

#### 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

Sundays at 9 and 10.30 in Hungarian, at 12 both in English and Hungarian

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

# No. 9 - 8<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - February 27, 2011

# **CHURCH BULLETIN**

Founded in 1928

## 2011 - YEAR OF THE FAMILY

**Readings:** Is 49,14-15 II 1Cor 4,1-5 II Mt 6,24-34.

Responsorial Psalm: "For God alone

my soul waits in silence."

### PRAYER INTENTIONS:

9:00 Takács Ferenc 79. születésnapjára – család +Bernád Lajosért – felesége +Derényi szülőkért - fiuk és családja
elhunyt szülőkért és testvérekért – Katona család
+Taraszovics Andrásért, Julianáért és Elemérért – Nick és Nita
10:30 az egyházközségért

Márta felgyógyulásáért – családja Christopher születésnapjára – anyja Miklósházy püspök felgyógyulásáért Mária Kongregáció élő és elhunyt tagjaiért – Kongreganisták

+Leblanc Aladárért – friends and family

- +Gugg Jánosért leánya és családja
- +Kosa Consty-ért
- +Bukovec Dávidért Farkas Ágnes
- +édesapja emlékére Olga
- +Hummel szülőkért Jákó család
- +Molnár Erzsébetért és +Molnár nagyszülőkért -Marika

+David Lopesért és +Edna Josephsért – családjuk +Remsei Istvánért – özvegye és családja +Remsei Józsefért – édesanyja és családja +Staffer Károlyért – Rozália +Zsáky szülőkért – Gilice Erzsike

- +dr. U. Lovrics Andrásért felesége és fiai +Meszesán Mihályért – felesége és családja +szülőkért – Sztanyó L. És Marika
- 12:00 + Mikó Albinért felesége

## Monday (28)

- 7:30 For +Varazsdi Anna Évi and Zoli For Linar and Rose Napenas
- For the intentions and wellbeing of Celsus and family *Tuesday (1)*
- 7:30 For +Galambos László Csányi Margit

For Lynn Cook, special intentions For +Gáti Sándor – wife and family For +Molnár grandparents – Marika

#### Wednesday (2)

- 7:30 For the victims of the earthquake in Christchurch, New Zeeland
- 7 PM Etelkáért és Pálért Egyházközségünk családjainak megújulásáért

#### Thursday (3)

7:30 For +Paul Lee For Carmalin, special intentions

## Friday (4) Saint Casmir

- 7:30 For Celia Tellis For Phillip, special intentions For +Julie and Gilbert Tellis
- 7 PM for world peace

#### Saturday (5)

7:30 For Nagy and Erdős families – Nagy Zoltán and wife For +Molnár Erzsébet – daughter and family

*Funeral:* Zahari Júlia (81)

# UPCOMING EVENTS

**Today:** Fundraising Schnitzel and Bake Sale of Caritas **March 6.** Fundraising Lángos sale of the Youth Club

## Announcements

♦ A Big THANK YOU to all who contributed to the success of our Family Fun Day last Monday.

♦ Volunteers will be at the back of the church for all the Masses today to distribute the containers for coins collection during Lent. On behalf of Campaign Life Catholics and Campaign Life Coalition, thank you for your participation and your generosity. To get more information about **Coins for Life** and CLC or if you are interested in volunteering, please call 416-204-9749 or visit www.coinsforlife.org. ✤ If anyone could help us in operating the projector during the masses, please call the office.

Hawthorn School for Girls (101 Scarsdale Road, at Leslie & York Mills) is an accredited independent school that provides a Catholic education from Preschool to Grade 12. On Wednesday, March 2, 10:00 am – 11:30 am, join us for an open house presentations and tours, and learn about the exceptional education Hawthorn offers. For more information visit our website ww.hawthornschool.com or call 416-444-2900.

The World Day of Prayer 2011 will be held at St. John's Anglican Church on March 11 at 1:30. Address: 19 Don Ridge Drive (Yonge/York Mills). Tel: 416-225-6611. This year's focus is Chile, and the theme is *"How many loafs have you?"* 

#### God's Mercy looks not at our past but looks to our future and potential

by Fr. Tommy Lane

If we take a fresh new \$100 bill and fold it up and crumple it and then open it out again what does it look like? It is a mess and is wrinkled. Is it worth \$1 now, or \$5, or \$10? No, it is still a \$100 bill and has the value and potential of a \$100 bill. When we get crumpled through sin we get into a mess but we still have the same value and potential in the eyes of God.

It is interesting that one of the words in Hebrew for "have mercy" comes from the same root as the Hebrew word for "womb." "Mercy" and "womb" are somehow interrelated in Hebrew and also in Akkadian. Why might this be?

1. For scholars the connection may a bit of a mystery but when we think of womb we can imagine motherly love, motherly care and it does not take us too long to think of mothers being merciful.

2. We can also think of the mother's womb nourishing the child because that child has value and potential. That child will grow. In the womb the child has not yet reached its full potential. The mother's womb is preparing the child for the future and God's mercy does hold one locked into the past but looks to the future.

Twice in our first reading from Isaiah today the verb is used to describe God's mercy

He who *pities* them leads them (Isa 49:10) The Lord comforts his people and *shows mercy* to the afflicted (Isa 49:13)

To convey in English that the Hebrew word "womb" comes from the same root as the word "mercy" you might want to translate those verses as

He who *wombs* them leads them (Isa 49:10) The Lord comforts his people and *wombs* the afflicted (Isa 49:13) When God forgives he does not look at the past but looks to the future and our potential just as the mother's womb is nourishing the child and preparing the child for the future. No wonder therefore that the description of God's love which we heard in our first reading, and is probably the most beautiful depiction of God's love in the Old Testament, uses a motherly image,

Can a mother forget her infant, be without tenderness for the child of her womb? Even should she forget, I will never forget you. (Isa 49:15)

The prophet Deutero-Isaiah (Isa 40-55) is ministering to the Jews exiled in Babylon who were wondering if God had forgotten them, and Jerusalem also questioned as we heard in our reading,

Zion said, "*The Lord has forsaken me; my Lord has forgotten me*." (Isa 49:14) So the Lord responds,

Can a mother forget her infant, be without tenderness for the child of her womb? Even should she forget, I will never forget you. (Isa 49:15)

The word in Hebrew עול that is translated as "infant" is more accurately translated as "suckling child." It shows our dependence on God just as a suckling child is dependent on its mother. It was sin that brought the exile on the Jews but God did not forget them and their dependence on him and in our reading he promised to restore them. When the Jews returned to Jerusalem they were different, they had matured. They no longer ran after idols as they had done before the exile.

When we sin, no matter how crumpled we become, God's mercy awaits us in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Like a mother's womb nourishing a child and preparing it for the future, when God forgives he does not lock us into our past but knows our value and potential and looks to our future. Just as the Jews matured in the exile and no longer went after idols afterwards, we too can mature during the suffering we bring on ourselves through sin and once we are forgiven no longer go after idols.

#### **Prayer for Families**

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who places solitary persons in families: We commend to your continual care the homes in which your people dwell. Put far from them, we beseech you, every root of bitterness, the desire of vainglory, and the pride of life. Fill them with faith, virtue, knowledge, temperance, patience, and godliness. Knit together in constant affection those who, in marriage, have been made one flesh. Turn the hearts of the parents to the children, and the hearts of the children to the parents; and so enkindle fervent charity among us all, that we may evermore be kindly one to another; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.