

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

Newsletter for the week beginning the 5th October 2026 (37/26)



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.

HARSHLY JUDGED

BY REVEREND GARY FLEMING

Have you ever felt wrongly or harshly judged. Its not a nice feeling, when your good intentions are wrongly judged by others. Often leaving you feeling wounded and a sense of injustice. This may happen because often people judge by outcomes and what they see, and not by understanding the intentions we hold in our heart. Also, often people bring their own issues or perspectives to the situation. Projecting their own way of being into our actions. Thereby being judgemental actually of themselves and not us.

I know that all may sound a bit like a bit of a psycho-babble, but I think there is something in it. It becomes more important I think when we realise what a blessing it is to stand before God in judgement and not humankind. God only sees us through the eyes of pure love and justice. God doesn't bring any issue to us when judging us. God sees our actions, hears our words, but also listens intently to the meditation of our hearts. As Psalm 19:4 states 'May these words of my mouth and this meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight, Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer'.
God hears us and knows us and therefore judges us truly, rightly and justly. Such a blessing.
Amen

Services

Sunday 4th October

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

Midweek Services Each Week -

No Midweek Services

Sunday 11th October

9.30am - Morning Worship (AA/RT) Wicken
Bonhunt
9.30am - Morning Prayer (CM) Arkesden
11.00am - Morning Worship (DA) Clavering
Christian Centre
11.00am - Messy Church (VB/GP) Manuden

Readings

Sunday 4th October

Isaiah 5 1-7
Matthew 21 33-end

Sunday 11th October

Isaiah 25 1-9
Matthew 22 1-14

Harvest Festivals

Deuteronomy 26 1-11
John 6 25-35

Prayers

**Collect for the Eighteenth Sunday of
Trinity**

Lord, we beseech thee, grant thy
people grace to withstand the
temptations of the world, the flesh,
and the devil, and with pure hearts
and minds to follow thee the only
God; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Benefice Prayers

This week we pray for our armed
forces and for all who have served
to defend our liberties and
freedoms. We give thanks for the
sacrifice of many and their families.
We remember all who have died in
service and pray for the repose of
their souls. We pray for those who
have recently joined and are in
basic training and for those who are
heading out on their first
deployment. We pray Lord that you
are known to them and that they
take strength and comfort from
your presence. We give thanks for
all military Chaplains who support
them and the work of the Royal
British Legion. Amen



Bible Study

Bible Study will return in the New Year due to the Vicar being on leave and attending Diocesan Courses.

OPEN DOOR YOUTH CLUB

The Youth Club will start back in September in the refurbished Christian Centre with an exciting new format. Please see dates below.

Youth Club	Date
Senior	23/9/26
Junior	14/10/26
Senior	21/10/26
Junior	11/11/2026
Senior	25/11/26
Junior	9/12/2026
Senior	16/12/26



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.

All walks start at 10.30 am

Scheduled walk dates with start points are:

October 30th - Clavering - The Cricketers pub

November 27th - St Mary's Church - Arkesden

December 18th - St Margarets Church - Wicken Bonhunt

Contact Reverend Gary Fleming if you would like more details.

What's on

Clavering Coffee & Crafting - is held every month on 1st Wednesday 10.00-12.00 at the Christian Centre

Clavering Soup & Sweet is held every month on 2nd Wednesday 12.00 - 2.00

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

HARVEST SERVICE DATES AND VENUES 2026

WICKEN BONHUNT – 18TH
OCTOBER, 09.30AM, ST
MARGARETS CHURCH. HARVEST
SERVICE

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)