



Elizabeth Bergeron speaks to us...

Autumn 2022

Contemporary Influence of Elizabeth Bergeron

To talk to us about the contemporary influence of Elizabeth Bergeron, Sister Thérèse asked herself the following questions...

“How is Elizabeth Bergeron still reaching us today?”

“How can this humble woman influence our lives?”

Let us see how she perceives this woman, still active today, 86 years after her death.

A Simple Woman

With Elizabeth, all is simple, starting by her birth in a rural area, her clothing without any pretension, her education more than summary, her work shared between the house and the farm work. During her stay in the United States, same simplicity of life. As foundress of a community, she remains loyal to herself: humble and simple. She has nothing to prove and never seeks to show off. It is for God that she acts, and it is Him she recognizes in the people surrounding her.

In these times where luxury, comfort, overconsumption are in the spotlight, Elizabeth invites us to the simplicity of life, that is to say a life marked by authenticity and honesty; to a life decluttered from the superfluous, liberated from false needs and useless accumulations; to a life of simplicity that leads to freedom and is manifested in great serenity.

The simplicity of life, it is, first and foremost, life as it is and not life as dreamed. This simplicity will give us the ability to cope with what life has in store for us that is beautiful and good.

A Humble Woman

Elizabeth possessed a true humility. This humility came from her profound faith, the conviction of knowing she was where God wanted her. The humility of Elizabeth made her clear about herself. Aware of her limits, she knows how to ask for advice and recognize her weaknesses. If she wounds any of her companions, she immediately apologizes. Never did she invoke her title of the foundress. She said: “I am nothing, but the Lord was willing to use me. We must not disappoint Him. I am only an instrument in his hands.”

We could add that her humility was heroism. As if it had not been enough for Elizabeth to spend her life in the shadow of Mgr. Moreau, of carrying the weight of ignorance and a state of poor health, she welcomes, without losing her peace, the jibes from the people outside, the insults and even the calumnies.

To the oversize ambition that seems to be the law in all fields today, Elizabeth comes and says,
“What is weak in the world, this is what God chooses to build his Kingdom.”

A Woman Capable of Humour

This virtue has always characterized Elizabeth. One day, a nurse asks her, “What did you do to catch that nasty cold?” She responds to her, “I got it for free.” Elizabeth often experienced health problems. She, who yet was refused in several communities, precisely for health issues, supported that we could very well live in community even with a fragile health.

One day, a nun announces her intention of leaving the community, because she has some health too frail. The foundress answers her point-blank, “Know, my sister, that the cracked pots, we use them carefully.” Afterwards, this nun went to found a mission of the Sisters of St. Joseph in Africa, in Lesotho, and she died at 86.

At the 50th anniversary of the foundation, it is about reserved seats at the distinguished guests’ table. A sister says to her, “What will you do at this table of honour, among the dignitaries?” “Like the others,” she says, “eat.” What an aptness! Also, she invites us to not take ourselves too seriously, and especially to put a bit of humour in our daily plate: it de-dramatizes, it is refreshing, it relaxes and most importantly, it gives a good taste...

An Audacious Woman

Audacious Elizabeth who plans everything to hurry the days of her first communion. Audacious Elizabeth who accepts to found a teaching community while she could not sign her name, because she did not know how to write. Audacious Elizabeth who, at the age of 14, welcomes a poor, lends him the clothes of her father, and prepares him dinner. Audacious Elizabeth, who, from the beginning to the end of her life, remains attentive to the needs of her time and responds to it with enthusiasm and faith.

Is this audacity not still relevant today? Faced with the changes in the life habits, faced with the major issues on which the current world needs to address, faced with the urgent challenges that society, family and the Church have to overcome, she can inspire us, for sometimes bold choices are necessary. The actions that this woman took, in extreme poverty and with makeshift means, should serve us as a lesson or, at least, provide us a reason for admiring her.

A Church Woman

Elizabeth’s whole life was a listening and a response: listening and answering the call of God first, then to those of the Church and finally to the ones of the children and the abandoned youth. Elizabeth often said, “Thank you, my God, for having made me child of your Church.” For her, the Church was Christ and his brothers and sisters to serve. This love held her in a continued availability to collaborate with the bishops and priests and to respond to the needs of the Church. Always did she encourage her daughters to help the priests of the parishes.

Are we bearing, like Elizabeth, the constant preoccupation to update our commitment as baptized? It can be lived in different ways: for instance, by supporting the pastors and pastoral animators with our prayer, by involving ourselves in organisms that fight for a better world and, most importantly, by making us close to the people around us.

Sister Thérèse Chauvin, S.J.S.H.

Recognition to the Venerable Elizabeth Bergeron

Good results: My son S. is doing awesome. He works in his acrylic company. He is followed by doctors at the CHUM. The results are very good. Thank you to the venerable Elizabeth Bergeron.

Deposited at the grave - M. L..., Sorel-Tracy, QC

Successful Surgery: I asked for prayers for my daddy who was going to have an open-heart surgery. I wanted to warmly thank you for your prayers. The surgery was a success, and his recovery is going very well. This will have changed his life, and we will have the chance to have him by our side for many years to come. Thank you!

C. V..., Email

Great news: I ran a scan as scheduled. They told me that it is no longer necessary to run one given my age. Nodules are developing very slowly. I say a sincere thank you to Mother Elizabeth Bergeron and I continue to pray for her.

S. B. G..., Warwick, QC

Hopeful results: I went to see my doctor. It's been twice that I run an endoscopy. I have two brown marks on the bladder; they told me it is benign. I have faith in your prayers and Mother Saint Joseph. I hope that these two marks will disappear.

M. N. L..., Saint-Hyacinthe, QC

Thanksgiving: I want to thank for all that life gave me. I have my place at Myosotis to end this beautiful life I had. Special thanks to the community.

L.C..., Sorel-Tracy, QC

Follow-up on a favour obtained: Layla Élise, celebrates her 15th spring today. Born greatly premature, the doctors had given her no hope of survival. She is in good health is interested in nature, horses, and she likes drawing. Miracles are possible!

N. B..., Email

Recognition: I am still in recognition. Your prayers bore fruit. For my new job, my requests were above my expectations: very good work teams, a good environment, good bosses. I want to thank all the Nuns that I bear in my heart as well as the Venerable Elizabeth Bergeron.

M. B..., Saint-Hyacinthe, QC

Successful trip: Recently, mother travelled and assisted to the wedding of a grandson. She had some worries concerning Covid-19, since it was risky for her health. Fortunately, my mother remained healthy, and fully enjoyed the wedding celebration. Thank you to Elizabeth Bergeron.

D. and C. M..., Vermont, USA

Multiple favours: Successful surgery for two herniae. I found some work; it is financially very appreciated. A big thank you to you, Sister Elizabeth.

M.G..., St-Jean-sur-Richelieu, QC

On the right path: My sister got Lyme disease. She was very sick. She gets back on track quite rapidly. I say thank you to my "Mother."

A.- M..., Cowansville, QC

House sale and apartment found: I come and say a special thanks to mother Saint Joseph for her assistance in selling our house in 4 days, and to have helped us to find an apartment to our taste close of our people. For the future, we ask her to keep us in good health and protect our family. We have a great confidence in Mother Saint Joseph. We pray for her every day. Thank you! A friend of Mother Saint Joseph always.

G. D..., Trois-Rivières, QC

Testimony – Favour obtained – Request: Thank you very much for all your “answered” prayers. Sister Elizabeth is very loved for obtaining us such great blessings, such fine delicacies. These words are to say to you that É. V. is now happier. Reconciliation with her parents, new job, new companions, and friends. *N.B. A year ago, this lady wrote to make a request for É. V. Only digestion and intestine issues remain.* However, I am convinced that our Sister Elizabeth has not yet told her last words with Saint Joseph and his Divine Son. Gratitude for the Cause of our Sister Elizabeth for her loving and pacifying presence in our lives.
D. D..., Trois-Rivières, QC

Successful exams: I had asked you to pray for R., my little girl, who was repassing her nutritionist exam at the University of Ottawa. Thank you for your prayers. She redid her exam in English, and she made it. She is now a nutritionist, a certified dietician. Thanks again!
J.-M. H..., Victoriaville, QC

Thanksgiving: Thank you for my granddaughter Émilie. She had tests for the ovaries and uterus; it was preoccupying her, since she has a 2-year-old baby and three others who are older! Thank you for your prayers to Elizabeth. All is fine; she does not need any operation! Thank you are very small words for saying to you my recognition for the support and prayers!
J.-M. H..., Victoriaville, QC

Meeting obtained: Following to my prayer request to meet a specialist, I obtained an appointment with a cardiologist on July 20 in Trois-Rivières. It has been years that I wanted to consult a specialist! Thank you again to Mother Elisabeth for her love for me! Since your prayers, I am much better!
J.-M. H..., Victoriaville, QC

As expected: I just met my cardiologist in Trois-Rivières. I will have a pacemaker, in September, probably. I am on the waiting list! It will give me a better quality of life! Thank you for your prayers!
J.-M. H..., Victoriaville, QC

My support: I was worried about my health. I ran tests and all was normal. Thank you to Mother Saint Joseph for her support in all my concerns.
M. B..., Saint-Hyacinthe, QC

In remission (01-22-2022): I wanted to mention to you this good news: my sister, who was treating a cancer since 2017, just let me know that she is in remission. Since that time, I was praying Sister Bergeron for this cause and others! I wanted to let you know of it in order that our good Sister Bergeron may get even closer to our Creator.
L. A..., Laval, QC

Completely healed (09-25-2022): As mentioned in my previous message that my sister’s cancer was in remission, I confirm that following her visit with her specialist on last September 9, she is completely healed; her cancer has disappeared! Thank you, Sister Bergeron, to be listening, every evening, when I get into touch with you.
L. A..., Laval, QC

Recognition: I wanted to thank you, because if I decided to move out, to definitely leave Switzerland, it is thanks to you, with our exchanges, your advice and your prayers. If I were able to sell my apartment, and find another one, beside the one of my parents, in which C. will come when he is in Paris and will move in later, it is also thanks to you. If the latter succeeds in getting closer to the family, it is also thanks to you. I owe you a lot.
C. of F..., Email

Invaluable favour: I obtained another favour from Mother Saint Joseph. I just got a car for free from my two brothers as well as the repair costs. I owe a big thank you to *my Mother Elizabeth*.
A.-M. C..., Cowansville, QC

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, we entrust to her: Adam, Antoine, Gabriel, Gabrielle and Layla's family.

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: 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

2545, Dessaulles Street, St. Hyacinthe, (QC) J2S 0K2
(450) 768-1800, poste 194

ceb@sjsh.org

www.sjsh.org

Important

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

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

Tuesday to Saturday 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.

With the permission of the St. Hyacinthe Ordinary