Edward VI and the Pope, or an allegory of the Reformation under Edward VI. This painting, by an unknown artist c. 1570, includes portraits of all the key people involved in the religious changes during Edward’s reign. Like many Tudor paintings, it is loaded with meaning.

“There were parishes where the reform was embraced with ardour, at least by those with most influence, and where a new solidarity began to emerge on the basis of the new faith. Even in the communities where this was not so, the passage of time and the relentless push of Conciliar policy had its effect. The men and women of Tudor England were, by and large, pragmatists. Grumbling, they sold off as much of their Catholic past as they could not hide or keep, and called in the carpenters to set boards on trestles and fix the forms round the communion tables. Used to obedience, many of them accepted the changes, however unwelcome, as unavoidable... Four years of exposure to the matchless and memorable dignity of Cranmer’s English services could not be without effect. As we shall see, even men of profoundly Catholic convictions found themselves drawing on the rhythms of Bible and prayer-book when they came to express their convictions. Even for the traditionalists nothing would ever be the same again. But when all that is said, the experience of Morebath almost certainly offers us a more accurate insight into what the locust years of Edward had meant to the average Englishman than the embryo godly communities which had begun to emerge in parts of Essex, Suffolk, or Kent, and which historians, dazzled by
hindsight, have too easily seen as the inevitable future of Tudor England. In the majority of English villages, as in Morebath, men breathed easier for the accession of a Catholic queen.


Source

A table showing Social policy under Somerset and Northumberland.
A modern drawing of Edward's coronation, which took place on 20th February 1547 in Westminster Abbey. A phoenix representing Jane Seymour, descends from Heaven to mate with a crowned lion, representing Henry VIII. Then a younger lion (Edward himself) steps forward to be crowned as his ‘parents’ withdraw. Edward was presented with 3 swords symbolising his three kingdoms- England, Ireland and France- and a fourth symbolising ‘the spirit’ (the Bible).