

## 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 Jaschkó (retired) Office Staff: Julius Gáspár, Gábor Rochlitz, Anna Szárics

## 5<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT - March 25, 2012 CHURCH BULLETIN 13

Founded in 1928

Readings: 🛄 Jer 31.31-34 🛄 Heb 5.7-9 Dr 12.20-33 R. Psalm: "Create in me a clean heart, O God." (Ps 51) WE OFFER THE HOLY MASS FOR: 9:00 Éva születésnapjára (család) our benefactors +Nancy Lee (Patricia Lim) +Gara Ferenc (felesége, Franciska és családja) **10:30** az egyházközség (plébános) Berky Mária Saldanha Mária felgyógyulása (édesanyja) Horváth Krisztina felgyógyulása (Erzsi) Erzsike születésnapia (édesanvia) Mária Kongregáció élő és elhunyt tagjai (Kongreganisták) +Juhász András (gyermekei) +barátok (Farkas Sándor és Teréz) +Gajárszky Károly (családja) 12:00 +Szabó Attila és +Szabó Arpád (család) Monday (26) Annunciation of the Lord 7:30 +Nancy Lee (Patricia Lim) the intention of the Jesuit General Tuesday (27) 7:30 recovery of Horváth Krisztina (Erzsi) Etelka and Pál +Nancy Lee (Patricia Lim) our deceased Jesuits Wednesday (28) +Nancy Lee (Patricia Lim) 7:30 Jesuit vocations 7 PM the conversion of Hungarian politicians Thursday (29) 7:30 +Nancy Lee (Patricia Lim) our Jesuit provincial's intention Friday (30) 7:30 +Nancy Lee (Patricia Lim) the conversion of atheists and non believers Saturday (31) +Nancy Lee (Patricia Lim) 7:30 +Matthew Meagher (his wife, Marie Meagher)

<u>Marriage</u>: Reinis Veronika Alexandra & Matičevič <u>Ž</u>eljko Franjo

## **EVENTS**

**Today:** Scouts Crepes sale **\*** Gryllus brothers concert in the Church at 6 PM (Hungarian Folk Music) **April 1** Bake sale of the Married Couples Club

**5 Holy Thursday;** 7 p.m. Lamentations (choir); 7.30 Mass of the Last Supper, Homily, Holy Communion and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament **6 Good Friday;** 3 p.m. Service of Our Lord's Passion, Homily, Holy Communion and Veneration of the Holy Sepulcher

**7 Holy Saturday;** from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Veneration of the Holy Sepulcher; 7.30 p.m. Easter Vigil services, Mass and Procession

**8 Easter Sunday;** Food blessing at the end of the 9 a.m. mass **15.** Divine Mercy Sunday – Mass at 3 p.m.

♦ The Sixth Annual Jesuit Provincial's Dinner will be held on April 11, 2012 at Le Parc Dining and Banquet Hall. This year besides recognizing the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Jesuit Jubilarians, Br. Robert Finlay, Fr. Robert Foliot, Fr. Douglas McCarthy and Fr. Michael Stogre; Dr. Peter Warrian and Dr. Margaret Hovanec are being honoured with the "Magis Award" for their outstanding work and dedication. Tickets are available by calling 416-481-9154 or e-mailing ido@jesuits.ca.

 Happy Marriages just don't happen. They are like beautiful gardens that receive loving attention and nurturing. Schedule a marriage enrichment weekend at Queen of Apostles Renewal Centre and treat yourself to a second honeymoon. The Centre offers comfort, excellent cuisine and an inspiring program. The next weekend is April 13-15. To register please call Queen of Apostles: 905-278-5229. ✤ Two weekends of prayer and contemplation are offered for single women, aged 30 - 50, April 27 - 29 or May 25 - 27, 2012. Location: 3377 Bayview Ave., Toronto. See posted flyer for more information. To register, contact dschweitzer@csi-to.ca or call 416-927-0720.

COINS FOR LIFE. Would you or your family put aside your coins, during the next 2-3 weeks, and contribute these savings to help in the struggle to end abortion and create a culture of life? Empty containers can be picked up at the back of the church. The containers should be returned the week after Easter. During Lent let use this moment of self denial (perhaps something we particularly buy and enjoy) and put those coins 'for a Culture of Life in Canada'. Remember that every coin helps. You can make this a pro life family/school project. For more information call Maria at 416-204-9749.

♦ Married couples: You deserve a weekend to celebrate being together; to rediscover each other and focus on ways to make your relationship even better. A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend offers this opportunity. Consider giving each other or another couple that you know the gift of a weekend away from daily pressures; time to be with each other and with God on a Marriage Encounter Weekend. Upcoming Weekend Date: April 20-22, 2012. For further information or registration please contact: Cora & Mike Bryce (905-896-2958) or coramikebryce@sympatico.ca

## **Unless a Grain of Wheat Dies**

By Fr Munachi E. Ezeogu, cssp

The Greek philosopher Socrates is regarded as one of the wisest men of all time. This man who lived between 470 and 399 BC devoted his life to exposing ignorance, hypocrisy and conceit among his fellow Athenians and calling them to a radical re-examination of life. "The unexamined life," he said, "is not worth living." He challenged popular opinions regarding religion and politics as he sought to bring people to a better understanding of virtue, justice, piety and right conduct. He attracted many followers, especially among the youth. But those in power arrested him, tried him and sentenced him to death. He was charged with false teaching regarding the gods of the state, propagating revolutionary ideas and corrupting the youth of Athens. His family and friends wanted to intervene to overturn the sentence but he would not let them. He had the option to go into exile from Athens but he would not take it. Instead he accepted to drink the poison hemlock and die. Subsequent generations of Greeks came to regard Socrates as a martyr for truth. They resolved never again to persecute anyone on account of their beliefs.

By the time of Jesus the Greeks had become among the most broad-minded people in the world. Various religious and philosophical traditions flourished among them and vied for popularity. We see in today's gospel that among the huge crowds that had come to Jerusalem for the Passover feast were some Greeks. It did not take these Greeks long to see that all was not well in Jerusalem. So they came to see Jesus. Why did they come to see Jesus? Although John has somewhat spiritualized the story, thereby giving the impression that they came to seek admission into the "body" of Christ (John 12:32), it is more probable that they came to alert Jesus to the seriousness of the danger surrounding him and to suggest to him to flee with them to Greece, the land of freedom. The response that Jesus gives to their request shows that it has to do with his impending death and that he has chosen to stay and face it rather than seek a way to escape it.

Many people see death as an interruption in their life and mission. But Jesus saw death as a fulfillment of his life and mission. Many times in the past the people had planned to entrap him but Jesus always escaped from their hands because "his hour had not yet come" (John 7:30; 8:20). But now his hour has come. "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.... And what should I say -- 'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour" (John 12:23, 27). Jesus uses the parable of the grain of wheat to explain that by shying away from death when the hour has come, one only reduces one's life and mission ("remains just a single grain") whereas by giving oneself up to death when the hour has come, one enhances it ("bears much fruit"). In this way Jesus flatly refuses to seek any help, human or divine, to prolong his earthly life beyond his Father's will. The voice from heaven confirms that this decision is indeed God's will and that for Jesus, the faithful servant of God, death and glory are indeed two sides of the same coin.

This must have been a powerful story of encouragement in the faith for the persecuted early Christians to whom John wrote. It shows that it is only through Jesus' submission to an undeserved death that they now have the benefit of faith and salvation. But then it goes on to remind them of the words of Jesus that his followers must follow in his steps even unto death. "**Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also." (John 12:25-26). Where is Jesus? Jesus is in glory. But to get there he had to pass through the gates of death in faithfulness to God's will. That is his story. That also should be our story.**