Elizabeth Bergeron speaks to us...

Autumn 2026

Here are a few segments from the celebration
we attended at the church of La Présentation
on May 25, 2026.

The meaning of the celebration: We gathered to celebrate the 175th anniversary of the life of Venerable Elizabeth Bergeron. Born and baptised on May 25, 1851, at La Présentation, she left her mark on her home village, in the United States where her family lived for five years, in Saint-Hyacinthe on Girouard Street, and at our Mother House at 805 Raymond. Since her death on April 29, 1936, she has continued her mission. This was a wonderful opportunity to pay tribute to her and to thank her for the legacy she has left us, the fruits of which we are reaping today. Let us give thanks and express our gratitude for all the favours obtained through Elizabeth's intercession.

Sister Louise Millette, SJSH

Homily: We have come to the source where Elizabeth Bergeron was born and baptised to celebrate 175 years of her presence amongst us. Indeed, 175 years ago, Elizabeth Bergeron was baptised in this church. It is this Word of God, taken from the Gospel, that inspires me: "*Seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.*" Mt 6:33

What could this righteousness to the Kingdom mean? Looking it up in the dictionary, I have found a wonderful definition: it comes from the verb "to adjust". I think we can understand Elizabeth because that is what she sought to do in many ways. Indeed, throughout her life, she adjusted herself to her life as a baptised Christian; she adjusted herself to God's call.

She received her first communion at the age of 8, when it was usually at 11 or 12 in those days. As this was her deepest desire, she did everything she could to make it happen. Throughout her life, Elizabeth drew inspiration from the Eucharist, from the shared Bread of Life and from the Word of God as it was proclaimed. During the five years she spent in the United States with her family, she volunteered to prepare children for the sacraments; even though she was only 14 years old, her offer was accepted.

She adapted to the seemingly impossible request from Mgr. Moreau, who asked her to found a community of teachers, even though she herself had no formal education; she had to adapt to render this service and respond to this call. The request went even further: to go and teach in the Eastern Townships, in municipalities full of poor people and large families. She had to adapt to the language – a young girl from La Présentation who did not know any English. No doubt her fellow sisters had to step in to help.

In response to a challenge that was difficult for her, she adapted to the unflattering comments from other communities who wondered: “What will she be able to do?”

We too, in our own lives, are invited to adapt constantly. Every baptised person must do so. If, like her, adapting means developing “a smiling kindness” – a little phrase that has been attributed to Elizabeth. A girl guide leader once told me that you cannot talk about God with a long face.

I invite us all to adapt while never forgetting to cultivate “the shared smile” in the simple way that Elizabeth did. Yes… her almost playful smile invites us to cultivate kindness and to share our smile.

In conclusion to this Mass, I extend this invitation to you:

“Let us be people who radiate kindness with a smile,
the same way the Venerable Elizabeth Bergeron did”

Excerpt from the homily by Canon Pierre Cordeau

N.B. You can access the full celebration of May 25, 2026, on our website.

Heirs and heiresses of Elizabeth, let us not forget that she is still very much alive in the hearts of the Sisters of Saint Joseph of Saint-Hyacinthe, and just as much in the hearts of those who come to visit her at the Mausoleum, as well as in the hearts of all those people from everywhere who pray to her, confide in her and ask her for physical and spiritual healing. *Sister Louise*

A tribute to the Venerable Elizabeth Bergeron

Apartment found: A big thank you to Mother Saint-Joseph for helping us find a ground-floor apartment or a lovely elderly lady who suffers from severe pain in her legs. She has found her apartment on the ground floor. What’s more, my dear A. has passed her assessment test to enrol on adult education courses. What a relief! THANK YOU! P.L…, Sorel-Tracy, QC

Favourable response: Dear Mother Elizabeth, during my time of anxiety I asked for your help. You answered my call, and I thank you for that. Y.M…., Rigaud, QC

Many favours: Today, dearest Mother Elizabeth, I give thanks to you… For Marlène, the daughter of a friend who has undergone several heart surgeries. She has had a defibrillator fitted. Her condition is improving. For André Jr., for whom we had asked for prayers to help him at the end of his life. He passed away surrounded by the love of his family. For Richard and me, for the good results from our scans and colonoscopy. R. et D.M…, Longueuil, QC

A joyful birth: I thank the Lord for the grace He has just bestowed upon us through the birth of our daughter on July 3, 2026. I thank the Venerable Elizabeth Bergeron for her protection and prayers. I ask for God’s blessing so that my daughter and her mother may remain under His grace and always enjoy good health.
O.N..., Madagascar

New job: We are very grateful to the Venerable Elizabeth Bergeron. Our prayers have been answered. My daughter has found a new job, exactly as she had hoped. Thank you, Venerable Elizabeth Bergeron.
E. C. E. P. K. D…, Brossard, QC

Thank you: A friend's niece, who was suffering from severe depression is now doing much better.
G…, Repentigny, QC

Leg fractures now healed: Here is a wonderful story with a very happy ending! A few months ago, Irène, my friend's partner, fractured her leg in 20 places. The doctor's initial diagnosis was that she would never walk again. As soon as I heard this news about the 72-year-old woman, I began to pray to Sister Elizabeth. Today, she is walking again because the fractures have healed. We can thank her. I continue to pray to her every day for her and many others. I wanted to let you know that she is well following the miracle of this healing. L. A…, Laval, QC

Testimonial: I was waiting for the results of a test that had me very worried. Everything turned out fine. What a relief! I continue to pray to that kind Mother Elizabeth, who is always there for me. I am very grateful for her presence and for the way she listens to me. M. B…, St. Hyacinthe, QC

Repair in good time: My wife and I were worried about a recent leak in the roof. We prayed Elizabeth Bergeron to help us find a roofer who could fix the leak before we went on holiday. Despite a few delays, a roofer managed to sort out the problem on the very day we were due to set off on holiday.
D. et C. M…, Vermont, USA

Testimonial: My husband Jacques and I would like to thank Mother Saint-Joseph for her help and protection in our daily lives. We both have great faith in her and, every day, we say the prayer asking for her beatification. L. V…, Beloeil, QC

No more trace of cancer: I wanted to tell you about a miracle that has happened since I started praying Sister Bergeron for this case. Indeed, three years later, my friend no longer has cancer. There are no signs of it, according to the specialists who have been treating him all these years. Thank you, Sister Bergeron!
L. A…, Laval, QC

Towards rehabilitation: Hallelujah! Some very good news… Jean-François is now able to breathe and eat on his own. He has started to speak; his memories are hazy, but he does remember certain things. He knows he has three sons, but he cannot remember their names. He will soon be going into rehabilitation to practise walking, speaking and relearning various skills. I am delighted with all the progress he has made, and I give thanks to our dear Elizabeth who, once again, was by our side. D. M…, Longueuil, 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. 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).* **Another 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**…

New: A celebration of the 175th anniversary of Elizabeth Bergeron's birth. Enjoy the programme…

Communications

To communicate the favours 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 email 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, ext. 194
ceb@sjsh.org

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

To your attention: To plan a visit to the Mausoleum please call 450 774-4664, 1 or 2 days before.
Sunday: usually closed—Thank you!

Welcome to all the friends
of the Venerable Elizabeth Bergeron

To Discover

A painting by 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 12th and April 29th, 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