

## Did You Know? An Anglican Glossary

### Preaching Cross

Outdoor preaching crosses were erected in various parts of England and approximately eleven survive, or have been reconstructed. The most famous cross was that at St. Paul's Cathedral known as "Powle's Crosse," first mentioned in the 13<sup>th</sup> century when it was the site of the first "folk moot" or general assembly. At the cross was open pulpit that was rebuilt in the 15<sup>th</sup> century with a lead roof.

David L. Edwards called it "a storm centre of controversy." Under Queen Mary Catholic Bishop Bourne barely escaped death by a dagger thrown at him while preaching. The Puritans destroyed the cross in 1637, but it was restored (sans pulpit) in 1910.



Dr. Shaw preaching at "Powle's Cross", N. E. Cor. of St. Paul's Cathedral Churchyard. (From Walter Besant, *London*, 1892)