



## Modern Martyrs: Grand Duchess Elizabeth

Born: 1st November 1864

Died: 18th July 1918

### Biography

She was born in Germany and her name was Elizabeth of Hess-Darmstadt. She was one of Queen Victoria's granddaughters.

In 1884, she married Grand Duke Sergei Alexandrovich of Russia. Over time there was a lot of talk about revolution in Russia and the Grand Duke was killed in 1905. Elizabeth sold all her luxurious possessions to open a convent in Moscow that supported women who were struggling.

After years of unrest, a new political party came to power called the Bolsheviks. They punished anyone associated with the Church. Elizabeth was one of the people killed. She was made a saint (canonised) in 1981.

### Activities

"True happiness is something neither men nor events can take from you."

Discuss this quotation with a partner. What do you think Grand Duchess Elizabeth meant when she said these words? How does that make you feel?

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." Romans 15:13

Discuss this Bible passage with a partner. How is this passage similar to Grand Duchess Elizabeth's quotation?

Write a paragraph about what people can learn from the behaviour and teachings of Grand Duchess Elizabeth.



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For teachers:

We recommend you read our "[Introducing Modern Martyrs: primary teachers' guide](#)" before using this activity sheet.

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