



TOGETHER IN FAITH



Diocese of
Chelmsford

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

Newsletter for the week beginning 20th April 2026 (14/26)



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.

DOUBT

BY REVEREND GARY FLEMING

Last Sunday we read from The Gospel According to John chapter 20. We heard about Thomas, who would not accept that the person standing before him was Christ until he had touched the wounds and was certain that it was Christ. Poor Thomas often gets chastised for doubting, which I think is quite harsh. After all, it is something that we can all do from time to time.

But God shows through the coming of His son to us, God made flesh, that He knows our weakness in faith. Jesus makes clear to Thomas that those who believe without seeing are blessed as are those who do not see the physical Christ in front of them. Christ calls us to be sacramental people and to know him through his presence in our lives. Sensing and knowing Christ, without physically seeing him. We might call these coincidences which become God-incidences for us. Moments of sensing Emmanuel, God with us. So this day or week maybe take time to note those times when Jesus feels close. When he presents himself to us as he did to Thomas. Amen

Services

Week 19th April - 26th 2026

Sunday 19th April

9.30am - Holy Communion (PC)

Clavering

9.30am - Morning Worship (MT)

Berden

9.30am - Holy Communion (GF)

Wicken Bonhunt

11.00am Holy Communion followed

by APCM (GF) Langley

11.00am - Holy Communion (PC)

Manuden

4.00pm - Cafe Church (GF)

Manuden

Tuesday 21st April

9.45am - Holy Communion Arkesden
(A Shorter said service of 25 minutes)

Wednesday 22nd April

9.00am - Holy Communion, Clavering
(A Shorter said service of 25 minutes)

Thursday 23rd April

9.00 am - Morning Prayer,
Manuden

4.30 pm - Evening Prayer,
Wicken Bonhunt

Sunday 26th April

9.30am - 1662 Holy Communion (GF)
Langley

11.00am - Holy Communion (GF)
Arkesden

4.00pm - Evensong (GF) Berden

Readings

Sun 19th April

Acts 2 14a 36-41

Luke 24 13-35

Sun 26th April

Acts 2 41-end

John 10 1-10

Prayers

Collect for the Third Sunday of Easter

O God, whose blessed Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread:

Open the eyes of our faith, that we may behold him in all his redeeming work; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

Benefice Prayers

This week we pray for all who are returning to school or work following the Easter break. We pray that they carry with them the joy of Easter and the knowledge of Christ's resurrection and a symbol and certainty of hope and faith.

We pray for all at Manuden school as they start a new term seeking a new Headteacher, and we pray for Andrew Price as he starts his new role. We pray for all the pre-school providers and those who work to support children in their education and wellbeing.

We pray for all students returning to start GCSE exams and other examinations as we look toward the final term and Summer. Strengthen them in their gifts and skills so that they might reach their full potential. Amen



Bible Study Group

There will be Bible Study group at 10.30am on 23rd April at Christian Centre Clavering

We continue our journey through the Gospel according to Mark. If you would like to find out more about studying the Bible, or have a discussion about faith, please do contact Reverend Gary Fleming whose details are at the bottom of this newsletter.

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 23rd April 2026 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

Saturday 18th April - Busstop shop in Berden in aid of Church funds from 10am

Langley Lunches - are held every month on the 4th Wednesday of the month. Next date 23rd April 2026

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 in Manuden



Stride by Stride Walking Group

All walks start at 10.30am

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.

HERITAGE CAFE

“LET’S TALK!”

Come and meet up with old friends, make new ones, share stories of living in Berden and learn more about your community

First FRIDAY of the month

10.30am -12pm

**Starting Friday 1st May, and on
5th June, 3rd July, 7th Aug, 4th Sept
at St. Nicholas Church, Berden**



To find out more

E: natalie.trapmore@outlook.com T: 07876 478717

or turn up on the day...