

# ST. ELIZABETH CHURCH

Established 1912 / Present Church dedicated 1962

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

## The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph December 26, 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](mailto: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](http://www.stelizabetsf.org)

**Email:** [stelizabethchurchsf@gmail.com](mailto: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** 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> 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  
December 26, 2021



Dear Parishioners of St. Elizabeth,

**Feast of the Holy Family:** This Sunday is the Feast of the Holy Family. Jesus lives with Mary and Joseph. Because of Jesus, this family becomes a holy family. The same way, when Jesus lives in our families, our families become holy. The purpose of this feast is to let Jesus be part of all that we are --- and strive for---in our families. As we look at all the struggles and dangers the Holy Family faced, we too draw strength to face life with grace because Jesus is with us. Let him fill our families with his Spirit and love.

**Quotes from Pope Francis on Family:** "It is normal that there be a quarrel between husband and wife... Maybe you're angry, maybe a plate flew, but please remember this: never finish the day without making peace! Never, never, never! This is a secret, a secret to protect love and to make peace." "We all know there is no such thing as the perfect family or a perfect husband or wife, and let's not even talk about the perfect mother -in-law.... It's us who do exist, sinners. Jesus knows us well and He tells us a secret: Never let the day end without apologizing."

**Christmas lingers:** I hope your Christmas has been a blessed and heartwarming one, bringing you closer to the One who is closer to us than we are to ourselves. The beauty and glory of Christmas continues, not just for a day or a few days, but through each day and throughout our lives. The heart of Christmas is the mystery of the Incarnation, that of God becoming one with us, entering our history, our flesh and blood, our human family, and all that we are engaged in life, love, and growth, our pains and joys, our triumphs and travails, our ambiguities and anomalies. Jesus lives inside of our lives. He is Emmanuel, God who is with us, every nanosecond of our lives. So, long live the mystery and majesty of Christmas!

**A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens:** *It is a play about a mean-spirited and selfish old man, Ebenezer Scrooge, who hates Christmas.* One cold Christmas Eve, Scrooge is unkind to the people who work for him, then refuses to give to charity, and then is rude to his nephew when he invites him to spend Christmas with him. When Scrooge gets home, he is visited by the ghost of his old business partner Jacob Marley - and then by three ghosts! They are the Ghosts of Christmas Past, Christmas Present and Christmas Future. The Ghost of Christmas Past takes Scrooge on a journey through Christmases from his past, taking Scrooge to see himself as an unhappy child and a young man more in love with money than his fiancé. The Ghost of Christmas Present shows Scrooge his clerk, Bob Cratchit's family. At Bob Cratchit's house Scrooge sees Tiny Tim, who is very ill, but full of spirit.

The ghost then takes him to see his nephew Fred's Christmas celebrations - which he had been invited to, but rebuffed. Finally, The Ghost of Christmas Future terrifies Scrooge by showing him visions of his own death... The ghosts' journey through time teaches Scrooge the error of his ways. When he wakes up on Christmas Day, he is full of excitement, and buys the biggest turkey in the shop for the Cratchit family before spending the day with his nephew, full of the joys of Christmas.

**New Year 2022:** Let the spirit and spirituality of Christmas inform and inspire us as we come to the end of 2021 and are about to usher in a whole new year. Abraham Lincoln says, "The best thing about the future is that it comes one day at a time." Let our future, an abstract and uncertain reality, come one day at a time in 2022, as we address each day with the grace and dignity that we can muster, with God's presence, help, and guidance. Henry David Thoreau says, "Time is but the stream I go a-fishing in." So, let's go fishing! Remember the gospel story of Jesus asking the apostles to put out into the deep waters in the Sea of Galilee? They had toiled all night long with no results, but Jesus tells them not to be discouraged but to be adventurous ---and go deeper. They caught so many fish they couldn't haul it in without a lot of help from others. Let our fishing in the New Year be characterized by faith, adventure, risk-taking, and guided by Christ. Let's keep in mind the popular saying: "Yesterday is history; tomorrow is a mystery. Today is a gift---That's why we call it the present."

**Our Thanksgiving Collection sent to CRS:** On Thanksgiving Day at the Mass, we no longer collect the canned food but take up an offering that will be directed to a charitable organization. In 2020 we had directed the collection to St. Anthony's Dining Room in San Francisco. This 2021 Thanksgiving Day collection amounted to \$845 and, as announced, sent to Catholic Relief Services (CRS) after rounding the amount off to \$1000. I included a personal note on behalf of our parish when I mailed that amount. I would like to thank you all for your generosity. CRS, as you may be aware, operates in this country and around the world, bring much-needed relief to many who are poor.

**New Year's Day Prayer:** Dear Lord, So far this year I've done well. I haven't gossiped, I haven't lost my temper, I haven't been greedy, grumpy, nasty, selfish, or overindulgent. I'm very thankful for that. But in a few minutes, Lord, I'm going to get out of bed, and from then on, I'm probably going to need a lot of your help. Amen.

**Wishing you and your families a joyful, restful, and faith-filled Christmas season, and a healthy and happy New Year!**

Your Friend and Pastor,

Father Charles Puthota

## **The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph**

**December 26, 2021**

Beloved, we are God's children now; what we shall be has not yet been revealed.

— 1 John 3:2a



### **FAMILY LIFE**

Christmas celebrates the Incarnation, the "enfleshment" of God as a human person. In Jesus, God is bodily present in the human story. Today we honor the Holy Family, helping us to see that God is active in daily family life. God is near at hand, amidst the tensions, joys, and uncertainties of family life. As our Gospel passage describes, even with family miscommunications and with limited understanding of Jesus' mission, the Holy Family persevered in their life together. Like many family conflicts, there was no immediate or clear resolution of the issues raised by Jesus and by Mary. God's intentions for the family, and for Jesus, were still unfolding. They continued to stay connected with each other and with God. Within the turbulence of family life, they trusted God to actively sustain and guide them into an uncertain future. We are invited to follow their example.

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### **TODAY'S READINGS**

**First Reading** — Hannah gives her son Samuel back to the LORD, leaving him in the temple at Shiloh: "As long as he lives, he shall be dedicated to the LORD" (1 Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28) or *Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14*.

**Psalm** — Blessed are they who dwell in your house, O Lord (Psalm 84) or *Psalm 128*.

**Second Reading** — We are children of God when we believe in the name of God's Son, Jesus Christ, and love one another just as he commanded us (1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24) or *Colossians 3:12-21 [12-17]*.

**Gospel** — Joseph and Mary find the lost Jesus in the temple in the midst of the teachers, listening to them and asking questions (Luke 2:41-52).

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

## **MASS INTENTIONS**

<b>Monday</b> 8:30 am	<b>December 27</b> † Isaac Puthota
<b>Tuesday</b> 8:30 am	<b>December 28</b> † Joseph, † Frank and † John DeLuca † Marilyn Kronenberg
<b>Wednesday</b> 8:30 am	<b>December 29</b> Visperas and Ramirez Families Jesusa Galang (L) Lolita Canlas (L)
<b>Thursday</b> 8:30 am	<b>December 30</b> † Pepito Camba † Jose Padilla
<b>Friday</b> 8:30 am	<b>December 31</b> † Aline F. Banks † Kistin Farrell
<b>Saturday</b> 8:30 am	<b>January 1</b> No Intentions
4:30 pm	No Intentions
<b>Sunday</b> 9:30 am	<b>January 2</b> † Rinaldo Schenone † Maria Caraffi 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.

## **Sunday Collection December 19, 2021**

<b>Weekly Need:</b>	<b>\$ 6,000.00</b>
<b>First Collection</b>	<b>\$ 2,572.50</b>
<b>Church Project</b>	<b>\$ 486.00</b>
<b>Over/Under</b>	<b>\$ 2,941.50</b>

*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.)*

**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](http://www.pilgrimages.com/frputhota)

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



### **End of Year Statements**

We are preparing to close the books on 2021. Please contact the parish office in **writing** or **email** if you are in need of a year-end statement of your donations. We are able to provide statements to parishioners who have donated using **SUNDAY ENVELOPES.**

Please note that any donations received after December 31<sup>st</sup> will be credited to 2022.

**We will not be responsible for donations not credited due to missing envelope numbers, (or not having a Sunday collection envelope.)**



### **Opportunities for Participation in Pope Francis's Synod**

Pope Francis invites the whole Church to participate in the preparatory process for the upcoming Synod of Bishops on Synodality. This unprecedented opportunity will facilitate discussion and reflection to help shape the Church's understanding of herself and her mission of evangelization and forming disciples. The Archdiocese of San Francisco will kick-off the local synodal process in January by asking every Catholic to participate in the Disciple Maker Index survey. The process will continue in February and March with engagement sessions offered throughout the Archdiocese. The Disciple Maker Index survey is a nationally recognized survey administered at parishes around the United States and Canada since 2013 by The Catholic Leadership Institute. The results from this survey will provide baseline feedback from which content for engagement sessions will be developed. More details will be available through the Archdiocesan website beginning in January - <http://www.sfarch.org/synod>.

The Parish office will be closed on Monday December 27<sup>th</sup> and Thursday December 30<sup>th</sup> for the Christmas and New Year's holidays.