



# Elizabeth Bergeron speaks to us...

Autumn 2019

Witness of a bold faith, soothing presence, active charity  
Elizabeth Bergeron, an inspiring model for today's world. (continued)

*When she died in 1936, people were crying  
the disappearance of "a saint".*



## **Venerable Elizabeth Bergeron**

Noticing that this renowned holiness continues to grow, the Community of the Sisters of Saint Joseph decides to introduce in Rome the cause of the beatification of its founder. Theologians are responsible for thoroughly studying the life of Elizabeth Bergeron to demonstrate this fame. Following this study, it was on January 12, 1996, that Pope John Paul II declared her venerability, that is to say, that she practiced all the virtues in a heroic way. Nothing more will be said about her beatification, except that she will be attributed a miracle.

What is Elizabeth's secret? Where did she draw her strength? In her union with God! She saw God in her life. This is how she teaches us to live with him on a daily basis, to discover him present in the ordinary of our lives, attentive to our happiness. Ordinary who will never be ordinary "behold, He is making all things new". (Ap 21:5)

Elizabeth chose the holiness that God intended for her, not that of another; she did not try to appear to be what she was not; there was no distance between what she was and what she appeared. "I no longer live, but Christ lives in me" (Ga 2:20)

*The saints are those whose life designates God as the secret of their being. They live as God dreamed them. \* We must show that we are from God.*

## **Humility, a Sense of the Church, Submission to the Will of God**

In Elizabeth Bergeron's life, the ecclesial sense is united to the virtue of humility. Elizabeth's life is an example of how God guides the soul through the Church. She often recited aloud with a catchy fervor: "*Thank you, my Lord, for making me a child of your Church.*"

\* Timothy Radcliffe, *Take the plunge*, Cerf, 2012

Elizabeth did not wish to become a founder. Her desire was to devote herself to God in one or in the other of the existing congregations of her region. When she wanted to found a community of contemplative sisters, perhaps she was influenced by what her director and Mother Catherine Aurélie of the Precious Blood had told her: "Heaven has designs on you". She sought the manner of accomplishing them, always in the way of subordination to ecclesiastical authority. The bishop of St. Hyacinthe chose her as the founder of the congregation he wanted for his diocese. Elizabeth was totally submissive to him in the organization of this new Institute.

Always, she saw God in the bishops and in the appointed delegates to lead the Congregation, in the Rules they had given as well as in her direct religious superiors. She listened with respect to the letters of the pope and the bishops.

Too much submission? Lack of personality? It must be considered in the context of the time. It must be understood that Elizabeth renounces her personal plans for a church project. A work of teaching is a work of Church, of a prophet; it is sowing the fruitful words which make goodness flourish; words that respect the dignity of people valuing what is good in them.

***Elizabeth Bergeron has borne fruit by her abandonment to the liberating grace of God.***

One of the twelve theologians who voted in her "trial" prior to the declaration of venerability, speaks of her continued progress in virtue and in union with God: "*It is in a crescendo of spiritual maturity, fueled by a lively faith and joyful hope, that her life of harshness and hard work formed her mind so deeply that in all her actions, she had no purpose but the glory of God and the good of souls.*"

*"It was from here that an unshakeable serenity sprang up in the small and big choices, day after day, in a simple, persevering and amiable behavior. All perplexities having vanished, her life manifests the riches of the theological and cardinal virtues from which all the characteristics of heroic holiness emerge. Elizabeth Bergeron appears as a model by her full availability to God's will and purpose ..."*  
"Sandro Corradini



If Elizabeth Bergeron had, as St. Teresa of the Child Jesus, written the story of her soul, one could see the journey of grace in her life. She never wrote! But one can read the story of the serenity of her soul in the evolution of her physiognomy and her smile. The God of Elizabeth Bergeron is the God that our contemporary world needs: a God who delivers us from our limits, who does not threaten our talents, who values our existence, who wants us happy and creative.

Sister Suzanne Gloutnez, s.j.s.h.

***Contribution to the cause of beatification of Venerable Elizabeth Bergeron***

Every year, hundreds of people make requests to Venerable Elizabeth Bergeron; they come from several countries by email, letter, telephone or by visiting the tomb.

*An important way to contribute to the cause of her beatification is to communicate with us each time you receive a favor through her intercession.* Since 1968, when her Cause was introduced in Rome, we keep them preciously. They are of several types.

**Favor preferred by the Church: A Healing**

Requirements for a healing to be considered miraculous:

- ☼ One must have prayed only one future saint.
- ☼ One must have medical evidence that the disease was incurable and medical evidence of the cure.
- ☼ The healing must be complete and permanent.

If you think you are in the presence of a miraculous healing: send us a short account of what you have observed. Give us the first name, the last name and the postal address of the person concerned. Include the medical record obtained from the doctor, with the patient's permission.  
**N.B.** If we need more information, we will contact you by phone or email.

## Recognition to Venerable Elizabeth Bergeron

I begin this recognition to the venerable Elizabeth with this beautiful story that is both a healing and a testimony.

**No more evidence of cancer for S.:** Following a diagnosis of un-operable lung cancer, with a very little chance to recover, S. agreed to start a protocol established for him at the Trois-Rivières hospital for a period of 6 weeks (32 treatments in radiotherapy and 6 in chemotherapy at a rate of one per week). When he left, he could hardly breathe and he was very weak. This was on June 3rd. With his complicity, we entrusted S. to the venerable Elizabeth Bergeron. At one point his kidneys blocked. Then on June 25, I made this request "*Good Mother Elizabeth continue to accompany S .. This week, he receives positive news from his oncologist. If a miracle is not possible at this stage, may his condition most notably improve. I thank you in advance for him and his family.*"

On the first of July, I receive this message: "*The treatments are coming to an end. Another 2 weeks. It was not easy, the kidneys are 80 % blocked and my immune system was weak. Within a week everything is back to normal and doctors do not understand; they say that I am very lucky. I told them that Sister Bergeron and her faithful prayed for me. Thanks to all of you for your help.*" Thereafter, the more the treatments were progressing, the more his physical condition deteriorated: two syncope, inability to walk and eat ... His treatments ended on July 18th.

Monday, July 29, I receive this message: "*A MIRACLE occurred despite the difficulties with my health. I am still hospitalized, I have had a scan and there is no trace of cancer left. We are astonished ... we have a hard time believing it. Thank you to all the good sisters who took care of me and prayed for me. Thank you L. I do not believe it. I do not have words to express myself. S. S.*" That same day, his wife announced this good news on Facebook. S.'s doctors have announced the complete disappearance of the cancerous masses on his lungs. To all who participated in encouraging us and who prayed for his healing, we thank you with all our heart. The fight is not over yet because the treatments have weakened him a lot but I am sure he will get stronger thanks to the wonderful care of the medical services. Once again thank you. S.-M.

To conclude ... Before publishing this document, I send it to S .. Here is his reaction ... *This beautiful text really expresses what is happening. I have shivers just to read it. I am still in shock and do not believe it. The Lord decided that I had not finished my work on this earth. I am happy. If this text can help people who are in the same situation as I, out of darkness and into the Lord's light, seeing the end of the tunnel, I will have given the hope of getting out, even if it seems impossible ... this happens only to others but ... sometimes the other is us. Thank you !* S..., Sorel-Tracy

**Various Favors:** I hereby wish to inform you that I have obtained two graces through the intercession of Venerable Elizabeth Bergeron. The signing of a retirement in the best conditions. The success of my son's big operation. Many thanks to Venerable Elizabeth Bergeron. F. B..., Montreal North

**Joyful birth:** I have just received a call from a grandmother whose granddaughter is expecting twins and whose life is in danger because her kidneys do not work, she suffers water retention. May the Holy Spirit enlighten them. I have just received another call from C.L. telling me that everything is fine for the mother and her 2 twins. The doctor has provoked the delivery and the 3 are doing very well! We thank you Lord with all our hearts, and Mother Elizabeth Bergeron. Give thanks to the Lord! and to Mother Bergeron.

C. L..., Saint-Hyacinthe

**Successful operation:** I offer you a donation in thanks for my knee surgery and I intrust you for the next intervention. We are asking you to recommend our family and the wellbeing of everyone to Mother Elizabeth. Thank you.

C. and L. L..., Brigham

**Successful Operation / Change:** One of my friends N. will undergo an open heart surgery. I would like to make a novena for her with you and your sisters. She is a good and a generous person. I sincerely hope that she will heal.

**News ...** N. is out of intensive care this morning. She's doing quite well ... N. is at home. She is fine. She stopped smoking. She is proud of herself. There are 2 days left for the novena. Thank you again for participating.

C. R..., Bécancour

**Transformation:** I previously asked for prayers on behalf of Melody, my grand-daughter. She frequented untrustworthy people. Thank you to Mother Elizabeth Bergeron: your prayers and ours have been answered. Melody and I had a meal together yesterday. She is transformed, sweet, happy and has good friends. She has beautiful projects. I will not stop praying to our good Mother. She always has at heart the sanctification of young girls. The outcome is really amazing. THANK YOU

J.-M. H..., Victoriaville

**Cataracts gone:** I visit the ophthalmologist regularly for my vision care. At my last visit she told me that I might be developing cataracts. November 29, 2018: an examination at the hospital. December 12, 2018: another visit, again regarding cataracts. When I got home, I started a novena to Mother Saint Joseph asking to take care of my vision. I started to see the change. I was waiting for my visit on May 23 to see what would happen. I was certain that Mother Saint-Joseph would answer my request. At the end of the exams on May 23, I told the physician that Mother St. Joseph was there. Before I left she replied: "All the scans we have done are all very good." Thank you, Mother Saint Joseph.

S. B.C..., Saint-Hyacinthe

**Thanksgiving:** Thank you, Mother Elizabeth, for being here in my life and for the protection she offers to all my family and friends. I am very grateful for all the favors she gives me. Thank you for keeping us all healthy. My son and his spouse are very happy to have a little boy who will be one year old in May. This baby, that was so desired, is the joy of the whole family. Thank you Mother Elizabeth for protecting them and I pray you to preserve them in good health.

Thank you, mother Elizabeth. I was very worried about my 14 month old grandson who has stopped walking. The doctors, after various tests, detected a small fracture in his leg and now he is walking again, and everything seems perfect. Mother Elizabeth, I am very grateful for all the protection and favors you provide to my family.

P. L..., Laval

**Requests answered:** I had asked for prayers for my cancer; I am doing better. I had asked for my grandson Keven to find work and housing; it is done. Thank you.

A. R..., Blainville

**House problems solved:** Last winter my daughter had problems with her house; Elizabeth has done a lot to get everything back to normal.

P. C. L..., Saint-Jérôme

**Reassuring presence:** On February 21, 2019, I went to the hospital because I had intense pain in the abdomen. Once on site, I was supported by a team of professionals and I became aware of the seriousness of the situation. It made me very nervous. I asked God and Jesus to help me. There, an image appeared to me: it was Sister Elizabeth Bergeron. I asked her to help me through the difficult times I had to go through. Immediately, I felt calm and her presence near me. After the examinations, there was a blockage and significant bleeding in the abdomen. I had to be operated on urgently. Currently, I am in convalescence and I recovering very quickly. On April 3, I went to the tomb of Venerable Elizabeth Bergeron to thank her for this favor. J.-G. B..., Drummondville

**Employment obtained:** Sister Louise, I take a minute to tell you that my daughter Catherine had an interview two weeks ago and was hired. She starts her new job today. I give thanks to God and to Mother Elizabeth and to all the sisters who prayed for this intention. F. G ..., Ste-Anne-de-Sorel

**Selling a business:** I want to thank Mother Elizabeth, I had submitted this request: the sale of a business in a difficult period with shortage of manpower, it seemed to me as unachievable. What was asked was realized. This grace comes from above with the help of Mother Elizabeth. I want to thank her and others who pray for us. D. B..., Rimouski

**Blissful birth:** It is with great joy that I share the good news: the birth of my grand-daughter Chloe. Sincere thanks to God Almighty, through the intercession of Elizabeth Bergeron. Many thanks to all the community. M .J..., Madagascar

**A great miracle:** On August 11, my husband (72 years old) had a lung transplant at the CHUM; if not, he would already be dead. It was the first time the physicians had performed a lung transplant on a person this age. It is a big miracle because many have died of this procedure. He is really lucky. He must recover because he is very thin. I always believed, I never gave up, I always encouraged him. I thank the donor every day. He remained at the hospital from June 23 to August 30. I thank Mother Elizabeth who was always present. I invoked her every night. She protected me. I felt that the force came from above. It was a difficult time but with her help, everything went well. It's a second life for him and me. We put the house up for sale. We do not have children so we will not have anything to worry about. Back home, I have to take care of everything, but Mother Elizabeth continues to help me. I would like to publish this great miracle. D. G..., Quebec

Good mother Elizabeth, we trust ...

Venerable Elizabeth Bergeron's friends have confidence in her. The Sisters pray our Lord for you and with you, so that by her intercession, your requests may be answered. Confidence! She will not remain deaf to your requests. In a special way, to her we entrust: Caroline and her family, Adam, Jacob, Lorraine, Micheline and William.



We ask Elizabeth to continue to be close  
To each of you who put your trust in her.

## Various information



### Available videos

To get to know Elizabeth Bergeron, **three videos are available on our website [www.sjsh.org](http://www.sjsh.org)**: a story about Elizabeth Bergeron's life, another about her journey since her death and *Elizabeth Bergeron opens her heart*. They were made by Aude Leroux Lévesque and her company Bideshi Film. You can watch the video of **the moving of Elizabeth Bergeron's tomb** (October 30, 2014). **Other video** : Celebrating the unveiling of Elizabeth Bergeron's painting at Sainte-Anne-de-Beaupré, June 27th 2018. (duration 50 minutes). A **virtual tour of the mausoleum** is also available on our website. **Good viewing...**

### Communications

To communicate the favors granted by the Venerable Elizabeth Bergeron's intercession, to recommend her your intentions, to obtain information, to make appointments or to receive, free of charge, by e-mail or by mail, the Elizabeth Bergeron speaks to us bulletin, please address your requests to... ..

Elizabeth Bergeron Centre  
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(450) 768-1800, poste 194  
ceb@sjsh.org                      www.sjsh.org

### Important

**Thank you for notifying us when you change your postal address.**

At all times, you can read our e-newsletter "Elizabeth Bergeron speaks to us ..." in the section « Elizabeth-Bergeron » on our web site.

**Mausoleum of the Catholic cemetery  
Of St. Hyacinthe Cathedral**  
1075, Girouard Street East, St. Hyacinthe, (QC) J2S 7R1

**Opening hours**  
Monday to Friday between: 10:00 am and 4:00 pm  
(450) 774-4664

**Welcome to all the friends  
of the Venerable Elizabeth Bergeron**

### To discover

A painting of Elizabeth Bergeron,  
created by the artist Pierre Lussier,  
is on display in Sainte-Anne-de-Beaupré  
in the lower basilica  
at the entrance of the Très-Saint-Sacrement Chapel.  
Hoping to see you there.

On January 12 and April 29, a Mass is celebrated for the intentions of the Benefactors and Friends of the Cause of Venerable Elizabeth Bergeron. The present publication does not wish to prevent the judgment of the Holy Church; it wishes to conform in all its decisions.

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With the permission of the St. Hyacinthe Ordinary