SAINT ELIZABETH OF HUNGARY R.C. CHURCH

Árpád-házi Szt. Erzsébet Rk. Templom

432 Sheppard Ave. E., Toronto, Ont. M2N 3B7

Phone: (1) 416/225-3300 - Fax: (1) 416/225 3814 - www.szenterzsebet.org - szte.iroda@gmail.com

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ!

The time has come again for the annual fall letter to our parishioners. We will be celebrating the Feast of St. Elizabeth, the patron of our church on November 18th starting with the 11:00 o'clock mass.

I would like to invite you and your family. Following the mass there will be a formal dinner downstairs in the main Hall. If you are able, please come to that as well. Tickets are available through the church office.

We are celebrating, even though there seem to be few reasons to do so; with natural disasters, moral crises and economic crises constantly being trumpeted by mass media. Hungary has been particularly hard hit by the media; it has been attacked for daring to put God in the Constitution and for accepting Christian Values as the values in governing the country...

However, let us celebrate.

Celebrate that through our faith we know that God's love is always present; he is with us through good and bad. We celebrate because we see and feel his presence, it heals us. We also feel his mercy; we know that if we are steadfast in our faith, we will experience heaven even before death. It is good to remember that the Pope has awarded the Government of Hungary for standing up for the rights of the unborn, for standing up for family values in the new constitution (the Path to Peace Award - http://www.thepathtopeacefoundation.org/celebrating/annual-gala-dinner.aspx). We celebrate that the Bishop's Synod in Rome with the aid of the Holy Spirit was able to work successfully. We are also participating in the Year of Faith with many special events to help us grow in our faith.

It is a joy to see the 225 pupils at the Hungarian School, our scouts, the work of our older and newer church groups, the Married Couples Club, the Karitas Group, the Welcoming Group, the Pax Romana, our altar servers and everyone who participates in our church life...

Celebrating the feast of a saint has in church history been a time when one can open oneself to God and accept the spiritual gifts prepared for us. At a feast like this we get more than we deserve. I would like to invite everyone to take part in any or all of the activities that are on offer. There are 1 day retreats, 4 day retreats, 24 hour Adoration of the Body of Christ, several pilgrimages annually, weekly meditation and bible class as well as all of the groups that function year round. Let us pray together in our families and with our friends. Let us help each other become more active Catholics.

On the last day of the month of the Rosary