



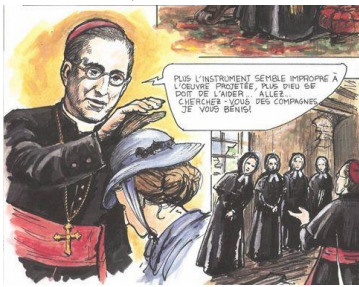
Elizabeth Bergeron speaks to us...

Autumn 2024

September 12, 2024 — 147th Anniversary of the Foundation of the Sisters of Saint Joseph of Saint-Hyacinthe Congregation

The Sisters of Saint Joseph of Saint-Hyacinthe Congregation owes its existence to the Blessed Louis-Zéphirin Moreau, fourth Bishop of Saint-Hyacinthe. As of his appointment as Bishop, Monsignor Moreau was very worried by the lack of teachers for the rural schools and for the children that could not receive an intellectual and Christian education.

Therefore, he elaborates a project to found a community of nuns that would dedicate themselves to education and literacy of children in the parochial churches. A young lady, Elizabeth Bergeron, who desired for a long time to give herself to God, presents herself to Monsignor Moreau. He saw in her the cornerstone of his future institute. *“My daughter,”* he says, *“I want you to help me in founding not a contemplative community but a community of teaching nuns...”* Imagine Elizabeth when her bishop asks her this demand while she is barely capable of reading and writing. Even if she does not really know where to go, it is in faith and total abandonment that she will live this call.



In her complete availability to the will of God, she answers: *“Here am I. If you believe I may respond to your plans, despite my ignorance and my inability, I am at your disposal.”* (Yvon Langlois in *Élisabeth, Parfum d’Étoile* [Elizabeth, A Scent of Star]). Following this encounter ... and surely others that followed, will originate, in 1877, the Sisters of Saint Joseph of Saint-Hyacinthe Congregation, a tree that will grow and give good and lovely fruits in abundance, not only here but beyond the borders of Quebec: Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, United States, Lesotho, Brazil, Senegal, Haiti, Chad.



O what faith in this woman! So much love in her! Elizabeth opened her heart, gave her life and answered the call from God which came to her through her bishop. With her three companions, who were as well women of faith, she based her hope on the one in whom she had put all her trust by most certainly inspiring herself on the motto from Monsignor Moreau: *“I can do anything in the One who strengthens me.”*

For 147 years, hundreds and hundreds of women bear fruits, opened their hearts and gave their lives to answer the ideal and charism of the Venerable Foundress who was guided by the dear bishop, Monsignor



Moreau. Both of them are for us a living reflection of goodness, kindness and love from God. And this is what they wanted to transmit to their daughters they loved so much. Throughout their whole life, they proclaim this message from the Gospel: *“Love yourself as the Lord has loved you.”* This commandment was primordial for them, a necessity and it must always be so for us. Loving like Him is to be merciful, not judging, not condemning, but forgiving, giving. Loving like Him is loving by trusting the ones we love. Loving like Him is loving by taking the lead. Loving like Him is to apply oneself to love



even when we are not loved in return. Loving like Him is giving one’s life day after day ... and giving it until the end, like He has done. *“There is no greater love than to give your life for those you love.”*

Lord, we give you thanks for this foundation anniversary. We give you thanks for the influence of the community, here and elsewhere. We give you thanks for the generous dedication of all these nuns who, for 147 years, stay loyal to the message of Monsignor Moreau and Elizabeth Bergeron. We give you thanks for the gift of their life, especially for the youth in human and Christian education as well as for all the services rendered in various age groups, movements and organisms. We give you thanks for this community which continues to be present to the world and the Church here, and to the one in Brazil and Lesotho.

To conclude, I share with you a reflection from Pope Francis which suits you very well: *“You will find life by giving life, hope by giving hope, love by giving love until the end.”*

Adaptation of Father Jean Pelletier’s Homely

Recognition to the Venerable Elizabeth Bergeron

Apartment Found: I asked to find an apartment in a low-rent housing for my brother who just broke up. He cannot afford expensive housing since he does not have much money. On July 1st, he will get a low-cost accommodation. Thank you very much!
C. P..., Trois-Rivières, QC

Faithful: I am as faithful to Sister Bergeron as she is to me. Over the last months, I directly called her because I was experiencing pulmonary discomfort; it is slowly settling down. Thank you for praying for us. United in prayers...
G. D..., Marievalle, QC

House Sold in a Short Time: My mother, Cécile Messier, died last fall. Ever since, my siblings and I are preparing her house to sell it. We recently put the house of my mother for sale on the real estate market. We prayed so that the offer is accepted. A week later, the house was under contract.
D. et C. M..., Vermont, USA

Testimony: I pray Mother St. Joseph every day, and she helps me to overcome my health worries. Thank you for her protection and the support she grants me each time I feel the need. I continue to pray this good Mother Elizabeth Bergeron who is always there for me.
M. B ..., Saint-Hyacinthe, QC

Apartment Found: Through this email, I would like to share with you the grace I received when I did a novena to the Venerable Elizabeth. During these 9 days, I asked her the grace of finding an apartment for my family and myself, in a place impossible to find. After three months, we found what we were looking for: a pleasant apartment of good quality that I could afford. L. M..., Brazil

Successful Surgery: Thank you for helping my brother who got a very tricky heart surgery. He is doing well. Thank you for all the rest. L. B..., Saint-François-du-Lac, QC

Prayers Bear Fruits: G. has moved out. He lives with his girlfriend. She takes good care of him. He studies from his computer. By coming back from a trek to Mont-Saint-Hilaire, with a supporting photo, he wrote to me: "First trek with lungs in full shape after nearly 12 years of waiting." I had tears in my eyes. I wrote back to him: "Prayers bear fruits." Thank you for all your prayers. F. N ..., Val-David, QC

Conflict Resolved: On May 18, the tenant above my home got an "A/C," an external box installed by his daughter. It was making an infernal noise 24 hours a day; he was not stopping it, and the owner was doing nothing about it. I prayed Mother St. Joseph to resolve this, and I talked to his daughter who was not so happy about it. I continue praying Mother St. Joseph, and, yesterday, on June 15, his son-in-law (the tenant) came to remove it. He then installed an indoor air conditioner. Finally, I can sleep. Thank you, Mother St. Joseph. L. S ..., Beloeil, QC

Appropriate Apartment: I am very pleased to come and thank you for your prayers. My request was answered beyond my expectations. I have moved into an apartment that corresponds to my needs and even more, may I say. Thank you for supporting me. A union of prayers that did not stay without any answer. May the Venerable Elizabeth Bergeron be glorified as soon as possible since she is powerful in Heaven. How can I not believe it? R. P..., Cap-de-la-Madeleine, QC

Thanksgiving: Thank you, Mother Elizabeth, for supporting my sister-in-law during all her illness. Thank you to the nuns who pray Mother Elizabeth with me. Thank you for all the protection she grants to my family. I give thanks to Mother Elizabeth for all the favours obtained and for her presence in my life that comforts me. P. L ..., Laval, QC

Memorable Trip: My wife and I have just celebrated our 30th wedding anniversary by going on holiday in Europe. We decided not to hire a tour operator but to plan our trip ourselves. We prayed Elizabeth Bergeron so she may give us a good health and that she allows us to travel safely. Our anniversary trip was particularly memorable and exceeded our expectations. Sincerely! D. et C. M ..., Vermont, USA

Three Gratuities: 1- I met my oncologist last Tuesday. The news was all good. All is normal; my follow-up is pushed back to March 2025. 2- Thanks to you and Elizabeth for my leg. The healing is far advanced; I still have an orthopedic boot by precaution, but it is for two weeks only. 3- News from Léo's mother who finished her chemo successfully thanks to a new cooling helmet; the news for them is good. I thought of you a lot when I learned of the canonization, by the Pope, from Marie Léonie. It gives us hope for our Elizabeth; I continue to speak about her, and I put in her arms all the ones who need her, and I pray for them. 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). **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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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

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

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