

ROYALTY AND REFORMATION



1485–1509: Henry VII reigns as the first Tudor King of England.



1509: Henry VIII, son of Henry VII, ascends to the English throne and marries Katherine of Aragon. Several years later, Henry, frustrated by the lack of a son and eager to remarry, asks the Pope for an annulment.

1503: Margaret Tudor, daughter of Henry VII, marries James IV, King of Scots. James dies in 1513 at the Battle of Flodden.



1527–31: Unconvinced by the English king's arguments, and lobbied by Katherine's nephew, the Holy Roman Emperor Charles V, Pope Clement VII refuses to grant Henry's request for an annulment.



1513: James V, infant son of James IV, ascends to the throne of Scotland. In 1538 he marries the French noblewoman Marie de Guise. James, a Catholic, dies in 1542, a week after the birth of his daughter and only heir, Mary.



1533–34: Breaking with Rome, Henry VIII divorces Katherine, marries Anne Boleyn, and declares himself "the only Supreme Head on earth of the Church of England." Anne and Henry's daughter Elizabeth is born in 1533, but Catholics consider her illegitimate. Henry later beheads Anne and remarries four times before his death in 1547.



1542: Crowned at the age of just six days, Mary, Queen of Scots is sent to France as a child to marry Prince Francis and secure a Catholic alliance against Protestant England. But Francis dies in 1560, and Mary returns to Scotland. There, a power struggle rages between Catholic and Protestant lords.



1547: After Henry VIII dies, the throne passes to his son Edward VI (a Protestant), then to his eldest daughter Mary I (a Catholic), and finally, after Mary's death in 1558, to Henry's youngest daughter, Elizabeth I. Elizabeth institutes a moderate form of Protestantism.



1567: After many plots, the Protestant lords, led by the Earl of Moray, force Mary to abdicate in favour of her infant son, James VI, whom they raise as a Protestant. Mary flees to England. There, powerful Catholic factions believe Mary should rule instead of Elizabeth, because they still do not recognize Henry VIII's marriage to Anne Boleyn. Elizabeth has Mary beheaded for treason in 1587.



1603: When Elizabeth dies childless, Mary's son James VI, King of Scots, inherits her throne, becoming king of England and Scotland.

1560–1600s: Scotland declares itself Protestant and bans the public practice of Catholicism. Thousands of Scottish-Catholic families flee to continental Europe, including the Irvines of Hilton, whose name becomes "Hiroüin" in French. Marie Hiroüin joins the Augustines and is sent as a missionary to New France.