

ST. ELIZABETH CHURCH

Established 1912 / Present Church dedicated 1962

Mailing Address: 449 Holyoke Street, S.F. CA 94134

First Sunday of Advent

November 28, 2021



Rev. Charles Puthota, Ph.D., *Pastor*

Mission Statement of St. Elizabeth Church

“The joys and hopes, the griefs and anxieties of the people of our time, especially of those who are poor or in any way afflicted, are the joys and hopes, the griefs and anxieties of the followers of Christ as well. Indeed, nothing genuinely human fails to raise an echo in their hearts. For theirs is a community of people united in Christ and guided by the Holy Spirit in their pilgrimage towards the Kingdom of their Father, bearers of a message of salvation for all of humanity. That is why they cherish a conviction of deep solidarity with the human race and its history.”

(From the Preface of *The Church in the Modern World*---Gaudium Et Spes---of Vatican II)

Parish Staff

Sandra Mehrwein Secretary
Patricia Spiteri Pastoral Coordinator
Fred Spence Maintenance
Lily Codd Faith Formation
650-771-3176
lilycodd2015@gmail.com

Parish Office Hours

Monday through Thursday
8:00 am to 12:00 pm (unless otherwise posted)

Closed Friday

449 Holyoke Street (**Parish Office**)
415-468-0820 Fax 415-468-1457

Website: www.stelizabetsf.org

Email: stelizabethchurchsf@gmail.com

Liturgy Schedule

Saturday **4:30 pm**
Sunday **9:30 am**
Monday through Saturday
Divine office: 8:00 am
Mass: 8:30 am
Holy Day 8:30 am & 6:00 pm

Confession Schedule

After the 8:30 am Daily Mass
4:15 pm before the 4:30 pm Mass
9:15 am before the 9:30 am Sunday Mass

Baptism Preparation Classes Call the Parish Office for more information.

Sacrament of Marriage

Call the Parish Office at least six months before the desired date.

Benediction and Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena: Wednesdays after the 8:30 Mass.

Legion of Mary Meeting 5:00 pm Monday in the Rectory.

Second Saturday after the 4:30 pm Mass: Sto Nino Prayer and Benediction in Mary's Chapel.

1000 Hail Mary's Third Saturday after the 8:30 am Mass until 3:30 pm: A Day of Prayer and Adoration.

Light of God Prayer 2nd and 4th Friday of the month after the 8:30 am Mass.

Per the Archdiocese of San Francisco:

Congregants are to wear masks during Mass indoors. Social distancing reduced to 3 ft between households.

From the Pastor's Desktop

A Message from
Father Charles Puthota
November 28, 2021



Dear Parishioners of St. Elizabeth,

Advent: We have arrived at this spiritual season of Advent. The First Sunday of Advent ushers us into the time of waiting for Christ at Christmas. The hauntingly melodious and meaningful hymn "O come, O come, Emmanuel and ransom captive Israel that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel" captures the spirit of longing and sadness --- and an expectation of joy. We'll be very busy this season of Advent with many external preparations for the upcoming Christmas. Amidst all the hectic activities, the Church invites us to prepare the heart and mind for the Lord's coming. The focus is Christ and his coming into our lives and the world. All that we do this season should really be related to welcoming Jesus into our hearts and families. Remember there was no room in the inn some 2000 years ago? Is it possible that there is no room in the inn for Christ in our times? Christianity is Christ and the intimate connection with him and one another. Advent brings us to the center of Christianity: Christ. Our prayer this season will be: "Come, Lord Jesus." The season of Advent is also a semi-penitential time. An indication of this is the violet colors and the muted decoration in the church and the non-singing of Gloria. These are reminders --- liturgical hints --- that we are to be engaged in a penitential preparation for the coming of Christ, so that when he does come at Christmas, purified of our selfishness and sinfulness, our hearts will burst with joy.

Advent Quotes: "Each of us is an innkeeper who decides if there is room for Jesus." --- Neal A. Maxwell. "Hope sees the invisible, feels the intangible, achieves the impossible." "Advent: Arrival, Start, Beginning, Dawn, Initiation, Introduction." "Advent: Close your eyes and open your mind." "Advent: the time to listen for footsteps --- you can't hear footsteps when you're running yourself." --- Bill McKibben. "The season of Advent means there is something on the horizon the likes of which we have never seen before. So stay. Sit. Linger. Tarry. Ponder. Wait. Behold. Wonder. There will be time enough for running." ---Jan Richardson. "Advent, like its cousin Lent, is a season for prayer and reformation of our hearts."--- Edward Hays.

Over 50 Group's Thanksgiving Luncheon: Last Thursday Nov. 18, Thanksgiving luncheon was held at Cantwell Hall by Over 50 Group. Over 70 people attended it. The luncheon was preceded by a game of Bingo. The food was delicious and the company was gregarious. I'd like to thank the organizers (Emma, Elsa, Florence, and their team) for making meticulous arrangements for the success of this event. If anyone would like to join this group that meets on Thursdays, you are most welcome to do so. Please contact Emma or the parish office.

Our Parish Participation in the Process for Synod of Bishops: As I have announced to you earlier, Pope Francis has convoked a synod for the Universal Church. The theme is: Communion, Participation, and Mission." The purpose is to consult and dialog with the whole Church to receive feedback and initiate renewal of the Church. Our Archdiocesan component of the consultation will run from Advent 2021 through April 2022. All parishes will participate in this process on one of 25 synod engagement sessions in 2022. I have nominated Richard John, Antonia and Carol Velasco, and Richard & Maricon Padua as our primary contact persons. Please keep this process in your prayers and when the time comes, I'd invite everyone to participate in the process recommended by the Archdiocese.

Simbang Gabi Masses: These Masses will be held December 16 through 24 at the regular 8:30 a.m. Masses. On Sunday Dec. 19, it will be at the 9:30 a.m. Mass. Coordinator of these Masses is Gloria Trinidad. If you'd like to sponsor or participate in any way, please do contact her. Let's make our Simbang Gabi this year special, even though we are still in the shadows of the pandemic.

Pilgrimage to the Holy Land in 2022: Anyone would like to go with me on a pilgrimage to Jordan and the Holy Land next year October 05- 17, 2022? It's 11 months from now! You can put it on your calendar and plan ahead, if you'd like! If you are interested, call 206 Tours at 1-800-206-8687. Or for detailed itinerary and other information, check out the webpage: [http:// www.pilgrimages.com/frputhota/](http://www.pilgrimages.com/frputhota/)

A Couple of Stories to Ponder: 1. An American tourist was travelling abroad for the first time. On arrival at his first foreign airport, he was faced with a choice between two passageways, one of which was marked CITIZENS and the other ALIENS. He promptly headed for the first one. When told later that he would have to stand in the other line, he protested, "But I'm no alien. I'm an American!" 2. When the English playwright Oscar Wilde arrived at his club late at night after witnessing the first presentation of a play that had been a complete failure, someone asked, "How did your play go tonight, Oscar?" "Oh," said Wilde, "the play was a great success. The audience was a failure."

Joke: Johnny had been misbehaving and was sent to his room. After a while he emerged and informed his mother that he had thought it over and then said a prayer. "Fine," said the pleased mother. "If you ask God to help you not misbehave, He will help you." "Oh, I didn't ask Him to help me not misbehave," said Johnny. "I asked Him to help you put up with me."

Wishing you a hope-filled Season of Advent,

Your Friend and Pastor,

Fr. Charles Puthota

First Sunday of Advent November 28, 2021

I will raise up for David a just shoot;
he shall do what is right and just in the land.
— Jeremiah 33:15



WATCHFUL CONFIDENCE

We the Church enter into Advent and the new liturgical year with a call for a watchful confidence. Our readings were originally addressed to communities undergoing great loss and confusion. Jeremiah speaks confidently of God fulfilling the ancient promises to Israel, even during a time of foreign invasion. Paul speaks of God leading the Church into holiness, while the community longs for the coming of Jesus. In the Gospel passage from Luke, Jesus speaks of powerful signs and of great confusion to come, but emphasizes that we may look forward knowing that God brings not cause for despair, but hope. We celebrate Advent to remind each other of God's faithfulness. We are to be watchful, to see how God is stirring up our world. God disturbs both our pride and our complacency, and brings us healing and justice. We prepare ourselves to welcome Jesus, confident that God indeed fulfills all these divine promises. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — The days are coming when the LORD will fulfill the promise made to Israel and Judah (Jeremiah 33:14-16).

Psalms — To you, O Lord, I lift my soul (Psalm 25).

Second Reading — May the Lord make you increase and abound in love that you may be blameless in holiness; conduct yourselves so as to please God (1 Thessalonians 3:12 — 4:2).

Gospel — There will be signs and you will see the Son of Man coming with power and great glory. Be vigilant (Luke 21:25-28, 34-36).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from the *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

Sunday Collection November 21, 2021

Weekly Need: \$ 6,000.00
First Collection: \$ 2,877.00
Over/Under: \$ 3,123.00

Catholic Campaign for Human Development \$ 847.00

If you make your offertory donation by check, without using parishioner envelopes, it would be most helpful if you placed your parishioner/envelope # in the "memo" section of the check. This helps us input your donation to the offertory data system. We will not be responsible for donations not credited due to missing envelope numbers (or not having a Sunday collection envelope.)

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday 8:30 am	November 29 † Jerry Sapiano † Theresa Spiteri
Tuesday 8:30 am	November 30 † Vickie Vassallo † Victor Da Silva
Wednesday 8:30 am	December 1 † Maria Rebagliati † Naning Oblinario † Earl McCarthy † Maria Kielian
Thursday 8:30 am	December 2 † Rodolfo C. Trinidad † Maria Kielian
Friday 8:30 am	December 3 † Paul, † Theresa and † Joseph Vella
Saturday 8:30 am 4:30 pm	December 4 † Robin Padua Fabillar † Manuel and † Mary Marquez Deceased members of Mary, Mother Most Pure Legion of Mary
Sunday 9:30 am	December 5 † Carlina Asuncion † Leonora Valerio Fernando People of the Parish

†Denotes deceased – (L) Living

Masses were scheduled pre-Covid. All Sunday intentions will be celebrated at the 9:30 am Mass.

November Month of All Souls

Traditionally, November is the month when we especially remember the souls who have entered eternal life. As we prepare for these remembrances there is a specific way of preparation besides our own prayers and remembrances. You may write their names on one of the All-Souls envelopes. These envelopes will be placed on the altar for remembrances during all the Masses in November.



Wednesday December 8th is the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, a Holy Day of Obligation. Masses will be at 8:30 am and 6 pm.

**JOIN Fr. Charles Puthota, Ph.D. ON A
PILGRIMAGE TO
JORDAN AND THE HOLY LAND**



OCTOBER 5 – 17, 2022

**\$4,639.00 from San Francisco, CA
PER PERSON BASED ON DOUBLE OCCUPANCY)**

PRE-TOUR JORDAN Oct 5 - 9, 2022

**\$790.00 (PER PERSON BASED ON DOUBLE
OCCUPANCY)**

www.pilgrimages.com/frputhota

**For more information, please contact Jon or
Rinda: 1-800-206 TOUR (8687)**

Legion of Mary



Legion of Mary meets every **Monday** at 5:00pm at St. Elizabeth Church for Prayer and spiritual formation. The members of the Legion make visits to parishioners who are homebound or in nursing homes and other good works for the parish and community.

Please prayerfully consider joining us. If you need more information, please call Elizabeth Pasco at 415-724-8601

Website: <http://www.stelizabethsf.org>.

Thank you!

Office Telephone Calls

When calling the parish office please listen carefully to the selections and follow the prompts.

For office related matters please do not leave messages on the emergency selection unless it is an emergency.

The emergency line is designated for the Anointing of the Sick.

**Please note that the office has limited hours:
Monday through Thursday 8:00 am to 12:00 pm**

**2022 Mass Intentions Now Available!
Please follow the guidelines below
when sending in your Mass requests.**

Due to the large volume of Mass requests and in order to be fair to the needs of all our parishioners, the following is the Mass Book policy as set by Father Charles Puthota, Pastor:

Initially, each parishioner can request up to **10 Masses per year. Only 2 of those Masses may be on weekends depending on availability.**

All Masses including the Saturday Vigil Mass and Sunday Mass will be accepting two intentions per Mass.

We do not accept individual Mass Intentions for the holidays and holy days including: Ash Wednesday, Easter, Mother's Day, Father's Day, All Souls, All Saints, Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve and Christmas. The intentions will be for the entire St. Elizabeth Community.

Due to the volume of requests, **Masses cannot be reserved by phone or in person.** Requests must be submitted in writing or by email: stelizabethchurchsf@gmail.com

Not all dates are available for Mass Intentions, so we ask that you be prepared with alternate dates and times. If your requested date is not available an alternate date will be chosen for you.

Once you receive your confirmation letter with your schedule of Masses, please make your check payable to St. Elizabeth Church. Please do not send payment with your request. Please allow time for processing. The monetary gift that has been suggested by our Archdiocese is \$10.00 per mass.



As we prepare for the Solemnity of Christmas we look forward to the joy of the birth of Christ. We hope to express our joy by filling the church with a bountiful display of poinsettias. We are asking each organization to donate six poinsettias. We are also asking parishioners to donate poinsettias to the Church. We will need a great number of them to beautify the sanctuary. Please bring them directly to Church.