

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

Newsletter for the week beginning 6th July 2026 (24/26)



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.

GRACE IN SMALL THINGS

BY REVEREND GARY FLEMING

In this weeks sermon I shared on the importance Christ placed on the acts in his ministry. Sharing on Matthew 10:40-42, Jesus tells us that when we are welcomed in the name of Christ that God the Father and the Son are welcomed equally.

It is so often that we look for the big signs of faith and of coming to faith that we might miss the smaller fact that a simple welcoming of Christ by those we meet is a great thing. That

God's grace works through the small and the great. I recounted how Jesus met with a lone woman in the heat of the midday sun to hear her story. In this, Jesus shows us that individual encounter and welcome are as important as the big events. This is a very motivational when we consider how God receives the smallest of affirmations of faith, that by His grace, the simplest of confirmations of faith is received by Him and in that God is received by those who affirm Him. So it is heartening to take away the knowledge that our every day conversations and actions are used for great things by God. No effort is wasted in Gods world and God does great things by His Grace with the most humblest of acts. Even a simple welcome. Amen

9.30am - Holy Communion Manuden (GF)
9.30am - Morning Prayer Arkesden (SE)
11.00am - Holy Communion Clavering (GF)
11.00am - Holy Communion Langley (PC)
4.00pm - Sacred Space Wicken Bonhunt (GF)

Normal midweek services are:

Wednesday's

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

Thursday's

9.00am - Morning Prayer, Manuden

4.30pm - Evening Prayer, Wicken Bonhunt

Sunday 12th July

9.30am - Holy Communion, Berden (GF)

9.30am - Morning Worship Wicken Bonhunt (RT/AA)

11.00am - Morning Worship, Clavering Christian Centre (DA)

11.00am - Messy Church, Manuden (GP)

3.00pm - Messy Church, Clavering (GF)

Sunday 5th July (Trinity 5 - Green)

Genesis 24 34-38,42-49, 58 - end

Mtthew 11 16-19, 25 -end

Sunday 12th July (Trinity 6 Green)

Genesis 25 19 - end

Matthew 13 24-30,36-41

Prayers

Collect for the Fifth Sunday of Trinity

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that with you as our ruler and guide we may so pass through things temporal that we lose not our hold on things eternal; grant this, heavenly Father, for our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, 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 our church community in Arkesden. We pray for all who work in the local businesses and all they do to support the well being of the community. For Craig Dyce and his support for the well being and health of the community and for all who work and support the local pub, the Axe and Compasses.

We pray for all who support the ministry of the Church and the worship leaders. We give thanks for the efforts of the PCC, Friends group and community group who support the remodelling of the church
Amen



Bible Study

Having spent some time reading through the Gospel of Mark, the Bible Study group will now take a short break and return for monthly sessions on the 10th of September and will run from 10.30-12.00 in the Clavering Christian Centre. The new format will look at biblical themes starting with a number of sessions on biblical places and geography. What happened where and when? we will be using videos, maps, film and imagery to go through the landscape of biblical lands. Please do join us for this relaxed session at which we also enjoy tea, coffee and biscuits. No need to book or attend every session



Stride by Stride Walking Group

The Stride by Stride walking group is a friendly and welcoming group of people who walk for friendship and fellowship. We normally walk for about 1.5 hours and finish at a place where we can enjoy refreshments. Please do join us. No need to book just turn up and we go whatever the weather. Coming up dates are:

July 31st - Starting from St Mary's Church, Manuden
PLEASE NOTE NO WALK IN AUGUST

September 25th - Starting from St Johns Church, Langleigh
Contact Reverend Gary Fleming if you would like more details

OPEN DOOR YOUTH CLUB

Our next Senior (School years 7-11) Youth Club meeting will be the 22nd July. We will start the junior Youth club from September. If you would like more information please contact, Reverend Gary Fleming

GREAT NEWS

Clavering Christian Centre Remodelling Project

Join us in the Christian centre on the 9th July at 7pm for an overview of the Proposed planned changes to the Christian centre to support this important home for Christian Mission within the benefice.

We have been successful in attracting a grant from the URC for the MODERNISATION of the kitchen and some other improvements to the centre. However, every extra little helps and we hope that you will be inspired to offer your support to this exciting community project
Refreshments provided

What's on

12th July 2.15pm Summer Picnic
Concert Arkesden 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?**

Starting September the 8th, 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.

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)

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**

THE FaBULous
★ ★ ★ ★ ★
SUMMER
+ PICNIC
CONCERT
★ ★ ★ ★ ★
VILLAGE ORCHESTRA

ARKESDEN Church GREEN
SUNDAY 12Th JULY

Gates open from 2.15pm - music from 3pm
Cash Bar & Raffle, bring a picnic and chairs

Ticket £10 (children under 12 free)

Available from:

arkesdenvillage.com/event/arkesden-summer-picnic-concert-2026

Alan Poultny - aapoultny@gmail.com
Tina McLean - tinamclean03@icloud.com
Or scan the QR Codes to book direct



1 Ticket



2 Tickets

Raising Funds to support our village church



CHEESE TASTING

**5pm on Saturday 11th July
in Clavering Churchyard**

Tickets £15

Contact Janet Hosford

On 01799 550515

janet.hosford@gmail.com

