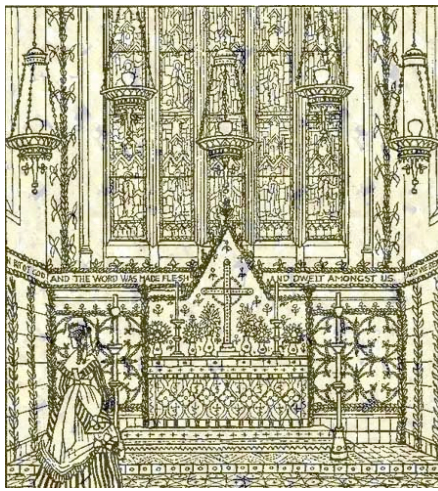


Did You Know? An Anglican Glossary



This 19th century image shows only five lamps suspended from the ceiling. Lamps like these can be raised and lowered to light, to snuff or to change the candles.

Hanging Lamps

High Anglican churches hang lamps before the altar. The customary number is seven, and traditionally they represent the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit: wisdom, counsel, understanding and fortitude (or courage), piety, knowledge and fear of the Lord. *“Moses made also seven lights, which are the seven gifts of the Holy Ghost.”* (Wm. Durandus).

The seven lamps can also represent the seven lamps of fire burning before the throne of God in heaven. The RSV translation is *“seven torches of fire.”* (Rev. 4:5)