

ATRIUM TOUR

(20) St. Elizabeth of Hungary Stained-Glass Window



St. Elizabeth of Hungary (1207–1231), also known as St. Elizabeth of Thuringia, was a princess of the Kingdom of Hungary. She was married at the age of 14 and widowed at 20. After her husband's death, she used her dowry to build a hospital, where she personally cared for the sick and the poor. Her life of deep faith and extraordinary charity made her a lasting symbol of Christian compassion. She died in 1231 at the age of 24 and was canonized on May 25, 1235. At her canonization, she was declared a patron saint of the Third Order of St. Francis, an honor she shares with St. Louis IX of France.

St. Elizabeth is often depicted holding a basket of bread or other food, symbolizing her devotion to feeding the poor and hungry. The most famous miracle attributed to her is the “Miracle of the Roses.” According to tradition, she was secretly bringing food from the castle to the poor when her husband, Ludwig, stopped her and questioned what she carried. When she opened her cloak, the bread had miraculously turned into a bouquet of roses. The roses shown beside her in this window recall this moment.

We pray to St. Elizabeth of Hungary for her example of selfless charity and compassion, especially toward the poor, sick, and needy. She is invoked as a patron saint of those who serve others—including healthcare workers and social workers—and of those facing hardship, including the poor, widows, and those grieving the loss of a child.

Her Feast Day is November 17th.

The window is dedicated to the memory of Lisa Fath Ray who passed away at the age of 41 on Easter Sunday, March 31, 2024. She was the beloved mother to Liam Bernard, Lily Catherine, Olivia Grace and Chloe Elizabeth. She is lovingly remembered by her husband Scott Matthew Ray, her brother, Scott Jacob Fath, her sisters, Heather Lyn Fath & Lindsay Everest (Robbie), her parents, Harry and Linda Fath, her mother-in-law, Mary Ann Ray and several nieces, nephews and cousins. Lisa was a light in this world and her capacity for love was boundless. She was a living testimony to a mother's pure, unconditional love and all that it can accomplish.

