

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

Newsletter for the week beginning 8th June 2026 (20/26)



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.

BLESSED TRINITY

BY REVEREND GARY FLEMING

As we enter the season of Trinity, off the back of Trinity Sunday, I was left with a big question. What does our worship look like? Who are we as churches? What is our holy personality as a group of people. That was maybe easier for vicars and parishes to answer when they maybe only held the cure of souls for one or two parishes. But when we come together to worship, how do we shape ourselves as a collective body of practicing Christians. Having just returned from our benefice retreat to The Shrine of our Lady of Walsingham, it was clear that they have a very

specific personality to their worship. With a distinct appreciation of Mary, the mother of Jesus. But at least as important to how we worship is how we live. I wondered after the retreat and Trinity Sunday how I take my worship to be an act that shapes my life. Meaning that what I believe and say shapes how I worship and how I live. This is the full cycle of being Christian in many ways, belief, worship and living our faith. So coming back from Walsingham, it has made me think about our churches across the benefice. How do they reflect our worship? and do they support us in our worship throughout the year. It gives us a lot to think on, and a focus. So this Sunday I will ask, how is my life shaped my faith and worship? Amen.

Services

Week 8th - 14th June

Sunday 7th June

9.30am - Holy Communion, Manuden

9.30am - Morning Prayer, Arkesden

11.00am - Holy Communion, Clavering

11.00am - Holy Communion, Langley

4.00pm - Sacred Space, Wicken Bonhunt.

Changed from 5pm.

Sunday 14th June

9.30am - Morning Worship, Wicken Bonhunt

9.30am - Holy Communion, Berden

11.00am - Messy Church, Manuden

11.00am - Morning Worship, Clavering Christian Centre

3.00pm - Messy Church Teddy bears Picnic Clavering Church

Normal midweek services are:

Wednesday's

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

Thursday's

9.00 am - Morning Prayer, Manuden

4.30 pm - Evening Prayer, Wicken Bonhunt

Readings

Sunday 7th June (Green)

Genesis 12:1-9

Matthew 9:9-13,18-26

Sunday 14th June (Green)

Genesis 18 1-15 (21 1-7)

Matthew 9 35-10.8 (9-23)

Prayers

Collect for the First Sunday of Trinity

O God,
the strength of all those who put
their trust in you,
mercifully accept our prayers and,
because through the weakness of
our mortal nature we can do no
good thing without you,
grant us the help of your grace,
that in the keeping of your
commandments we may please you
both in will and deed;
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 all who are
victims of knife crime and violence
in our cities, towns and villages. We
pray for those who serve us locally in
our police service and for those
called to make difficult decisions
under difficult and challenging
circumstances. We pray for the
safety of all and an end to violence.
Amen



Bible study group held every Thursday from 10.30 - 12 midday at the Clavering Christian Centre.

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

Our next junior youth club meeting will be the 10th of June and the next senior youth club will be the 24th June. Please note there is no senior youth club on the 27th May as it is half term.

If you would like to volunteer. Please do get in touch with me, Reverend Gary Fleming

Coming Soon - A Question of Faith
An opportunity for those interested in theology to gather informally to discuss faith in relation to big questions of the day. Watch this space for more details

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

June 14th 3.00pm Teddy Bears Picnic

Clavering See poster below

June 14th 2.30pm Music through Time Concert at Berden Church. See poster below

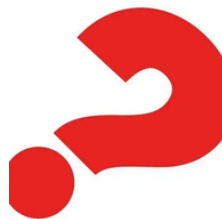
Langley Lunches - are held every month on the 4th Wednesday of the month.

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



Have you held long unanswered questions about faith?

Are you curious about faith matters?

Would you like to find out more?

Starting in September, we will be running a series of evening meetings to explore faith through conversation. Supported by well-produced and good-quality materials through the Alpha program. To find out more, please do contact me, Reverend Gary Fleming.

Late Summer Benefice BBQ

***£5 per
person to
cover meat
portions***

***Please bring
your own
chair &
alcohol. Soft
drinks, tea
& coffee
provided***

**SATURDAY, 12TH
SEPTEMBER 2026**

START AT 3PM UNTIL 7PM

VENUE
VICARAGE,
54 PELHAM ROAD,
CLAVERING.
CB11 4PQ

**BOOK YOUR PLACE BY NOTIFYING JANE COWLEY AT:
CLAVERINGBENEFICE@OUTLOOK.COM**

BERDEN

Open Gardens

Sunday 28th June 2026

2 - 6pm

Plants from £1

Cafes

Live Music

Morris Dancing

Bee Keeping

Vintage Bus rides

Raffle

lots more!

Plus

Berden's Open Gardens include,
Little London
& Berden Priory's
17th Century water tread wheel

Passport to all gardens only £5 per adult
Children under 16 free

FREE car parking

to find out more please

E: john.tippett@btopenworld.com T: 01279 777446



"Telling the stories of St Nicholas, Berden"



Thanks to National Lottery players

<https://berden.org.uk/events/>

Raising funds for St Nicholas Church, Berden, CM23 1AJ - Reg Charity no: 1216100



Messy Church is a fun
afternoon for parents and
children up to 11 years old.

Teddy Bears Picnic

PLUS... if your teddy likes heights, come and make
a parachute and Reverend Gary Fleming
will launch your teddy off the church roof.



Bring a rug to sit on and
of course, your teddy!

Sunday
14th June

3pm

St Mary &
St Clement
Church,
Clavering

Picnic will be provided

For more information contact
Jane Woodhouse 01799 550765

A Celebration of music through time

Sunday 14th June

St Nicholas' Church tower has stood at the heart of Berden since c1270 and has lots of interesting stories to tell!

Join us to travel through time and experience

Medieval,
Baroque,
Romantic,

Renaissance,
Classical,
Contemporary music

with

Bron and Kirsty, Berden Choir and more....

Doors Open & refreshments available from 2pm

Concert starts at 2.30pm

EVERYONE WELCOME

Entrance is FREE

**Donations are encouraged to support
St Nicholas Church, Berden.**



To reserve seats please

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

Entry on the door is subject to availability

Please book to avoid disappointment





Open Gardens Manuden

Sunday 21st June

Lots of gardens to visit

1 - 5 pm £5.00

Children free



**In aid of
Village Organisations**

**Featuring Manuden's popular
Classic & Sports Car show**





HERITAGE CAFE

“LET’S TALK!”

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

First FRIDAY of the month

10.30am - 12pm

5th June, 3rd July, 7th Aug, 4th Sept

St. Nicholas Church, Berden



To find out more
E: natalie.trapmore@outlook.com
T: 07876 478717 or turn up on the day...

