

ST. ELIZABETH CHURCH

Established 1912 / Present Church dedicated 1962

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

Fifth Sunday of Lent

April 3, 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
April 3, 2022**

**Dear Parishioners of St. Elizabeth,
the names of donors in the bulletin. If you are able to give
1% of the goal, which is \$305, it would be wonderful.**

Please donate early and generously. Once we make the goal, I shall not mention it for the rest of the year. Some of you have given far above the 1% level. Thank you for your generosity. If more could give 1% or more, we would make the goal quickly. Thank you to all those who have donated so far. Those who have not, please would you prayerfully consider donating. This is to support the Archdiocese in their mission and ministries. We receive the services and ministries in turn from the Archdiocese. When we support the Archdiocese, we are actually supporting our own parish. In the Acts of the Apostles, St. Paul takes up collections from the Church in Antioch to help the Church in Jerusalem. That would be a model for our support for the Archdiocese as well. For reference, see 1 Cor 16:1-4; 2 Cor 8:1-9:15; Rom 15:14-32.

Mass at the Ukrainian Catholic Church: Last Sunday, March 27, 18 parishioners and I joined the Mass 11:30 a.m. at the Immaculate Conception Ukrainian Catholic Church. Please see the picture in this bulletin. The purpose was to join them at Mass to pray for peace in Ukraine and express our solidarity for the distress Ukraine is subjected to on account of the invasion of Russian forces. It was our way of expressing our sadness and shock at all the senseless death and destruction inflicted on Ukraine. Pope Francis has repeatedly asked for the end of war in Ukraine and urged people to pursue peace and reconciliation. The Holy Father has also consecrated the whole humanity, especially Ukraine and Russia, to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, praying ardently for peace. The pastor of the Ukrainian parish, Very Rev. Petro Dyachok, showed amazing hospitality to our parishioners. He so kindly invited me to join the celebration of the Mass, including me in the liturgical ritual as a concelebrant. I was delighted and grateful for such kind inclusiveness. His energy and faith were evident in the way he prayed and sang. He also asked me to preach the homily. Our parishioners partook of the Communion because we all belong to the same Catholic Church under the Universal Shepherd, Pope Francis. Their liturgy, a Catholic liturgy, though in the Byzantine rite, was beautifully soulful and uplifting. It lasted about two hours. Their singing at the Mass was out of this world. Father choked up with emotion when he mentioned to his parishioners that St. Elizabeth parishioners had come to pray and support them as Ukraine was going through a crisis. I mentioned to them that St. Elizabeth Church had taken up a collection for Ukraine that weekend, as had the whole Archdiocese of San Francisco. I also gave a check from St. Elizabeth Church to their parish as a token of our love and support for their ministries. The mood throughout the celebration of Mass was one of faith and gratitude, of kindness and hospitality.

Quotes for Lent: "The disciple simply burns his boats and goes ahead. He is called out... The old life is left behind, and completely surrendered. The disciple is dragged out of his relative security into a life of absolute insecurity... out of the realm of the finite...into the realm of infinite possibilities."--- Dietrich Bonhoeffer. "God has created me to do him some definite service; he has committed some work to me which he has not committed to another. I have my mission - I may never know it in this life, but I shall be told it in the next... I have a part in a great work; I am a link in a chain, a bond of connection between persons..."---- Cardinal John Henry Newman. "The saints were not superhuman. They were people who loved God in their hearts and who shared this joy with others." --- Pope Francis. "God speaks in the silence of the heart. Listening is the beginning of prayer." --- Mother Teresa.

Confirmation Retreat: Three of our young men, Michael, Nicholas, and Alan made the Confirmation retreat last Saturday March 26. I spoke to them, their parents, and sponsors about the meaning and purpose of the Sacrament of Confirmation they are going to receive on May 07. I joined them at lunch and got the opportunity to thank the parents for their engagement in the faith of their children. Later, they made Confession and attended the 4:30 p.m. Mass by actively participating in it. I would like to thank the Faith Formation teachers for making all the arrangements. Those who have children going to public schools, please enroll your children in our Faith Formation program. It's part of our mission in the parish to share faith and make disciples.

Word of God: The woman caught in adultery is the Gospel reading from John's gospel. Jesus' way of relating to this situation captures how God our Father loves us with a merciful and everlasting love. Let the one without sin throw the first stone! No one is without the stain of sin. It is obvious, therefore, that we are all called to love one another with gentleness and forgiveness. The Heavenly Father makes the sun shine on the good and the bad and makes the rain fall on everyone indiscriminately. What did Jesus write on the ground? What he wrote, his Word, spoke to the accusers in judgment, and they fled the scene because Jesus held a mirror up to them. They saw themselves flawed and sinful and they had no business to condemn this woman.

Next Sunday is Palm Sunday: Holy Week starts on Palm Sunday. Masses will be (Vigil) at 4:30 p.m. Saturday and on Sunday the two Masses will be at 9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. There will be a procession before the 9:30 a.m. Mass, starting from the Grotto. Please do come join the Holy Week's liturgical celebrations.

Humor: Doctor: 1. "That pain in your leg is caused by old age." Patient: "Don't take me for a fool! The other leg is just as old." 2. Judge: "What's your age?" Convict: "Twenty-two, sir." Judge: "That's what you've been telling us for the last ten years." Convict: "That's right, sir. I'm not the type that says one thing today and another tomorrow."

Your Friend & Pastor,
Father Charles Puthota

**Fifth Sunday of Lent
April 3, 2022**

I consider everything as a loss
because of the supreme good of knowing
Christ Jesus my Lord.
— *Philippians 3:8*



SOMETHING NEW IN CHRIST

Jesus knew that the scribes and Pharisees were trying to trap him. They put him in what seemed to be a no-win situation. Let the woman who was caught in adultery go, and he would have been accused of ignoring the law. Let her be stoned, and he would fail to show mercy toward her, contradicting his life's message. Jesus' response teaches three crucial lessons: none of us is free of sin; we are not the ultimate judges of others; Jesus is the mercy of God, in whom we can always trust. In Christ, God does something new. When we give our hearts to Christ, we have the hope of new life, a life in which mercy reigns.
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TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — The LORD does something new for the chosen people (Isaiah 43:16-21) *or* Ezekiel 37:12-14.
Psalm — The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy (Psalm 126) *or* Psalm 130.
Second Reading — The supreme good is knowing Jesus as Lord (Philippians 3:8-14) *or* Romans 8:8-11.
Gospel — A woman caught in the act of adultery is brought to Jesus. He challenges anyone without sin to throw the first stone (John 8:1-11) *or* John 11:1-45 [3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45]. 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	April 4 † Eva Castro Sisters of the Good Shepherd (L)
Tuesday 8:30 am	April 5 † Maria and † Luigi Zilli † Esther Lobo
Wednesday 8:30 am	April 6 † Theresa Spiteri Teresita B. Gotauco (L)
Thursday 8:30 am	April 7 † John Swaries Editha Romias (L)
Friday 8:30 am	April 8 † Lewis Aguis
Saturday 8:30 am	April 9 † Paul and †Theresa Vella † Joseph Vella Palm Sunday Vigil
4:30 pm Sunday 9:30 am	April 10 People of the Parish Palm Sunday

†Denotes deceased – (L) Living

Saturday/Sunday Collection
March 26-27, 2022

Weekly Need:	\$ 5,000.00
First Collection	\$ 2,813.00
CRS/Ukraine	\$ 2,737.00
Over/Under	\$ 550.00

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.

Easter lilies will decorate the church during the Easter season. If you would like to donate, please drop off your Easter lilies to the Church weekdays between 8:00 and 9:00 am, weekends between 8:30 and 10:30 am or to the rectory during office hours. Monday through Thursday 8:00am to 12:30 pm.

Thank you!
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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



In the picture, Father Charles with Father Petro Dyachok, Pastor of Immaculate Conception Ukrainian Catholic Church, on Sunday March 27th when they celebrated Mass together, along with their parishioners and 18 members of our parish, in prayer and solidarity.