

November 17, 2025

Daily Reflections



MEMORIAL OF SAINT ELIZABETH OF HUNGARY, RELIGIOUS

By Sister Jeanne Fallon, CSJ

Saint Elizabeth of Hungary

St. Elizabeth of Hungary, 1207-1231, was the daughter of King Andrew of Hungary. When she was four, her parents betrothed her to a German nobleman, Ludwig IV of Thuringia. When she was 14 and Ludwig was 21, they were married and had three children while Elizabeth was still a teen. The young family tried to follow the ideal of St. Francis of Assisi, who was still living at that time. Ludwig and Elizabeth made a vow that if one of them died before the other, they would not remarry. In 1227, Ludwig left Hungary on a Crusade and died on his way to the Holy Land. This left Elizabeth, at age 20, devastated and sorrowful, yet she decided to keep her promise to Ludwig. Now a young widow with three small children, Elizabeth decided to dedicate her life to prayer and service to the poor. She entered religious life as a Third Order Franciscan, which allowed her to continue to care for her children. She embraced a life of poverty and opened a hospital for the poor in honor of St.

Francis, welcoming anyone who needed care. Although Elizabeth was of royal lineage, she chose to wear a simple habit and lived in the hospital, close to the poor; her children were nearby in the care of nuns and family.

Perhaps due to her many mortifications and her close association with the sick poor, Elizabeth died at age 24, at Marburg, on November 17, 1231. Several miracles were attributed to her intercession and she was canonized by the Pope four years after her death, something that would normally take many years after the death of a holy person. She is the patroness of the Franciscan Third Order and of Catholic Charities.

The following prayer is from her Memorial Eucharistic Liturgy: ***Lord God, you taught Saint Elizabeth of Hungary to see and reverence Christ in the poor. May her prayers help us to give constant love and service to the afflicted and the needy. We make our prayer through Christ, Our Lord. Amen.***



"St Elizabeth of Hungary" by Lawrence OP is licensed under CC BY-NC-ND 2.0.
To view a copy of this license, visit <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/2.0/?ref=openverse>.

For Prayer

*Saint Elizabeth of Hungary,
we seek your heavenly intercession on this date of your early death.
Help all young mothers to persevere in their vocations
and all young widows to not despair but to be confident
as they walk forward in life, knowing that Christ is at their side.
Amen.*

FROM CATHOLIC SAINTS AND FEASTS

**If you enjoy reading our reflections and would like to make
a donation towards this ministry, click the button below!**

Support CSD

***Do you have 5 minutes to help the Center for Spiritual
Development shape a new program? Just reply to this email with
the word SURVEY and we will send you the link to respond.
THANK YOU!***



Center for
Spiritual
Development

COMPANIONS ON THE
SACRED JOURNEY



Visit Website

714-744-3172

Join Mailing
List



To “Unsubscribe” from the daily reflections while remaining on our general mailing list, please [email us](#). The unsubscribe function below will unsubscribe you from all emails from CSD. Please know we will never share your information.

Center for Spiritual Development | 434 A South Batavia Street | Orange, CA 92868 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)