

ST. BRIDE'S REBORN.

The Queen and Prince Philip come to St. Bride's, Fleet Street, for the rededication of this beautiful Wren church - gutted by fire during the blitz, and now restored to its former glory. The Queen signs the "Book of St. Bride" before inspecting the reborn church. For generations, St. Bride's has been known as the parish church of the newspaper world, and publishers, journalists, and printers have contributed generously for the rebuilding of their own place of worship.

The shield of the City of London and the Royal Coat of Arms, look down on the stately procession as the Queen and Duke move towards the altar, escorted by the Rev. Cyril Arncliffe, rector of St. Bride's and the Bishop of London, Dr. Montgomery Campbell.

The Rector invites Her Majesty to unveil the new reredos, which - appropriately, in this Church of the Press, commemorates a printer; Edward Winslow, who sailed in the "Mayflower" and was three times Governor of New Plymouth. This link with the Pilgrim Fathers is stressed in the Bishop's prayer "that the liberties sought by the early Pilgrims may be spread throughout the world".

After the unveiling, the procession down the aisle.

"Beauty for Ashes", was the pledge given by those who set out to rebuild St. Bride's. It is nearly three centuries since Sir Christopher Wren completed this lovely church, and if he could be here today, he would rejoice to see that the beauty of his original plan has come to life again out of the ashes of war.