

## Parish library collections

These collections were formed to support the theological and pastoral work of English parish churches.

### Bengeworth

Originally the property of the Rev John Shaw, this library was bequeathed by him to the parish of Bengeworth, Evesham, in 1854. It consists mainly of theological and classical works from the sixteenth to nineteenth centuries. There are several notable Hebrew Bibles, including *Sefer Ketuvim* [c1566], printed in Antwerp by the great Renaissance scholar Christopher Plantin, and Benjamin Kennicott's *Vetus testamentum hebraicum* (Oxford, 1776-80) ([http://libcat.bham.ac.uk/TalisPrism/doOpenURLSearch.do?aid=Talis.prod\\_talis&pid=Key%3A2231300%3BArtifactType%3AMarc21Silm%3BsearchLocation%3Atalismls](http://libcat.bham.ac.uk/TalisPrism/doOpenURLSearch.do?aid=Talis.prod_talis&pid=Key%3A2231300%3BArtifactType%3AMarc21Silm%3BsearchLocation%3Atalismls)), which includes his *Dissertatio Generalis* where he published the results of his lifelong research into the textual variants of hundreds of Hebrew manuscripts worldwide.

Another specialism of the collection is Arabic language and culture, for example:

- published together with a copy of **Grammatica Arabica (1636)** (