

Did You Know? An Anglican Glossary



The Monstrance or Ostensorium

The Monstrance, or Ostensorium is used to display the consecrated Host for benediction with the Blessed Sacrament in High Anglican or Anglo-Catholic Churches. The priest blesses the congregation with the Host placed inside the monstrance.

Rev. John Keble, (1792-1866) Tractarian and author of *The Christian Year*, wrote: "Adoration is not only permitted but enjoined by the Church of England in her prayer book."



Others who shared his sentiments were the Protestant martyr Bishop Nicholas Ridley (1500-1555); Bishop Lancelot Andrewes (1555-1626), a translator of the King James version of the Bible; Rev. John Donne (1572-1631, Canon of St. Paul's Cathedral and metaphysical poet; Rev. Herbert Thorndike (1598-1672), theologian, and Rev. Edward B. Pusey (1800-1882), Oxford.