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State opening of parliament in pictures

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The state opening of the parliament is one of the most lavish colourful ceremonies in parliamentary sessions. Here is the day in pictures.



The Prime Minister and Mrs. Gonzi entering St. John's Co-Cathedral



Hon. Members of the Opposition celebrating mass at the St John's Cathedral, Valletta, prior to the state opening of parliament.



The Prime Minister and Cabinet Ministers celebrating mass at the St John's Cathedral, Valletta, prior to the state opening of parliament.



Archbishop Emeritus MGR Joseph Mercieca celebrating mass at the St John's Cathedral, Valletta.



Malta Labour Party MP's proceeding to the Palace.



Edwin Vassallo (PN), Austin Gatt (PN), Giovanna Debono (PN), Leo Brincat (MLP), Deputy Speaker Carmelo Abela, Joe Cuschieri (MLP) proceeding towards the Palace.



The Prime Minister and Mrs. Gonzi and Hon Members of Parliament, accompanied by their guests on their way to The House of Representatives.



Dr Zrinzo Azzopardi (President of the Malta labour Party) together with his wife and Joe Saliba (PN's general secretary) accompanied by his wife.



The Hon. Members of Parliament on their way to the House of Representatives.



Arcibishop MGR Paul Cremona together with the new labour MP Mr Aguis DeCelis.



H.E. The President of Malta arrives at The Palace Square and Guard of Honour accords National Salute.



Dr Alfred Sant together with Labour MP's at the state opening of parliament.



Dr Lawrence Gonzi together with PN MP's at the state opening of parliament.



Dr Louis Galea being sworn in as Speaker of the House of Representatives.



H.E. President Dr Edward Fenech Adami delivering his opening speech in parliament.



The new parliament of 2008.
