

WEDDING OF ARCHDUKE OTTO

After their civil marriage the Archduke Otto and Princess Regina von Sachsen-Weinigen walk through the crowded streets of Nancy towards the chapel of the Cordeliers for the religious ceremony. Following them are 21 Archdukes, 17 Princesses and other Austrian and German aristocrats. The former Empress Zita is the bridegroom's mother.

At the chapel (Manseloum of the Dukes of Lorraine) the bride's mother, the Duchess of Saxe, is on her left; the groom's mother on his right. The Archduke was heir to the Habsburgs and with husband and eight sons the Empress Zita became an exile. The Bishop of Toul and Nancy conducts the service, which is witnessed by many from Austria who would welcome the return of the monarchy, in the person of the Archduke Otto and his lovely bride.

The cutting of a ribbon completes the ceremonies, which for an hour recalled the brilliance of a forgotten past.