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Archbishop Borders

Elizabeth Seton: Saint for today

Surely the recent announcement in Rome that Mother Seton is to be canonized in September 1975 is good news to me and to the Catholic community in the City and Archdiocese of Baltimore, where she was actively involved in the apostolate.

What stands out in Mother Seton's life, and deserves to be underscored at a time like this, is the special strength, dedication and faith of this great-souled woman. Her virtue and inner resources were such that she should have unique appeal to men and women of today's world, where so much of the past seems uncertain or open to question.

As a wife and mother, Elizabeth Seton demonstrated a loving dedication to her husband and children. Her life was filled with worry—and even with tragedy—to such a degree that she offers genuine example to parents raising children today in a rapidly changing world.

As a Christian woman, founder of the Daughters of Charity, as an educator, Mother Seton lived a life of deep faith and strong convictions and offers all of us eloquent testimony and example for our own lives as religious people of the 20th century.

We of the Archdiocese of Baltimore, with which Mother Seton had a special tie, rejoice upon learning that this great woman is to be officially declared a saint by Holy Mother Church.

† William D. Borders

Archbishop of Baltimore

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