



## Saint Elizabeth of Hungary Roman Catholic Church

432 Sheppard Ave. East, Toronto, Ont. M2N 3B7 - Tel: 416-225-3300x21 Fax: 416-225-3814  
E-mail: : [szte.iroda@gmail.com](mailto:szte.iroda@gmail.com) - [szte.plebanos@gmail.com](mailto:szte.plebanos@gmail.com) - Web page: [szenterzsebet.org](http://szenterzsebet.org)

Office hours Tuesday to Friday 9 to 3.

English masses: Monday to Saturday at 7.30 in the morning  
Sunday's 12 o'clock mass is both in English and Hungarian

Jesuit priests: Szabolcs Sajgó (pastor), László Marosfalvy – retired: Balázs Jaschkó, József Fülöp

# CHURCH BULLETIN

Number 52 – Holy Family – December 28, 2008

## Sunday, December 28.

**Readings:** Gen 15.1-6;17.3b-5,15-16;21.1-7;  
Heb 11.8,11-12,17-19; Lk 2.22-40

**Responsorial Psalm:** „*The Lord is our God,  
mindful of his covenant forever.*”

### PRAYER INTENTIONS:

- 9:00** ☩ +Bartók Annáért – leánya és családja  
☩ +Bernád Lajosért - felesége  
☩ +Zadubán Györgyért  
☩ +Mátés Ernőért – fiai Miklós és Ervin
- 10:30** ☩ hálából – Annamária  
☩ élő és elhunyt szeretteiért – Márta  
☩ +Bartók Annáért – Nóra  
☩ +Molnár Erzsébetért, +Molnár nagyszülőkéért,  
+Forgács Sándorért – család  
☩ +Edna Josephért - családja  
☩ +Diósady Pálért - családja
- 12:00** ☩ Családért - édesanya  
☩ +for Alexander Gáti - family

## Monday, December 29. St.Thomas Becket

7.30 ☩ for the intentions of the Fathers  
8.00 ☩ Szt. Család tiszteletére – Margit

## Tuesday, December 30.

7.30 ☩ for the intentions of the Fathers  
8.00 ☩ for the intentions of the Fathers

## Wednesday, December 31; St.Sylvester I

7.30 ☩ for the intentions of the Fathers  
8.00 ☩ for the intentions of the Fathers  
18.00 ☩ hálából – Juretics család

## Thursday, January 1, 2009

### Mary Mother of God

**Readings:** Num 6.22-27; Gal 4.4-7; Lk 2.16-21.

### Responsorial Psalm:

„*May God be gracious to us and bless us.*”

- 9.00** ☩ for the intentions of the Fathers  
**10.30** ☩ KNT, KFT, Házások Klubjáért  
☩ Tóth Antalért – felesége  
**12.00** ☩ for the intentions of the Fathers

## Friday, January 2; St.Gregory Nazianzen

7.30 ☩ for our benefactors  
8.00 ☩ for our benefactors  
19.00 ☩ Kovács Lászlóért – családja

## Saturday, January 3; Holy Name of Jesus

7.30 ☩ for the Holy Father's missionary intention  
8.00 ☩ for the Holy Father's general intention

**Baptism:** Rombolt Alexandra

**Funeral:** Nagy László (78)

## Total trust in God (Cardinal O'Connor's homily)

In addition to the three readings that we have just heard, specifically selected for the feast of the Holy Family, I would like to make reference to another portion of the Scriptures from the Old Testament. We are told in the 20th chapter of the Book of Numbers that the people were complaining bitterly. They had left slavery under the Egyptians led by the great Moses and now they found themselves out in the burning desert, furiously hot by day and freezing cold at night, with little or nothing to eat and no water. Moses is tired of their complaints, but he goes with his brother, Aaron, and pleads once again before God for the Israelites.

God tells Moses to speak to a certain rock, not to strike it but speak to it. Whether it was simply his anger or that he felt foolish talking to a rock in the presence of all of the people, Moses failed to do this. Instead he took his staff and struck the rock twice in anger. The water flowed forth, and yet God said to Moses, "You have not trusted me; you have disobeyed me. I told you to speak to the rock. Instead you lost your temper and struck it. You will not lead my people into the Promised Land."

We read in the Book of Deuteronomy that they arrived at a mountain called Nebo. They went up the mountain and could look into the Promised Land. But Moses told the people, "I will not be able to enter," and indeed Moses died on Mount Nebo after having led the people out of slavery in Egypt. This is how important trust is with Almighty God. I think it is a wonderful analogy to call upon in relation to the feast of the Holy Family and to today's Gospel.

The Holy Family was told that they were to leave the Promised Land immediately and go to Egypt. Egypt was a strange and a hostile land; anything could happen to them in Egypt. But an angel of God warned them that Herod's soldiers were going to come and kill all of the children in Bethlehem and its environs in order to destroy the Christ Child. So Mary and Joseph took the angel at the word of God and went to Egypt, no questions asked. They were in Egypt for a period of time--we do not know precisely how long. Then the angel appeared and told him to go back into their own land

Look at the difference between these two stories. Mary, Joseph and the Christ Child did precisely as God bid them to do. They did it quietly, without question, with total trust in God and total trust in one another because it was to Joseph that the angel appeared. It was Joseph then who went to Mary and said, "This is what we have to do." What a difference! This is the difference that trust makes, the difference that obedience makes. These ingredients, it seems to me, are the difference between the family with great promise, the marriage with great hope that succeeds and the marriage that has equal promise but fails.

Moses might represent those with all the wonderful gifts that God gives to a newly married couple, everything that he promises to a family willing to live in trust, in peace with one another, obedient to his word. Moses might represent those families given these gifts who, for whatever reason--so often out of fear, self-will, refusal to trust in one another, refusal to trust in Almighty God--find that their lives become empty. Perhaps they live together for years and years but in emptiness. Perhaps they divorce with a desolation that can go with a divorce. The Holy Family represents precisely that marriage and that family that trusts completely in God, obeys his word, is given the great grace of trusting in one another, and they reach the Promised Land here and are well-oriented toward the potential of eternal happiness in heaven.

There are tremendous pressures in our country today and you live among them. It would be inappropriate for me to describe them. Many of you live under pressures in offices, some in factories, in various kinds of businesses in different professions. You live under pressures in school as you live under pressures in neighborhoods and communities and many, perhaps, under pressure in your own homes. There are financial pressures and the pressures of the world, this world that John Paul II has described as now having developed a "culture of death" in which pornography, divisiveness, murder, theft, political corruption, so much that we see on television and in the movies, eats into our families and our homes. It is truly a culture of death so that marriage today needs an enormous amount of trust in Almighty God, a simple trust, a simple faith.

It was not easy for the Holy Family and it certainly was not easy for Joseph before they had come to live together to discover that Mary was pregnant. But when an angel said to him, "Don't be afraid. The child that will be born of her is not born of any man but of the Most High God," that was enough for Joseph because he had complete trust and complete obedience to Almighty God. It had to have been difficult for Joseph and Mary after the Magi had come to see them bringing them these wonderful treasures and giving the impression that the whole world was going to treat them lavishly. No sooner had the Magi left than Mary and Joseph are told Herod's soldiers are going to come to try to kill this child. They were displaced refugees like many of the refugees and immigrants today, always in fear of being detected and deported, like those who, at this very moment, are out on the streets because they have no place to live, like others who are living in excessively crowded circumstances. The Holy Family knew these problems but they always trusted. They had reason to trust one another.

In conclusion, St. Paul's timeless advice to families:

"Because you are God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with heartfelt mercy, with kindness, humility, meekness and patience. Bear with one another, forgive whatever grievances you have against one another. Forgive as the Lord has forgiven you. Over all these virtues put on love, which binds the rest together and makes them perfect. Christ's peace must reign in your hearts, since as members of the one body you have been called to that peace..."