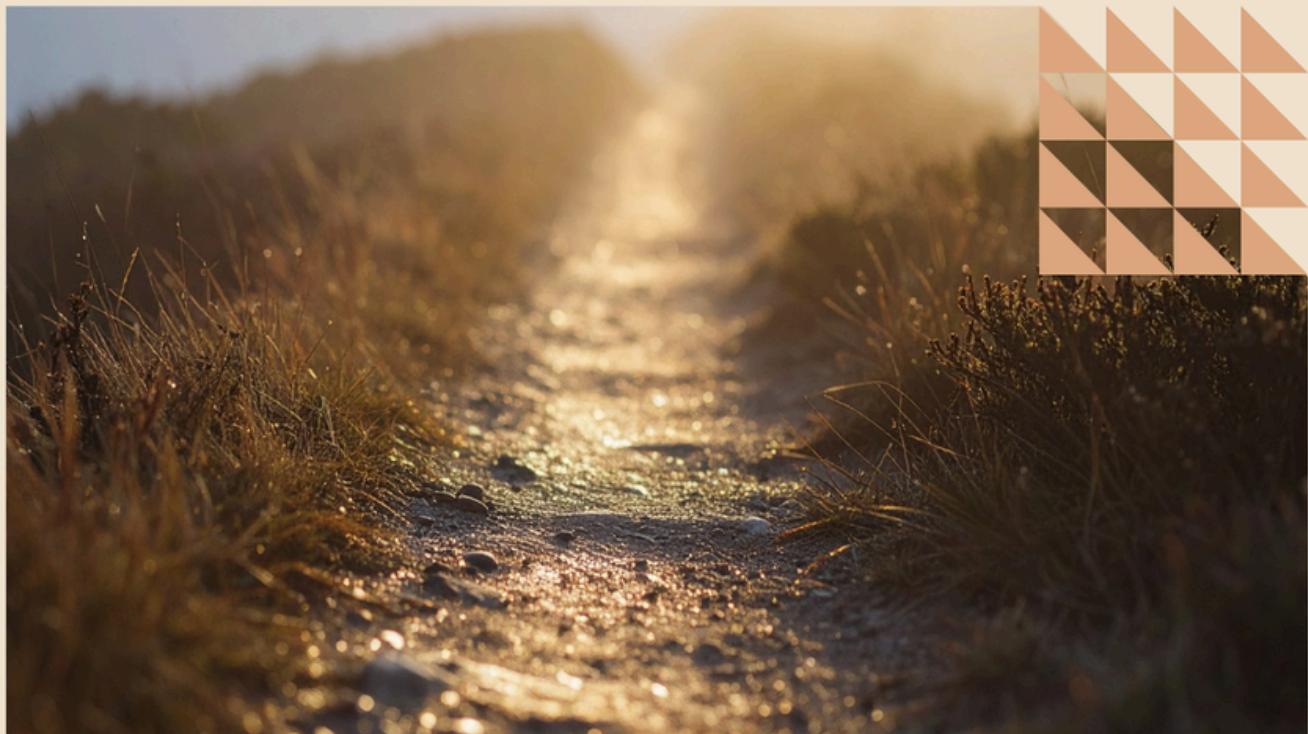
How to get in touch

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!



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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.

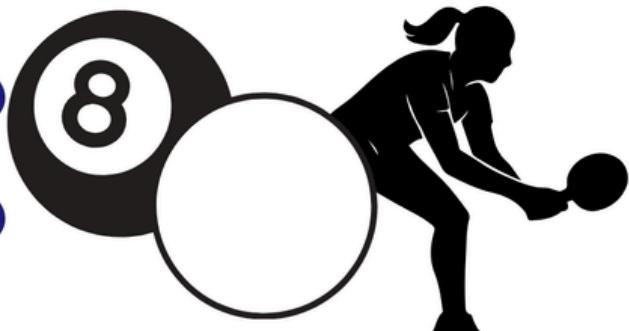
March 8th, at 4pm – St Mary and St Clement
Church, Clavering

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

