



THE  
EXPERIENCE  
OF WORSHIP  
IN LATE MEDIEVAL  
CATHEDRAL AND  
PARISH CHURCH

# VESTMENTS



Photo : Andy Brice

High Mass Set, Lady Mass, St Teilo's

## Description

One High Mass set (comprising chasuble, dalmatic, tunicle, stole, maniple, and burse) with one matching semi-circular cope, all made from gold/white St Margaret's brocade, and lined with handwoven dupion in new corn. The chasuble has pillar orphreys and the dalmatic and tunicle traditional orphreys, all in honey yellow regal dupion.

One red chasuble with matching maniple, stole and burse made from Gothic Sarum damask, with pillar orphrey in complementary colourway.

All fabrics (acquired from Watts and Co.) draw on late medieval designs, with colour following contemporary liturgical prescription. The red chasuble uses a Gothic Sarum pattern based on the painted textile on the St Andrew panel on the rood screen at St Helen's parish church Ranworth, Norfolk; the High Mass set and matching cope are made from the St Margaret's Tudor design, depicting the rose and crown (the former popularized in the fifteenth century).

## Measurements

Standard, to fit persons of average height.

## Model

Various contemporary listings of vestments, ornaments and hangings (e.g. chantry records and wills) were consulted for details of fabric, colour, etc. However, iconographical evidence from Britain is relatively slim, and extant medieval survivals have often been remodelled (particularly in terms of cutting away full chasubles to a 'fiddle-back' shape). The style and shape of the St Teilo vestments take as their main model the vestments shown on a series of late medieval monumental brasses (see Clayton, 1919): the broad edging on the cope mimics that worn by an unknown priest of Temple Church Bristol (c.1460), and the two rounded chasubles adopt pillar orphreys similar to those worn by William Wardysworth, Bletchworth, Surrey (1533).

The burses, although plain, in other respects follow the design of an English survival of c.1310–40 (V&A Museum: T.62-1936). They are made as one piece, folding in the middle when in use (Height: 9.75 in [24.8 cm]; Width: 10.5 in [26.7 cm] (each side) – 21 inches when opened out [53.4 cm]).

## Craftsperson

Mary White, Salisbury, using fabric from Watts and Co., London (<http://www.wattsandco.com/>)

## Bibliography

H. J. Clayton, *The ornaments of the ministers as shown on English monumental brasses* (Alcuin Club Collections, 22, London, 1919).

Pauline Johnstone, *High Fashion in Church* (Leeds: Maney, 2002).

*The Pre-Reformation Records of All Saints', Bristol*, ed. C. Burgess, Bristol Record Society, 43, 53, 56 (Bristol, 3 vols., 1995–2004).

*Late Medieval Liturgies Enacted: The Experience of Worship in Cathedral and Parish Church*, ed.

Sally Harper, Paul Barnwell and Magnus Williamson (forthcoming, 2014).

*Note compiled by Sally Harper*

