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POPE CROWNS "QUEEN OF HEAVEN"

In his golden gestatorial chair, Pope Pius XII is borne through dense crowds towards the Vatican Palace. About fifty thousand Catholics are gathered in the square to watch this part of a ceremony which celebrates the end of the Marian Year. Within St. Peter's he has crowned an ancient painting of the Madonna with a jewel-studded crown, and has thus inaugurated the feast of "The Blessed Virgin Mary, Queen of Heaven". This new feast will be celebrated every year on May the 31st. The Pope is carried through the massive bronze doorway to the Palace, and the crowd including 40 Cardinals and 300 Bishops, acclaim him as he appears on the balcony.

The crowned painting is held beside His Holiness as he acknowledges the ovation. The ceremony inaugurates a new feast for the Roman Catholic World.