

ST. ELIZABETH CHURCH

Established 1912 / Present Church dedicated 1962

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

Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 27, 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
March 27, 2022**

Dear Parishioners of St. Elizabeth,

Archdiocesan Annual Appeal (AAA): The amount to raise is: \$30,500. 1% Percent is \$305. Please donate early and generously. Please see in the bulletin the names of those who have donated so far to AAA 2022.

A couple of weeks ago, Ron Borg spoke at both our weekend Masses, eloquently summarizing why we need to support AAA. I'd like to thank him for his persuasive talk at the Mass. We launched our AAA drive at the weekend Masses of February 13, 2022. Over 1200 letters have been sent to our registered parishioners. I preached at all Masses that weekend. The reason for this campaign is simple: the Archdiocese is entrusted with a mission to preach the good news and to provide all necessary ministries and services to all the parishes within the Archdiocese. Without our assistance, at the Archdiocesan level they could not be doing what they are called to do. So we feel privileged to help and collaborate in their work. Also, let us keep in mind, we are not apart from the Archdiocese. We, our parish and all other parishes, make up the Archdiocese. When we strengthen the Archdiocese, we are actually strengthening our own St. Elizabeth Parish. So please give generously and early so that we can complete this campaign soon. Your spirit of stewardship and generous donations are much appreciated. Please would you keep St. Elizabeth Parish and the Archdiocese as your Number One charity to support because we are part and parcel of these faith-based, nonprofit communities.

The Season of Lent: What shall we give up for Lent?

Give up complaining—focus on gratitude. Give up pessimism—become an optimist. Give up harsh judgments—think kindly thoughts. Give up worry—trust Divine Providence. Give up discouragement—be full of hope. Give up bitterness—turn to forgiveness. Give up hatred—return good for evil. Give up negativism—be positive. Give up anger—be more patient. Give up pettiness—become mature. Give up gloom—enjoy the beauty all around you. Give up jealousy—pray for trust. Give up gossiping—control your tongue. Give up sin—turn to virtue. Give up giving up—hang in there!

Quotes for Lent: "Not all of us can do great things. But we can all do small things with great love." --- Mother Teresa. "Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer" (Rom 12:12). "Return to me with your whole heart." (Joel 2:12). "Don't despair over your shortcomings. Start over each day. You make spiritual progress by continually beginning again and again." --- St. Francis de Sales.

Word of God: The Prodigal Son: The gospel this Fourth Sunday of Lent is about the Prodigal Son from Luke's gospel, chapter 15. Jesus is a brilliant storyteller, full of imagination, insight, and wisdom. Instead of merely stating that God is a merciful father, he gives that truth in parables, thus appealing to our whole being. As you know, there are two other parables in this chapter: the Lost Sheep and the Lost Coin. The parable about the lost, prodigal son is all about sin and redemption, thanks to God's astonishing love and mercy. The younger son broke the heart of the father, but he changes his mind and returns to the father, begging to be accepted not as a son but a servant. But the father restores him to full sonship, symbolized in the ring, sandals, and the robe. He even has ordered the feast to celebrate his return. The older son is angry and unhappy. The younger son stands for the sinners and tax-collectors. The elder son represents the religious and civil authorities. This parable may be considered the gospel within the gospel. Such is the feeling of loss and heartbreak, but also the joy of returning to where we belong. We cannot be lost. We cannot be misplaced. We need to be where our God in Jesus Christ is. That's where we find our home. What are the ways in which I have gone away from my Father? What are the ways in which I am not in consonance with the teachings and values of Jesus? We need to recognize our being lost and make the wise decision of returning to where we belong, to "remain" in Jesus and in the Father. As the responsorial psalm says, let's "taste and see the goodness of the Lord." In the second reading, from the Second Letter to the Corinthians, the same theme of our return to God is echoed: "Whoever is in Christ is a new creation: the old things have passed away; behold, new things have come."

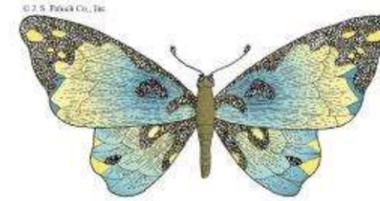
Let's Keep Praying for Ukraine: Let there be peace on earth, everywhere, especially in Ukraine! Pope Francis said last Sunday, referring to the war: "All this is inhuman! Indeed, it is also sacrilegious because it goes against the sacredness of human life, especially against defenseless human life, which much be respected and protected, not eliminated, and which comes before any strategy! Let's not forget: it is cruelty, inhuman and sacrilegious." The Holy Father made the above remarks in his weekly Sunday address to pilgrims at St. Peter's Square in Vatican City. The Pope also visited the Vatican-run Bambino Gesù Pediatric Hospital, and consoled the wounded Ukrainian children who managed to escape the conflict. March 25, the solemnity of the Annunciation, is the day of the Holy Father's consecration of Russia and Ukraine to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

A Couple of Humorous Stories to Ponder: 1. "So this was your first flight. Were you scared?" "Well, to tell you the truth, I didn't dare put my full weight down on the seat." 2. Some things are best left as they are: An enthusiastic young man who had just graduated as a plumber was taken to see Niagara Falls. He studied it for a minute, then said, "I think I can fix this."

Your Friend and Pastor,
Father Charles Puthota

**Fourth Sunday of Lent
March 27, 2022**

Whoever is in Christ is a new creation: the old things have passed away; behold, new things have come. — 2 Corinthians 5:17



LOST AND FOUND

The parable of the father and his sons is one of the most familiar of all of Jesus' stories. The father in the parable is lavish in forgiveness and revels in the return of his young son, who was lost and now is found. The older son is also lost—lost in his refusal to forgive, lost in his failure to grasp his father's generous spirit. The Israelites spent many years lost in the desert, seeking the land of milk and honey, yet often failing to seek the God who delivered and fed them. We are sometimes lost as well. We lose sight of the Lord and the Lord's ways. God never loses sight of us, however. God waits, ready for us to come to our senses, ready to welcome us back with open arms. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — God's people enter the promised land, observe the Passover, and eat of the produce of the land (Joshua 5:9a, 10-12) or 1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a.

Psalm — Taste and see the goodness of the Lord (Psalm 34) or Psalm 23.

Second Reading — We are now ambassadors for Christ (2 Corinthians 5:17-21) or Ephesians 5:8-14.

Gospel — We must rejoice when our brother who was dead in sin repents and comes back to life (Luke 15:1-3, 11-32) or John 9:1-41 [1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38].

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.

SYNODAL LISTENING SESSION

Registration is now open for the Synodal Listening/Engagement sessions. These sessions are available in-person in all three counties of the Archdiocese, and also virtually using Zoom. Registration is highly encouraged to help the host parishes plan for how many people will be in attendance.

Please visit www.sfarch.org/synod to register. Click on "Attend a Listening Session" and you'll be able to find sessions in all three counties and several virtual Zoom sessions. All you need to do is click on the session you'd like to attend and you'll be transferred to a registration form.

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday 8:30 am	March 28 † Lewis Aguis † Esther Lobo
Tuesday 8:30 am	March 29 † Maria Rebalati † Mary Mercurio
Wednesday 8:30 am	March 30 † George Belluomini
Thursday 8:30 am	March 31 Bobbek Hakomzaden (L) † Esther Lobo
Friday 8:30 am	April 1 † Teodoro Bondoc † Arturo Bura
Saturday 8:30 am 4:30 pm	April 2 † Luciano Andreatzi † Alfred and † Cresencia San Miguel
Sunday 9:30 am	April 3 People of the Parish † Alice Brown † Virginia Quinonez

†Denotes deceased – (L) Living

**Saturday/Sunday Collection
March 19-20, 2022**

Weekly Need:	\$ 5,000.00
First Collection	\$ 1,994.00
Church Environment	\$ 557.00
Over/Under	\$ 2,449.00

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.

Second Collection this weekend March 26 and 27 will be taken up for Ukraine through the collection for Catholic Relief Services (CRS).

Thank you!
2022 Archdiocesan Annual Appeal Supporters

Fr. Charles Puthota *
Olivia and Sandra Abranches *
Annabelle & Feliciano Alviar *
David Andreatta
Mark & Rosa Barbieri *
Mr. and Mrs. Brady *
Mr. and Mrs. Mario Centeno
Mario and Patricia Chang *
Robert Chavira *
Edward & Lucille Clement *
May DeVera *
Herminia De Los Reyes *
Laurrie Digneo *
Lester & Lola Feliciano
Aldina & Francis Finianos
Mr. & Mrs. George Francis
David Gemignani *
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Emmanuel & Carmen Micallef *
Ilia Moretto *
Donaciano Muniz
Hung & Lieu Ngo *
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Sarah Vannucchi
Carol Velasco *
Tessie Vinluan *
Deborah Walsh *
Michael Walsh *
Ennio and Marianne Zarich *

Please note: Donations are acknowledged once we receive the monthly report from the Archdiocese Office of Development

- * 1% Circle donors (\$305.00 and more) have an asterisk next to their name
- ▶ Names of those who have donated \$25.00 or more are listed in the bulletin
- ▶ Thank you to our anonymous donors
- ▶ If your name is missing, contact the Rectory Office
- ▶ If contributing by check directly to St. Elizabeth, please make payable to Archdiocesan Annual Appeal



The following regulations are in place for abstaining and fasting during Lent:

During Lent, every Friday the 8:30 am Mass will be followed by the Stations of the Cross.

Abstinence: Everyone fourteen years of age and older is bound to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, the Fridays of Lent and Good Friday.

Fast: Everyone eighteen years of age and older but under the age of sixty is bound to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. On these two days, the law of fast allows one full meal a day, but does not prohibit taking some food during the day, so long as this does not constitute another full meal. Drinking liquids during the day is permitted. When health or the ability to work would be seriously affected, the law does not oblige. In doubt concerning fast or abstinence, a priest assigned to pastoral ministry or confessor should be consulted. In the spirit of penance, the faithful should not lightly excuse themselves from this obligation.