

ROYAL MAUNDY MONEY

Breaking with tradition, St. Paul's is the scene of the Royal Maundy ceremony, and the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh make their way into the great cathedral. Westminster Abbey is being prepared for the Coronation, but a service is still held during which the Maundy Money is distributed by the Queen.

Silver coins bearing the Queen's head make up the Maundy gifts. By ancient custom "as many old men and as many old women as the Sovereign is years of age" receive the alms. As the Queen is twenty-seven years old, fifty-four aged people benefit from the 700 year old ceremony. Her Majesty and the Duke leave St. Paul's, carrying the traditional posies of spring flowers.