



INSTITUTE OF CHRIST THE KING SOVEREIGN PRIEST

ST. ELIZABETH OF HUNGARY, DUCHESS OF THURINGIA

November 19th



Santa Isabel de Turingia, Francisco de Zurbarán, c. 1635-1640, Bilbao Fine Arts Museum

Although the blessed in heaven shine each with his own peculiar glory, God is pleased to group them in families, as he groups the stars in the material firmament. It is grace that presides over the arrangement of these constellations in the heaven of the Saints; but sometimes it seems as if God wished to remind us that he is the sole Author of both grace and nature; and inviting them, in spite of the fall, to honor him unitedly in his elect, he causes sanctity to become a glorious heirloom, handed down from generation to generation in the same family on earth. Among these races, none can compare with that royal line which, beginning in ancient Pannonia, spread its branches over the world in the most flourishing days of Christendom: Rich in virtue and studying beautifulness, as Scripture says, it brought peace into all the royal houses of Europe, with which it was allied; and the many names it has inscribed in the golden book of the blessed, perpetuate its glory.

Among these illustrious names, and surrounded by them as a diamond set in a circle of pearls, the greatest, in the esteem of the Church and of the people, is that of the amiable Saint, who was ripe for heaven at the age of twenty-four years, and who ascended on this day into the company of Stephen, Emeric, and Ladislas. Elizabeth was not inferior to them in manly virtues; but the simplicity of her loving soul added to the heroism of her race a sweetness, whose fragrance drew after her along the path of sanctity her daughter Gertrude of Thuringia, and her relatives Hedwige of Silesia, Agnes of Bohemia, Margaret of Hungary, Cunigund of Poland, and Elizabeth of Portugal.

Elizabeth indeed was never wanting to any of the obligations or requirements of her position as a wife and as a sovereign princess. As graciously simple in her virtues as she was affable to all, she could not understand the gloomy moroseness which some affected in their prayers and austerities. *“They look as if they wanted to frighten our Lord,”* she would say, *“whereas he loves the cheerful giver.”*

The time soon came when she herself had to give generously without counting the cost. First there was the cruel separation from her husband, Duke Lewis, on his departure for the crusade; then the heart-rending scene when his death was announced to her just as she was about to give birth to her fourth child; and thirdly the atrocious act of Henry Raspon, the landgrave’s unworthy brother, who, thinking this a good opportunity for seizing the deceased’s estates, drove out his widow and children, and forbade anyone to give them hospitality. Then in the very land where every misery had been succored by her charity, Elizabeth was reduced to the necessity of begging, and not without many rebuffs, a little bread for her poor children, and of seeking shelter with them in a pig sty.

On the return of the knights who had accompanied Duke Lewis to the Holy Land, justice was at length done to our Saint. But Elizabeth, who had become the passionate lover of holy poverty, chose to remain among the poor. She was the first professed Tertiary of the Seraphic Order; and the mantle sent by St. Francis to his very dear daughter became her only treasure. The path of perfect self-renunciation soon brought her to the threshold of heaven. She who, twenty years before, had been carried to her betrothed in a silver cradle, and robed in silk and gold, now took her flight to God from a wretched hovel, her only garment being a patched gown. The minstrels, whose gay competitions had signalized the year of her birth, were no longer there; but the Angels were heard singing, as they bore her up to heaven: The kingdom of this world have I despised, for the love of Jesus Christ my Lord, whom I have seen, whom I have loved, in whom I have believed, whom I have tenderly loved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dear Faithful,

From Monday, November 8th to Saturday, November 13th, I have been participating in a spiritual retreat at our house in Maria Engleport, near Koblenz (Germany). This priestly retreat has been preached by Msgr. Michael Schmitz, Vicar General in our Institute, and offered to all participating canons of the Institute a spiritual renewal in the Salesian spirit of our community. The program of this retreat included the Divine office that has been prayed each day in community including Sext, Vespers and Compline as well as time for rest, private meditation and meals in silence.

Since my return to the United Kingdom on Saturday, November 13th, I am obliged to observe a time of quarantine. Today's Mass of Remembrance Day, Sunday, November 14th, will be celebrated by Father Stephen Goodman from Wolverhampton. The other weekday Masses had to be cancelled until Thursday, November 18th (included). All Masses listed in our Mass schedule are celebrated privately in the indicated intentions by me personally in private.

I will be celebrating publicly again this coming Friday, November 19th, at 10:00 am as indicated in our schedule.

Thank you for your understanding and for your prayers for me and our community in Shrewsbury.

~ *Canon Michael Wiener*



Maria Engleport, procession

Donations Sunday November 7 th	
Collection	£ 203.05
Bank transfer	£ 265.00
Holy Water Bucket	£ 11.00
Total	£ 479.05

Thank you very much!

✦ NEW HOLY WATER POT

We have purchased a new holy water pot with aspergillum (sprinkler). This liturgical item is of great importance and used every Sunday at the beginning of Mass (*"Asperges me, Domine, hyssopo et mundabor ... Thou shalt sprinkle me with hyssop, and I shall be cleansed"*) and for any blessing that requires the use of holy water. We paid £125.00 for this beautiful item. Please consider to help us to carry the costs for this purchase. *Thank you very much for your generosity.*



SHREWSBURY WEEKLY SCHEDULE

DAY	DATE	TIME	MASS OF THE DAY	INTENTIONS
Sun	14 th Nov	12:30 pm	Remembrance Day (Celebrant Fr. Goodman)	PI
Mon	15 th Nov	10:00 am	Cancelled	Andrew, Birthday intentions
Tue	16 th Nov	6:30 pm	Cancelled	Valerie Meehan
Wed	17 th Nov	10:00 am	Cancelled	Ethan O'Riordan
Thu	18 th Nov	6:30 pm	Cancelled	Robert Connick
Fri	19 th Nov	10:00 am	St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Widow	Christopher Keens
Sat	20 th Nov	10:00 am	St. Felix of Valois, Confessor	Rachel Connick
Sun	21 st Nov	12:30 pm	26 th and last Sunday after Pentecost	PI

All Masses (also Adoration and Benediction on Tuesday and Thursday) are at St. Winefride's Church, 187 Crowmere Rd, Shrewsbury SY2 5LA.

Note: Adoration and Benediction on Tuesdays and Thursdays start at 5.30pm before the 6.30pm Mass.

St. Winefride's Presbytery, Mynd Close, Shrewsbury SY2 5RA
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