



TOGETHER IN FAITH



Diocese of
Chelmsford

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

Newsletter for the week beginning 16th March 2026 (9/26)



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 WATER

BY REVEREND GARY FLEMING

In my sermon last week, I considered what it is to drink from the well of Christ. In both this and the previous weeks' Lent course, we considered what it means to not look for quick fixes but to remember that to follow Christ is for an eternal quenching of our needs, which may, along the way, include loss and suffering.

We reflected on the story of the Samaritan woman at the well in John's Gospel, and the telling of water from the stone struck by Moses in Exodus 17. Both tell us of a people or person looking for a quick relief and in that immediate desire, turning away from God. But in both the texts we read of Christ, whom God the Father gives as living water. The thirst that is quenched is not temporary, a quick fix. It is the knowing of belonging, fellowship and family of an eternal nature. A knowing that replaces immediate feelings of loneliness and fear with spiritual wholeness.

Amen

Services

Week 16th Mar - 22nd Mar 2026

Sunday 15th March - Mothering Sunday - Lent 4

09.30 am - Clavering

09.30 am - Langley

09.30 am - Berden

09.30 am - Wicken Bonhunt

11.00 am - Manuden

11.00 am - Arkesden

All will be Mothering Sunday Services

Wednesday 18th March

09.00 am - Holy Communion, Clavering (A Shorter said service of 25 minutes)

Thursday 19th March

09.00 am - Morning Prayer, Manuden

4.30 pm - Evening Prayer, Wicken Bonhunt

7.30 pm - No Compline

Sunday 22nd March - Lent 5

09.30 am - 1662 Holy Communion, Langley

11.00 am - Holy Communion, Arkesden

4.00 pm - Evensong, Berden

Readings

Sunday 15th Mar | **Sunday 22nd**

1 Sam 1:20-end

Exodus 37:1-14

Luke 2:33-35

John 11:1-45

Prayers

Collect for Mothering Sunday

God of compassion, whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary, shared the life of a home in Nazareth, and on the cross drew the whole human family to himself:

strengthen us in our daily living that in joy and in sorrow we may know the power of your presence to bind together and to heal; 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 for all who serve on Church Councils as we approach a season of PCC and annual meetings. We give thanks for all who give of their time and gifts as an act of Service.

We pray for all in the Middle East who are affected by war and for all who have family and friends in the region. We pray for their safety.

We pray and give thanks for all members of our armed forces and for their commitment and sacrifice to protect our way of life and defend the vulnerable. We pray for governments at home and abroad that they may always strive for peace and reconciliation in their decision-making.

Amen



Bible Study Group

The bible study will start back on the 5th of March.

The group is held on Thursdays from 10.30-12pm at the Clavering Christian Centre, CB11 4PH. All are welcome regardless of whether 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.

OPEN DOOR YOUTH CLUB

The youth club has proven to be a real success and a sign of where the spirit is at work in our communities. Thank you to all who have donated money and gifts to support this venture. We have an amazing team on board in Cara, Grant, Jayne, Dawn, Juliet and hopefully a few more coming through. Feedback from parents has been excellent. Our next evening is the 25th of March from 7-8.30 pm.

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

Langley Lunches - are held every month on the 4th Wednesday of the month in the.

Please contact Liz Cable to book on:

Phone: 01763258043 or 07519741774

Email: langleychurch@gmail.com

Mondays. 9-10.30 am - Mums and Chums, held every Monday in term time in the church
19th March. 2- 4 pm. Wicken Bonhunt Tea and Chat in St Margaret's Church.

Please note the remaining dates for our Lent course this year, which are

Tuesday 17th March

Tuesday 31st March

All run from 7-8.30 pm at the Clavering Christian Centre



Stride by Stride Walking Group

All walks start at 10.30am

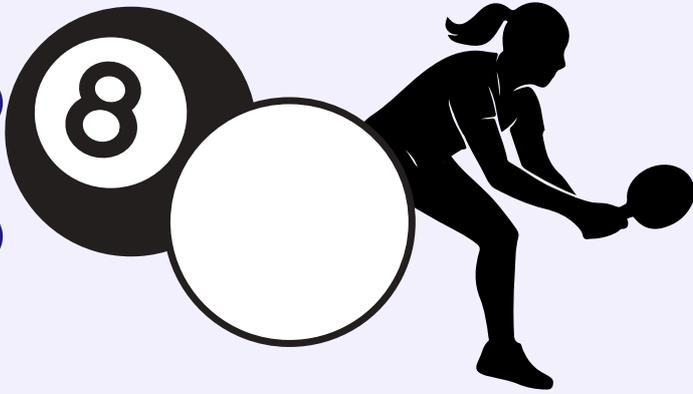
March 27th - Starting at the Cricketers Pub in Clavering.

April 24th - Starting from Poppies Café in Langley.

May 22nd - Starting from St Nicholas' Church, Berden

June 26th - Starting from St Mary's Church, Arkesden.

OPEN DOOR YOUTH CLUB



**Pool, Darts
Table Tennis
Card Games
Tabletop Football**
All sessions close with
prayer

Activities for
youths aged 11–16.
Next session 25th
March from
7–8.30pm.
£1 admission fee

**Scan here to register (You must
register to attend 24 hours
before the session)**



**Faith, Fun and
Friendships**

Venue – Clavering Christian Centre.
Stortford Road CB11 4PH

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



**CLAVERING
BENEFICE**

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, 31st March**

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

All are welcome to join!