

## Did You Know? An Anglican Glossary



### Bosses

These delightful sculptures appear at the junction of stone vaulting ribs or where the beams of a timber roof cross. They are not always painted, and their subjects can be religious or secular.

Originally a simple projection of stone or wood, bosses go back a long way and can be seen along one wall of the uncompleted Greek Doric temple of Segesta, Sicily (early 5<sup>th</sup> century BC). Their use in medieval Britain was widespread and they can be seen in Salisbury, Litchfield, Worcester, Hereford and many other cathedrals and churches.

*Top:* The Last Supper. *Below* a Washer Woman fighting a thief who is trying to steal her clothes. From Norwich Cathedral's 1000 bosses.