

ST. ELIZABETH CHURCH

Established 1912 / Present Church dedicated 1962

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

Epiphany of the Lord

January 2, 2022



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
January 02, 2022



Dear Parishioners of St. Elizabeth,

Sunday January 2 is Epiphany of the Lord: It is a story of our life, a celebration that is both charming and profoundly meaningful. The story of the three wise men or the three kings is a story enacted by children with gusto in any Christmas pageant. I was myself as a little boy was a "king" who went around my town in procession on this Feast of Epiphany. The new-born King is not for one nation or people, but to all peoples of the world. Jesus is the light of the world. He is born to reveal God's love and include us all in the Kingdom of God. He is the savior of the whole world. It is this theological and spiritual meaning that we celebrate in this feast.

We could keep certain details of the story relevant for our lives today. One, we need to see the star and interpret it as God speaking to us and revealing himself. What star do we see in our lives? What signs are there for us to read and interpret? Or are we missing the signs? Two, we have to leave our comfort zones to follow the star, undertaking all sorts of inconvenient, arduous things. Nothing ventured, nothing achieved. The star will lead us through all sorts of sad and difficult situations, but it will keep our hope alive of reaching the destination. Three, we are to encounter Jesus and adore him. He may be in a manger amidst animals and in all sorts of unexpected, surprising, shocking situations. But he is still the King. We are to recognize him and bring ourselves as the best gifts. We can give him our hearts and minds, our will and all our talents. Four, once we have encountered and worshipped the Lord, we cannot walk the same way. We have to take a different route because we are no longer the same. We have been transformed. We are a new creation. He has touched us and given us a whole new purpose and direction.

New Year 2022: As we are welcoming a brand new year 2022, let's place this whole new gift of time in God's hands. May the good Lord guide and protect us. May he make our lives shine. May he transform us into his channels of grace and love. Let bygones be bygones. Let's start anew and afresh to share our lives. We cannot allow pessimism or cynicism to tamper with the quality of life in the New Year. Let hope spring eternal in our hearts, motivating us to grapple with this new gift of time with optimism and joy. If God is for us, who can be against us? Thanks to all that has been in 2021. Yes to all that shall be in 2022. As Moses says: "The Lord bless you and keep you! The Lord let his face shine upon you and be gracious to you! The Lord look upon you kindly and give you peace!"

Preparation for the Synod of 2022: The Synod on Synodality ("walking together") is a two-year process of listening and dialogue that began with a Papal solemn opening in Rome on October 9 and 10, 2021. Synod of Bishops will take place at the Vatican in October 2022 with the theme: "For a synodal church: Communion, participation and mission." The synodal process will conclude in 2023. I'm grateful to our parishioners Richard John, Antonia Velasco and Carol Anne Velasco for agreeing to be the contact persons from our parish in the process of preparation underway in our Archdiocese. Each parish will be involved in consultation and dialogue.

Christmas Season: Wishing you all a blessed Christmas season! I hope your Christmas day celebrations went well, filling you with joy and peace. As you know, Christmas is too important to be over in 24 hours' time. The mystery of Christ's birth continues. The beauty of the Incarnation is a never-ending reality. Jesus becoming one with us is a continuous process. The vital implication of his presence with us is that we are made sacred forever. We are sinful but sacred at the same time because of the Christmas mystery. When God has become one with us, why should we be afraid? Because the Lord of the Incarnation has pitched his tent with us, we can keep striving for all those things that make us better human beings and Christians. The Christmas season, in the liturgical sense, goes on till the celebration of the Baptism of the Lord on Sunday January 9. On January 10, the Ordinary Time of the Liturgical year starts but Lent is going to catch up with us on Ash Wednesday March 2. Meanwhile, let's now continue to enjoy the Christmas season with family and friends.

Think About It: "Your future depends on a lot of things, but mostly on you."

New Year Jokes: 1. A woman took an afternoon nap on New Year's Eve. When she woke up, she told her husband, "I just dreamed that you gave me a diamond ring for a New Year's present. What do you think it all means?" He replied, "Aha, you'll know tonight!" At midnight, her husband handed her a small gift-wrapped present. Excited, she opened it quickly, but was even more surprised: In it was a book titled *The Meaning of Dreams*.

2. A man who had too much to drink decides to walk home on New Year's Eve. A policeman stopped the man and asked where he was going. "I'm on my way to a lecture," the man replied. The cop scoffed, "Who gives lectures on New Year's Eve?" The man answered: "My wife."

Wishing you this blessing: May Christmas blessings fill each day of the New Year for you and your families!

Your Friend and Pastor,

Father Charles Puthota

The Epiphany of the Lord

January 2, 2022

Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem!
Your light has come,
the glory of the Lord shines upon you.
— Isaiah 60:1



JOURNEY TOWARD GOD

In our celebration of the Epiphany, two interwoven themes are present in the readings today. God is beginning something new, and God gathers all of humanity to participate. For Isaiah, God's bright light, manifested in the people of Israel, attracts and summons people from many nations to Jerusalem. In the letter to the Ephesians, God's grace makes the Gentiles co-heirs and co-partners in the gospel. Matthew tells the story of the fulfillment of God's promises to Israel through the birth of Jesus, and simultaneously leading foreigners to share in these same promises. With the birth of Jesus, God chose a particular people, in a particular time and place, to enter most directly into the human story. Today's readings teach that God did this in order to gather all people, all cultures, into unity with God. Like the magi, we are drawn into a journey toward God, becoming co-partners in God's work.

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TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! The LORD shines upon you and the glory of the Lord appears over you (Isaiah 60:1-6).

Psalm — Lord, every nation on earth will adore you (Psalm 72).

Second Reading — The mystery has been made known that the Gentiles are coheirs, copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel (Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6).

Gospel — Magi from the east arrived, saying, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews?" (Matthew 2:1-12).

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

Monday 8:30 am	January 3 Olivia Abranches (L)
Tuesday 8:30 am	January 4 † Bruno and † Italo DeRosa
Wednesday 8:30 am	January 5 † Bernadine Martini † Gervacio Pilare
Thursday 8:30 am	January 6 † Ma. Rita Aque † Teresita Amorado
Friday 8:30 am	January 7 No Intention
Saturday 8:30 am 4:30 pm	January 8 † Elena P. Santiago † Manuel Scerri † Joseph Vella
Sunday 9:30 am	January 9 † Jesus (Jesse) Quinonez 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 26 ,2021

Weekly Need:	\$ 6,000.00
First Collection	\$ 2,469.00
Parish Ministries	\$ 147.00
Over/Under	\$ 3,384.00

Christmas **\$ 9,123.00**

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.)

Walk for Life West Coast 2022: Join fellow Catholics and Pro-Lifers from all over California and beyond as we stand up for the littlest among us at the 18th Annual Walk for Life West Coast in San Francisco on January 22, 2022. There will be Mass at 9:30 am celebrated by Archbishop Salvatore Cordileone at St. Mary's Cathedral. The rally begins at 12:30 pm in San Francisco's Civic Center Plaza, and the Walk, down the city's Market Street, begins at 1:30 pm. For more information about the Walk, visit www.walkforlifewc.com or call 415-658-1793

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



OCTOBER 5 – 17, 2022

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PER PERSON BASED ON DOUBLE OCCUPANCY)

PRE-TOUR JORDAN Oct 5 - 9, 2022

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OCCUPANCY)

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**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 31st 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.)

Statements will be mailed by 1/31/2022



**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>.



Pray for our Dear Departed

Monina Pascual
Norma Quilantang

"Eternal Rest Grant unto Them, O Lord . . ."