

Saint Elizabeth of Hungary Roman Catholic Church

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Office hours: Tuesday to Saturday 9:30 to 3:30, Sunday 10 to 1
Masses: Monday to Saturday at 7.30 AM in English
Sundays at 9 and 10.30 in Hungarian, at 12 bilingual

Jesuit priests: Szabolcs J. Sajgó (pastor), László Marosfalvy (associate pastor), Balázs Jaschko (retired)
Office Staff: Julius Gáspár, Gábor Rochlitz, Anna Szárics



Founded in 1928

4th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - January 29, 2012

CHURCH BULLETIN 5

Readings: Deut 18.15-20 1Cor 7.32-35
 Mk 1.21-28

Responsorial Psalm: „O that today you would listen to the voice of the Lord. Do not harden your hearts!”
(Ps 95)

WE OFFER THE HOLY MASS FOR:

9:00 +Katona Gizella (testvére és családja)
+Gál Tibor (leánya)
+Tóth Emma és Géza (leányuk, Marika Shah)
10:30 az egyházközség (plébános)
Stefani Béla (felesége, Anna)
Fodor János (Fodor család)
+Moldován Sándor (Ildikó és Ádám)
+Gajárszky Károly (felesége és családja)
+Pál József és +Olti László 6 hetes gyászmiséje
(Borbély Imre és családja)
12:00 +Wilsonné Farkas Erzsébet (Szekeres Mária)
+Kolmann László (lánya és családja)

Monday (30)

7:30 Jesuit vocations

Tuesday (31) Saint John Bosco

7:30 Fodor János (Fodor family)

Wednesday (1)

7:30 Peter Roh, special intention

7 PM a magyar politikusok megtérése

Thursday (2) Presentation of the Lord

7:30 blessings on Pavline Sazon, on her birthday

Phillip, special intention (Joanna)

Patrick, special intention (Joanna)

Friday (3) Saint Blaise, Saint Ansgar

7:30 Etelka and Pál

7:00 Fr. Jaschko 90. születésnapja (Piri)

+férj (felesége, Ica)

+Ernest (felesége, Éva és családja)

+Tóth László, +szülők, +nagyszülők, +testvérek
(Mrs. Tóth)

Saturday (4) Jesuit Martyrs of the Missions

7:30 +Nagy and +Erdős families (Zoli and Marika)

Funeral: Bodó István (76),
Wilsonné Farkas Erzsébet (60)

EVENTS

Today: World Leprosy Day. One Body... many members (see more on the other side).

For more than 50 years, on the last Sunday of January, thousands of people across the globe have stopped to remember those who suffer the horrendous effects of leprosy. Click on www.leprosy.ca.

February 4 Scouts Dinner and Dance **5** Thanksgiving Mass at 10:30 on the occasion of Fr. Jaschko's 90th birthday, followed by reception **12** Fundraising Cabbage rolls sale **18** Altar Boys and Youth Club Dinner and Dance **20** Family Fun Day **22 Ash Wednesday 26** Fundraising Schnitzel and Bake Sale.

❖ **KOLBE EUCHARISTIC MINI-RETREAT** on Saturday, Feb. 11th from 2 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. On this feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, Father Victor Mallia OCD will speak on " Help of the Sick". Join us at St. Brigid's Church, 300 Wolverleigh Blvd. (416-696-8660). See www.kolbeapostolate.com for more information.

❖ **THE 20th ANNUAL LIFT JESUS HIGHER RALLY** on Saturday, March 3rd, 2012 from 9.00 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. will be in the Metro Toronto Convention Centre North Building, 255 Front Street West. A Grace-filled day with:

* His Eminence, Cardinal Thomas Collins, Archbishop of Toronto

* Fr. Jonathan Morris, author and Fox News Analyst

* Ralph Martin, Sr. Ann Shields & Peter Herbeck

* Divine Mercy Celebration, Uplifting Music

* Eucharistic Healing Procession

* Confession and Holy Mass

* Separate Youth Event

For tickets/Info go to www.lift-jesus-higher-rally.org or call (416) 251-4255 or (905) 270-2510.

❖ **Good Marriages** - like dependable cars - need tune-ups. Refresh and rekindle your love for each other by treating yourselves to a marriage enrichment weekend at Queen of Apostles Renewal Centre, or give a weekend as a gift. The Centre offers comfort, excellent cuisine and an inspiring program. The next weekend is Feb. 17-19. To register call 905-278-5229.

The Story of Father Damien

Father Damien, the Belgian Catholic priest who lived and died on a leprosy colony on the island of Molokai in Hawaii between 1873 and 1889, was raised to sainthood in a ceremony in Rome on October 11, 2009.

Father Damien's compassion for those with the disease, and the fact that he experienced first-hand the physical, social and emotional effects of the disease, has meant that he has become the spiritual patron, not only of leprosy-affected people but also of those with HIV/Aids and people who are marginalized.

Father Damien first went to Molokai in 1873 after volunteering to go to the leprosy colony for three months. The colony had been set up by the Hawaiian government to quarantine those with leprosy. In 1866 the first leprosy patients were exiled to this remote island. The desperate situation of the leprosy-affected people living on Molokai – they lacked proper healthcare, sanitation and food – affected Father Damien so much that he begged his superiors to let him stay as long as he wanted. In 1885 Father Damien himself contracted leprosy – a disease for which there was no cure at that time. Here is one paragraph from a letter he wrote that year:

Certain as I am of the reality of my infirmity, I nevertheless remain tranquil and resigned and am even happier among my people. God knows what is good for my sanctification, and with this conviction I say daily 'Thy will be done'.

This did not stop him working tirelessly to improve conditions on the island until his death in 1889.

At around the same time that Father Damien set up his parish in Molokai, an Irishman called Wellesley Bailey, moved also by God, was beginning to establish support for his work with leprosy sufferers in India. And in 1874 The Leprosy Mission was born.

Leprosy organizations, like The Leprosy Mission, can learn so much from the life and work of Father Damien. His compassion, his heart for justice and his holistic approach to mission work, are still the foundation of many Christian and development charities around the world.

Thousands of people are diagnosed with leprosy every year; in fact someone is diagnosed with the

disease every two minutes. Father Damien's life help us to remember the powerful impact that one life, dedicated to a just cause, can have on people who are living with leprosy. We mustn't forget that today, in the 21st century, leprosy-affected people still experience stigma and rejection. The Leprosy Mission is committed to bringing an end to this injustice and works tirelessly with leprosy-affected people to assist then finding afresh their place as valued, loved and contributing members of their communities.

World Day for Consecrated Life

Ask someone what day it is today and the response you are likely to get is "Groundhog Day." Unless you ask a pagan Celt, who will know that it is the festival of Imbolc. And Catholics? The catechized ones will likely tell you that it is the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord or Candlemas.

Few people will tell you that it is World Day for Consecrated Life. But it is—unless you are in one of those dioceses that move the celebration to the following Sunday, an unfortunate practice which is a matter for another post.

In 1997, Venerable John Paul II instituted a day of prayer for women and men in consecrated life. This celebration is attached to the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord on February 2nd. The purpose of the day was threefold: First, to thank God for the gift of consecrated life. Second, "to promote a knowledge of and esteem for the consecrated life by the entire People of God." And the third reason, in John Paul II's words,

regards consecrated persons directly. They are invited to celebrate together solemnly the marvels which the Lord has accomplished in them, to discover by a more illumined faith the rays of divine beauty spread by the Spirit in their way of life, and to acquire a more vivid consciousness of their irreplaceable mission in the Church and in the world.

That phrase about "their irreplaceable mission" got me thinking about a conversation I recently had with an abbess of a Poor Clare monastery. Mother Abbess was telling me how important it was for her community to protect the discipline of enclosure, because once one begins to make small exceptions the Rule, soon the cloister may be lost entirely. Upon remarking how central enclosure is to the charism of the Poor Clares (who make a special fourth vow of enclosure) she remarked that if religious abandon their charism, they forfeit their reason to exist, and soon will cease to exist. The history of—no, perhaps better, the contemporary situation of—religious life bears ample evidence to this fact.

Our blog is called “Whosoever Desires.” We take this title from the first words of the Formula of the Institute of the Society of Jesus. As you can see on the right panel of our blog, the complete first sentence is:

Whosoever desires to serve as a soldier of God beneath the banner of the cross in our Society, which we desire to be designated by the name of Jesus, and to serve the Lord alone and the Church his Spouse, under the Roman pontiff, the vicar of Christ on earth, should, after a vow of perpetual chastity, poverty, and obedience, keep the following in mind.

Now, you might be wondering what “the following” is. The short answer is “a lot.” A better answer is to look at the sentences which immediately follow, which explicitly state the purpose of the Society of Jesus:

He is a member of a Society founded chiefly for this purpose: to strive especially for the defense and propagation of the faith and for the progress of souls in Christian life and doctrine, by means of public preaching, lectures, and any other ministration whatsoever of the word of God, and further by means of the Spiritual Exercises, the education of children and unlettered persons in Christianity, and the spiritual consolation of Christ’s faithful through hearing confessions and administering the other sacraments. Moreover, he should show himself ready to reconcile the estranged, compassionately assist and serve those who are in prisons or hospitals, and indeed to perform any other works of charity, according to what will seem expedient for the greater glory of God and the common good.

Today religious life is in the most precarious situation in which it has been in at least two hundred years, if not many more hundreds of years. Religious are aging, congregations are vanishing, and Vatican visitations are causing quite a stir. The task of a religious in such tumultuous times is the same as it is in all ages: to live one’s charism. To be sure, living one’s charism is no guarantee that one’s order will endure: often a charism is needed for a specific task at a specific time and no further. But this much is sure: as my abbess-friend put it so well, if a congregation stops living its charism then it loses its reason to exist and soon will vanish.

Those of us here at Whosoever Desires undertake this enterprise as an expression of our charism. Please pray for our humble efforts. And today let us pray for all religious, that they may live their charism with joy, fervor, and fidelity, thus giving witness, in John Paul II’s words, to “their irreplaceable mission in the Church and in the world,” and most importantly, giving witness to the One in Whom alone their lives make sense (<http://whosoeverdesires.wordpress.com>).