

Christ is risen ... He is truly risen!

Alleluia! Alleluia!

On this Easter Sunday, April 5, 2026, we celebrate the Resurrection of Christ the Lord, who became man to save humanity and who went even to the point of death on the cross without ever ceasing to love us.

We give thanks for Jesus' faithfulness to the mission of compassion, tenderness, and salvation entrusted to him by the Father - a mission that revealed to us God's boundless love for humanity. He loved us "to the very end" (John 13:1).

Let us remember the Venerable Élisabeth Bruyère ...



Historical Note

We, the Sisters of Charity of Ottawa, on this April 5, 2026, commemorate the death of our Venerable Élisabeth Bruyère, on the 150th anniversary of her passing into eternal life on April 5, 1876, at the age of 58. This anniversary is a fitting occasion to give thanks for the fidelity to the mission demonstrated by our Venerable Mother when she agreed to come to Bytown in 1845. She walked in the footsteps of Jesus and Saint Marguerite d'Youville. She bore witness to the salvation brought by Christ. She loved to the very end.

The Venerable Élisabeth Bruyère dedicated herself to revealing the unfailing generosity of Divine Providence and the boundless compassion of the Eternal Father by becoming a servant to the poor. The educational mission and the charism of compassion bequeathed to us are still alive in Canada, the United States, Malawi, Zambia, Lesotho, Brazil, and Japan.

Mother Bruyère Responds to the Father's Call

Beginning in January 1876, our Venerable Mother's illness progressed and her strength waned. **Today we remember and celebrate**

☘ the witness she leaves us of perfect submission to God's will throughout her life, but especially during her long illness;

☘ her attentive charity toward her sisters as she prepared to answer the Father's call, which opened the gates of eternity to her;

☘ the urgency of her invitation to remain vigilant in the practice of charity toward the poor and in cordiality among us, her spiritual daughters;

☘ her concern and care for the interests of the Community and her deep gratitude toward all benefactors, especially the Oblates of Mary Immaculate.

On this day marking the 150th anniversary of the entry into heaven of our Beloved and Venerable Mother Élisabeth Bruyère, let us find reassurance and consolation in the words taken from the biographical note written by Father Froc, O.M.I.

“Finally, on Wednesday morning, April 5, at 8:30 a.m., she peacefully gave her soul to God. We have the sweet confidence that He has rewarded her for her labors and sacrifices, and that from heaven, where He has crowned her, she will never cease to protect her daughters, so that by following the salutary recommendations she so often gave us, and by following the good examples she set for us, we may merit eternal bliss.”

The Venerable Élisabeth Bruyère left us 150 years ago but let us remember that she remains with us always thanks to the wise and pastoral decisions of our predecessors, to whom we offer our deepest fraternal gratitude. She is always present and ready to welcome visitors and to open her heart to the prayers and requests for intercession that are brought before her.



The sarcophagus containing the mortal remains of Venerable Élisabeth Bruyère and the urn holding her heart are located in the oratory of the Mother House, 27 Bruyère Street, Ottawa, Ontario.