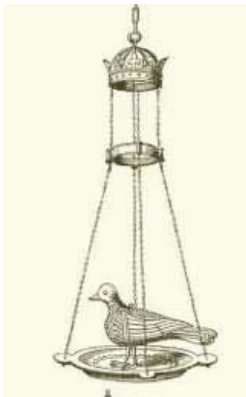


## Did You Know? An Anglican Glossary

### Pyx



Pyx once referred to a vessel used to preserve the reserved Sacrament for the sick and kept in a small cupboard. The term is now used for the small container the priest carries with him when visiting the ill. Later, the Sacrament was reserved in tabernacles either on or near the altar.



Early pyxes were sometimes fashioned in the shape of a dove and hung from the church ceiling. Records show that there were elaborate dove pyxes at St. Paul's, London, Durham Abbey, and St. George's Chapel, Windsor. Hanging pyxes were covered with a cloth.

There has been a revival of the hanging pyxes credited to Sir Ninian Cooper (1864-1960), the Gothic Revival architect. They can be seen today in a number of British churches and cathedrals.