

# ST. ELIZABETH CHURCH

Established 1912 / Present Church dedicated 1962

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

**Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**January 23, 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](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  
January 23, 2022



Dear Parishioners of St. Elizabeth,

**Parish Survey in Response to Pope Francis' Synod of Bishops:** A survey is being distributed in our parish in response to the Holy Father's call to prepare for a Synod of Bishops. Please take a copy and fill it out prayerfully and return it to a volunteer at the Masses or drop it in the parish office mailbox. On Sunday October 10, 2021, Pope Francis launched a two-year worldwide consultative process that could change the way the Catholic Church makes decisions. The initiative is called "For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation and Mission." Some people see this as an opportunity to review the Church's structures of authority and give a greater voice to lay Catholics, including women, and people on the margins of society. At a Mass in St. Peter's Basilica, Pope Francis said Catholics should have an open mind about the process. "Are we prepared for the adventure of this journey? Or are we fearful of the unknown, preferring to take refuge in the usual excuses: 'It's useless' or 'We've always done it this way'?" he said in his homily.

In the first stage, Catholics in parishes and dioceses around the world will discuss issues such as whether the Church is able to listen to young people, women, minorities, and those on the margins of society. They also will discuss how to identify stereotypes and prejudices in their local communities and what type of Church they think God wants in today's world. Following discussions at national and continental levels, bishops will meet at the Vatican for a month in 2023. They will prepare a document and then the pope will write an Apostolic Exhortation giving his views, suggestions and perhaps instructions on various issues. "Let us not soundproof our hearts; let us not remain barricaded in our certainties. Let us listen to one another," the pope said at the Mass attended by about 3,000 people.

Pope Francis has said that while there should be more consultation and mutual listening among the various parts of the Church, only popes can take the ultimate decisions on doctrinal matters. In his homily at the Mass on October 10, 2021, he said synodality, which comes from the Greek and means roughly walking together on a common path, could not become "a Church convention, a study group, a political congress or a parliament, but rather a grace-filled event, a process of healing guided by the Holy Spirit." (Source: Reuters)

**Word of God:** In the Gospel Jesus reads in the Nazareth synagogue a passage from Isaiah. It is a towering statement of prophecy that is fulfilled in Jesus. Jesus says that "this scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing." The Spirit of God anoints Jesus to proclaim the good news to the poor and to bring liberty to those in bondage, sight to the blind, and freedom to the oppressed. Jesus' mission is being fulfilled in our own lives today.

To us who are poor (those who depend on God for everything in life), Jesus brings the glad tidings. We will be blessed, graced, upheld, empowered, and healed. Our areas of blindness to truth, peace, love, and justice, Jesus will dispel and give us a new sight, a new vision. To us who are oppressed by various forces and situations, to us who are in bondage of various powers, addictions, and attachments, Jesus brings freedom and joy. He wants us to be free with the inner freedom that the children of God deserve. He wants us to be able to see clearly and deeply into life. Unless we enjoy these blessings, we cannot help others in their journey. Jesus' mission is being fulfilled in our lives and families, in the Church and the world.

**January 25—Feast of the Conversion of St. Paul:** When you have the time, google for two famous paintings by Caravaggio entitled "Conversion of St. Paul" and "Conversion on the Way to Damascus" both of which deal with the theme of the feast day we celebrate on January 25. St. Paul's conversion marked a momentous turn for the early Church which till then had been a small sect within the Jewish religion. Paul took the gospel to the non-Jewish people like the Romans and Greeks. He became the apostle to the gentiles. That's how Christianity spread quickly beyond narrow geographical and religious confines. Thanks to St. Paul, our ancestors embraced the faith and that's how we are all Christians today. St. Paul was an unlikely candidate for the mission, given the fact that he was eager to wipe out the early Christians. A persecutor became the most ardent promoter. A sinner was called to grace and entrusted with the sacred task of making Christ known to the world. The question to ask is: what do we do to make Jesus known and loved in the world?

**A Story to Ponder:** When Calvin Coolidge was President of the United States, he saw dozens of people each day. Most had complaints of one kind or another. One day a visiting Governor told the President that he did not understand how he was able to meet so many people in the space of a few hours. "Why, you are finished with all your visitors by dinner time," said the Governor, "while I am often in my office till midnight." "Yes," said Coolidge. "That's because you talk."

**Quotable Quote:** "Don't believe everything you think."

**Religious Joke:** During a Sunday service, the pastor asked the congregation for their intentions. There were the usual requests to pray for sick people and the acknowledgments for those who helped when a parishioner died. The somber mood was broken when the last intention was heard. A woman stood up and said, "My granddaughter turned 16 this week and received her driver's license. Let us pray for us all."

Your Friend & Pastor,

Father Charles Puthota

## Third Sunday in Ordinary Time January 23, 2022

*The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,  
because he has anointed me  
to bring glad tidings to the poor.*  
— Luke 4:18a



### GOD'S LAW

Scripture has always held God's law to be the path to human happiness. In today's first reading, Ezra the priest reads the scroll of the law to the people returned from exile. They weep—then are joyful. Israel's relationship with God had always been defined by how they kept and lived God's law. The author of Psalm 96 likewise praises the law of God as the source of wisdom, joy and enlightenment, purity and justice.

In his advice to the bickering Corinthians, Paul points out that, just as God has made all parts of a human body essential for the health of the whole, living as "Christ's body" requires that each member be recognized as necessary for the good of all. Finally, in Luke's Gospel Jesus claims that the Spirit is sending him to relieve human suffering. Like Ezra, he is reading from a scroll, proclaiming God's "law" of mercy to those in need.

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### TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** — Ezra read from the book of the law of God to the assembled people. They understood and accepted the law (Nehemiah 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10).  
**Psalm** — Your words, Lord, are Spirit and life (Psalm 19).

**Second Reading** — As the body with its many parts is still one body, so it is with Christ (1 Corinthians 12:12-30 [12-14, 27]).

**Gospel** — While attending worship in the Nazarean synagogue, Jesus reads from the prophet Isaiah and declares himself to be the fulfillment of the prophecy (Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21).

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.

## MASS INTENTIONS

### Monday

8:30 am

### January 24

† Paul and †Theresa Vella  
† Joseph Vella  
† Rodolfo C. Trinidad

### Tuesday

8:30 am

### January 25

Alexa Christine Beltran (L)  
† Cristina Hernandez  
† Thomas Hernandez

### Wednesday

8:30 am

### January 26

Arttess Runez (L)  
† Judith Terracina  
Francisca L. Fabia (L)

### Thursday

8:30 am

### January 27

† Peter Laxamana  
† Norma Quilantang

### Friday

8:30 am

### January 28

† Ma. Rita Aque  
† Teresita Amorado  
† Ramon Lazo

### Saturday

8:30 am

### January 29

† Cleody Manalo  
† Kendall Clark  
† Erlinda S. Banaag

### Sunday

9:30 am

### January 30

People of the Parish  
† Maria Caraffi

†Denotes deceased – (L) Living

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

Sunday January 16<sup>th</sup> collection  
will be posted in the bulletin  
next week.

**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.)**

Statements will be mailed by 1/31/2022



**Participate in Pope Francis's Synod at  
Your Parish – *Take the Disciple Maker  
Index Survey!***

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 has kicked-off the local synodal process this month by asking every Catholic to participate in the Disciple Maker Index survey between now and February 15. 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. To take the survey for your parish, go to [www.sfarch.org/synod](http://www.sfarch.org/synod) and click on your parish.

*Be sure to participate by February 15!*