

Did You Know? An Anglican Glossary



Frontal

The frontal, or antependium (that which hangs before) is an ornamental panel of wood, metal (often jeweled) or fabric, either tapestry or richly embroidered. Some churches change the frontal according to the season. The Anglican Canons of 1604 required that during divine service the altar should be covered with “a carpet of silk or other decent stuff.” This was restated in the 1969 Canons. A frontal of wood, paint and gilt is preserved in Westminster Abbey.