



TUDOR COMMUNION CHALICE

1599-1600

This silver-gilt standing cup, made when Queen Elizabeth I was still on the throne and Shakespeare published five of his most famous plays, is beautifully engraved and embossed with scallop shells on bowl and acanthus foliage engraved on the foot. Originally it would have had a steeple cover which was used to extend the foot. The cup is stamped with London hallmarks, including an unidentified and unusual mark of a squirrel with a nut inside a shield.