

## Did You Know? An Anglican Glossary



*Above:* Reaping Corn. *Below:* A corn dolly in the shape of a hand bell.



### Lammas Day

(Anglo-Saxon hlaf-mas, "loaf-mass")

August 1 is Lammas Day and also (formerly) the feast of St. Peter ad Vincula (St. Peter in chains.) It is a feast peculiar to Britain celebrating the corn and wheat harvest. Bread made from corn or wheat was taken to the church to be blessed. The corn harvest is mentioned earlier than the wheat. King Alfred the Great (849-899) mentioned Lammas Day in one of his works.

Corn "dollies" made from corn husks have a pagan origin, but are still made for Lammas, and in some cases decorate the altar of the church.