

Founded in 1928

1985 - 2010

## Saint Elizabeth of Hungary Roman Catholic Church

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Office hours: Tuesday to Friday 9 to 3 (Monday closed)

Masses: Monday to Saturday at 7.30 AM in English

Sunday's at 9 and 10.30 in Hungarian

Jesuit priests: Szabolcs J. Sajgó (pastor), László Marosfalvy (associate pastor) – retired: Balázs Jaschkó

No. 33 - ASSUMPTION of MARY - August 15, 2010

# CHURCH BULLETIN

*Twenty five years on Sheppard – Where to now?*

**Readings:** Rev 11.19;12.1-6,10  
 1 Cor 15.20-26 Lk 1.39-56

**Responsorial Psalm:** "At your right hand stands the queen in gold of Ophir."

### PRAYER INTENTIONS:

**9:00** ☩ születésnapra hálából - család  
☩ +Várfi és +Laczkó szülőkért és testvérekért  
☩ +Szőke Gizelláért – család  
☩ +Iváncsics Jánosért – felesége, Irén és cs.  
☩ +Kéry Jenőért és +Emíliaért – Kéry Mihály és Iváncsics Irén

☩ +Kovács Jánosért – özvegye  
☩ +szülőkért és +testvérekért – Kovács Erzsébet  
☩ +Wild Mátyásné Annáért – fia  
☩ +Mózes Sándorért – felesége  
☩ +Bernád Lajosért – felesége

☩ +szülőkért és +testvérekért – Fehérváry Irén

**10:30** ☩ az egyházközségért  
☩ a Házások Klubja tagjaiért  
☩ hálából mindazokért akik imádkoztak felgyógyulásáért – Berger Mária

☩ hálából mindazokért, akik támogatták és imádkoztak a Koszonits házaspárért hosszú megpróbáltatásuk alatt

- ☩ +Beke Istvánért – Wozniak Ron & Monica
- ☩ +Szalontay Kenéz Mihályért – Véncs Álmos, Nemes Dobossy György
- ☩ +Békési Atyáért és élő és elhunyt Kristóf családtagokért – Kristóf Jutka
- ☩ +Tóth Antalért - felesége
- ☩ +Filó Erzsébetért – testvére, Margit
- ☩ +Gráber Istvánért – Bonnay család
- ☩ +édesanyáért – Ágnes és család
- ☩ +Murguly John-ért – felesége és cs.
- ☩ + Bodnár Maryért – Kocsis Magda
- ☩ +Berger Andrásért – özvegye és családja
- ☩ +édesanyjáért – Bonnay Erzsébet

☩ +Sister Antoniaért - Ágnes

### Monday (16) St. Stephen of Hungary

7.30 for +Mária Rajnyák – granddaughter  
6-9 p.m. third order Carmelites' meeting

### Tuesday (17)

7.30 (1) for Phillip, special intention  
(2) for her +mother – Marika Berzy

### Wednesday (18)

7.30 (1) for +Terezia Szőke  
(2) in devotion to Our Lady – Csányi Margit  
7 p.m. for Paul and Etelka

### Thursday (19) St. John Eudes

7:30 for +István Gráber – Cságoly family

### Friday (20) St. Bernard

7:30 for +István Beke – Margaret Beke and family

### Saturday (21) St. Pius X

7:30 for fathers' intention

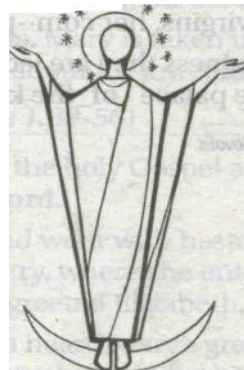
**Marriage:** Grünstein Thomas & Sandi Carvalho (2)

## Events

**August 5-15** Boy scouts Camp in Fillmore **21.**

Pilgrimage to Midland **21-27** Altar servers and youth group camp **29-2.** Younger Scouts camp

**September 6.** Labour Day – long weekend



## **St. Melchior Grodecz 1584-1619**

## **St. Stephen Pongrácz 1583-1619**

### *Martyrs of Košice*

Frs. Melchior Grodecz and Stephen Pongrácz met during the first stage of their Jesuit training but neither foresaw that they would be martyred together for God and His Church.

Fr. Pongrácz was born at Alvinc Castle in Transylvania, probably in 1583. He entered the Society at Brno, Moravia, on July 11, 1602, and then studied in Bohemia and Austria. After ordination to the priesthood, he was stationed at the Jesuit college at Humenne. In early 1619 he was sent to Košice, which was then in northern Hungary, but is today a part of Czechoslovakia.

Fr. Melchior Grodecz was born in the family castle in Grodziec, near Cieszyn in Silesia, Poland, in 1584. He attended the Jesuit college in Vienna and entered the novitiate at Brno on May 12, 1603, where he met his future companion in martyrdom, Stephen Pongrácz. After studies in Prague, Melchior was ordained and worked there until moving to Košice.

In the early part of the seventeenth century Košice was a stronghold of Hungarian Calvinists, and the few Catholics who lived in the city and its outlying districts had been without a priest for some time. The king's deputy in the city, Andrew Doczy, requested two Jesuits to care for the needs of these neglected Catholics and thus Frs. Pongrácz and Grodecz arrived in the city. The former was a Hungarian and worked among his own people, while the latter was a Pole and worked both among those who spoke a slavic language and also among the Germans. So grateful was Doczy for their coming that he gave them hospitality in the official residence. As their missionary work among the Catholics prospered, the envy and hatred of the Calvinists increased.

Gabriel Bethlen, a Calvinist prince in Transylvania, taking cruel advantage of Hungary's involvement in the Thirty Years' War, attempted to expand his territory by appropriating that of the king. The commander of Bethlen's army was George Rákóczi. When Frs. Pongrácz and Grodecz heard news that the Protestant army was marching towards Košice, they left the small towns where they were carrying on their apostolate and returned to strengthen the Catholics in the city. They were joined by the priest Mark Körösi (Crisinus), who was then administrator of the Abbey at Széplak, near Košice. Though Körösi was a diocesan priest, he had been educated by the Jesuits in Vienna and Rome and knew Frs. Grodecz and Pongrácz. When he returned to Hungary, he first became head of the seminary at Esztergom and then canon of the cathedral. Hearing of the approach of Rákóczi's army, he too went to help in Košice.

Rákóczi took the city on September 5, 1619, and having learned from the Calvinist minister about the

three priests, he sent a guard to arrest them. The priests were detained within their residence and all food and drink was forbidden them. On the night of September 6, they heard each other's confessions and prayed through the night knowing that the inevitable was to come. Before the sun rose on September 7, the quiet of their room was shattered by the rough soldiers who, under orders from Rákóczi, tried to get them to apostatize and accept Calvinism. When they refused, the soldiers lost patience and began to beat and strike them until they lay helpless. The soldiers chose Fr. Körösi as their first victim. They stripped him of his cassock, stabbed him countless times, crushed his fingers, rubbed flaming torches into his sides until the ribs were visible, and when he finally fainted they beheaded him. They next vented their savagery on Fr. Pongrácz. They repeated the tortures they inflicted on Fr. Körösi, but in addition twisted a rope so tightly about his skull that it was almost crushed. They cut off his nose and ears, tied his hands behind him, suspended him from a beam in the room, and barbarously began to carve his body. Leaving Fr. Pongrácz in his agony, they proceeded to maltreat Fr. Grodecz, who suffered tortures similar to those of Fr. Körösi, even to being beheaded like him. The murderous soldiers gave two severe blows to Fr. Pongrácz's head and then cast the three bodies into a ditch that carried foul smelling material to the sewer. Fr. Pongrácz, however, was not dead; he remained in that ditch for another twenty hours, suffering unspeakably and continuously repeating the names of Jesus and Mary. He finally received his martyr's crown towards evening on September 8.

The Protestant leaders in the city forbade the burial of the three martyrs and it was only six months after their death that a devout countess received permission from Bethlen to give them a fitting burial. The remains were first interred in a small chapel and then in 1636 were transferred to the monastery of the Sisters of St. Clare in Trnava.

Frs. Stephen Pongrácz and Melchior Grodecz, together with Canon Mark Körösi, were beatified by Pope St. Pius X on January 15, 1905.

