



Twentieth
Century
Society

Campaigning for outstanding buildings



Supporting Churches in Essex and East London

Autumn Study Day

In collaboration with the Twentieth Century Society

Wednesday, 7th October 2026

Join Dr. Clare Price

(formerly Casework Director, Twentieth Century Society, now Church Buildings Manager, Church House)

for visits to four remarkable 20th Century Churches in Essex

- 9.15a.m. Our Lady of Fatima, Harlow, First Avenue/Howard Way, CM20 2NS
- 10.15a.m. St. Paul, Harlow, College Square, CM20 1LP
(Light refreshments)
- 12.05p.m. St. Mary the Virgin, Great Warley, Great Warley Street, CM13 3JP
- 12.30p.m. Lunch, please make your own arrangements
- 2.50p.m. St. Mary, Becontree, Grafton Road, RM8 3BA
(Light refreshments)

Details of car parking, itinerary and lunch, etc. overleaf.

Join us at all or as few churches as you wish.

There are lavatories at all churches with the exception of Great Warley.

To: Martin Stuchfield, Pentlow Hall, Pentlow, Essex CO10 7SP

Email: martinstuchfield@pentlowhall.uk Tel: 01787 281845 Mobile: 07977 296831

I/We wish to attend the Autumn Study Day on Wednesday, 7th October 2026

Payment is preferred via BACS using reference "Autumn Study Day"
(sort code: 20-19-95, account no.: 80427918)

or enclose a cheque made payable to *Friends of Essex Churches Trust*

Members @ £15.00 each () Non-members @ £20 each () Donation £..... Total £.....

Name/s _____

Address _____

Email _____

Telephone _____

Date _____

Please tick box if you would be interested in travelling by mini bus.
If there is sufficient interest we will explore providing this mode of transport as an option.

PATRONS: THE LORD-LIEUTENANT OF ESSEX · THE BISHOP OF CHELMSFORD · THE BISHOP OF BRENTWOOD

Hon. Secretary: John Pickthorn · Lane House · 2 Maberly Court · Castle Hill · Saffron Walden · Essex CB10 2EA · jejpickthorn@gmail.com

Autumn Study Day – Wednesday, 7th October 2026

The four 20th Century churches to be visited present an opportunity to see and hear about their architectural styles, liturgical layout and furnishings. The guest speaker for the day will be Dr. Clare Price. Clare is Church Buildings Manager, Church House and formerly Casework Director at the Twentieth Century Society. She holds a Ph.D. from the University of Oxford for which she researched inter-war period church design. Her publications include co-editing *100 Churches 100 Years* (2019).

9.15a.m. – Our Lady of Fatima, Harlow, First Avenue/Howard Way, CM20 2NS

The church was designed by Gerard Goalen in 1953-4 and built in 1958-60. This is one of the first churches in England to be influenced by the Liturgical Movement. The outstanding feature of this Grade II* listed building is the extensive scheme of *dalle de verre* glass. The figurative scheme depicts Our Lady of Fatima and Mary in the Old and New Testaments.

Look out for the tall slender copper spire that is a notable landmark. Disabled car parking is located near the church with additional parking available beyond the church hall on the same complex.

Leave 10.05a.m.

10.15a.m. – St. Paul, Harlow, College Square, CM20 1LP (car park CM20 1JL)

The church was designed by Humphrys & Hurst and built in 1957-9. This was the first building to be completed in the Civic Square. The main feature of the airy, light interior is the east wall entirely covered by a mosaic of the Risen Christ at Emmaus by John Piper.

Limited disabled parking spaces are available in College Square and on the terraces around the church. General car parking is available in the adjacent multi-story car park. Please use the pedestrian car park exit next to entry barriers.

Coffee and refreshments will be served upon arrival.

12.05p.m. – St. Mary the Virgin, Great Warley, Great Warley Street, CM13 3JP

The church was designed by Charles Harrison Townsend and built in 1902-4. William Reynolds-Stevens had overall artistic responsibility resulting in a supreme exemplar of Arts and Crafts Workmanship, overlaid with motifs from that most un-English of styles, Art Nouveau. The building contains the remains of the monument to Gyles Fleming, d.1623, and a brass inscription dated 1582 from the old church.

Parking is available in the car park across the road. Disabled parking on roadside.

Lunch – The Thatcher's Arms is located approximate one mile away from the church (CM13 3HU). It is possible to picnic or use the simple cafeteria at Thorndon Country Park (CM13 3RZ) situated approximately 2.2 miles away. Various other eating places can be found between Great Warley and Becontree.

2.50p.m. – St Mary, Becontree, Grafton Road, RM8 3BA

The church was designed by Nugent Francis Cachemaille-Day and built in 1935. Cachemaille-Day designed some of the most revolutionary 20th century churches in the country. St. Mary's is considered to belong to the more innovative of his buildings because of its tall lantern tower lighting the sanctuary and kneeled shafts emphasising the verticality of the building. The church is a Grade II listed building, built as one of five churches to serve the Becontree estate, originally the world's largest council housing estate and still the largest in Europe, following World War I. Dr. Price will talk about the life and work of Cachemaille-Day in addition to appraising the church building.

The church car park located adjacent to the building in Grafton Road is available for disabled parking. On street parking is available at £2.00 per hour.

Tea will be served at 3.50p.m. with a book signing of *100 Churches 100 Years* (bring your copy) by Dr. Price.

Your donations to support these churches will be greatly appreciated.