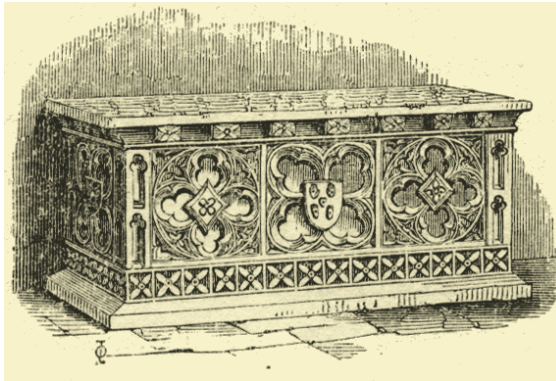
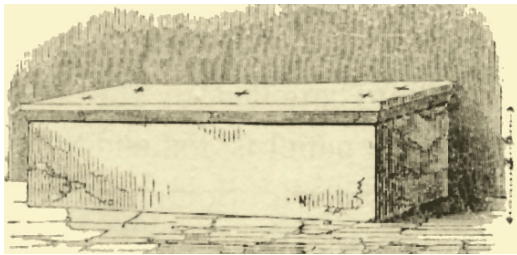


Did You Know? An Anglican Glossary

Altar



The early Christian writers, Ignatius, Tertulian and Cyprian, all refer to the Eucharistic table as an altar. Stone altars may have become popular when it was the custom of celebrating on the tombs of martyrs. Tables replaced altars after the Reformation when most altars were destroyed. In recent times there has been a limited return to the use of stone. A few ancient fixed stone altars remain.

Above left: Saxon altar, Arundel, Sussex, is 12 ½ feet long. *Lower left:* altar of the church of Purlock, Somerset, also survived the Reformation.