

CATHEDRAL CONSECRATED

Coventry, a name that rang through the world 22 years ago, rings out anew, for its Cathedral is reborn. Epstein's inspired St. Michael conquering the Devil seems to link the dawn of faith with this new church, expressive of Christianity in 1962. Now, long after the blitz that destroyed the old Cathedral comes the Consecration of the new. In the ruins of the old St. Michael's the Queen talked with Sir Basil Spence, the architect. She, the clergy and notables made their way towards the new Cathedral.

The Provost of the Cathedral escorted the Queen, the Bishop of Coventry, Princess Margaret. A congregation of 2,000 were in their places. 8 Archbishops and 56 bishops represented many churches; and as the presence of the Archbishop of Canterbury indicated this was a great ecclesiastical event.

The superb Baptistry window is by John Piper.

Graham Sutherland designed the 75 feet high Tapestry on the East Wall.

The service of Consecration was conducted by the Bishop of Coventry.

With his Crozier (the gift from Denmark) Bishop Bardaley traced the first two Greek letters of the name Christ.

The Bishop proceeded to the Consecration of the Altar, making a circuit of the Holy Table and tracing the sign of the cross at the corners and in the centre.

The congregation were seated as the Registra placed the sentence of Consecration before the Queen, for her signature.