

ST. ELIZABETH CHURCH
Established 1912 / Present Church dedicated 1962
Mailing Address: 449 Holyoke Street, S.F. CA 94134
Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 4, 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

Patricia Spiteri Administrative Assistant/
Pastoral Coordinator
Saydha Henderson Secretary
Fred Spence Maintenance
Laurie Digneo Faith Formation Coordinator
415-672-4903
sophielady7@aol.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.stelizabethsf.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.

1000 Hail Mary's Third Saturday after the 8:30 am Mass until 3:30 pm: A Day of Prayer and Adoration.

Over 50 Group Meet Thursdays at 12pm in Cantwell Hall.

Per the Archdiocese of San Francisco:

Congregants are recommended 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
September 4, 2022**

Dear Parishioners of St. Elizabeth,

Musings on Labor Day: Labor Day pays tribute to the contributions and achievements of American workers and is traditionally observed on the first Monday in September. It was created by the labor movement in the late 19th century and became a federal holiday in 1894. Celebrating Labor Day, as Christians, we could think about the theological and spiritual meaning of this celebration: that God has created every one and that God has called us to the dignity of work and the rights of workers. We are deeply aware that God himself is a worker, laboring to create and recreate the world and every living creature on the planet earth and sustaining the whole universe. In our work, we come to resemble God who is a worker himself. God blesses us with the ability to work so that we can honor him through our work, our creativity and enterprise. The Church has always insisted that the economic reality of any society must serve the people and is highly suspicious of the marketplace taking precedence over the rights of workers. Work is more than a way to make a living. It is a form of continuing participation in God's creation and as such affords dignity and respect to all human endeavors. There is a basic need for everyone's basic needs: living wages, affordable housing, medical care, and education. "Life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness" need to be concretized in the needs and necessities of people. The Catholic Social teaching proclaims that work has a value that goes beyond what it produces. Work is a basic human right because it is necessary for human life and enables us to participate and improve the life of the community. Therefore, the Church fully supports the right of workers to form unions or other associations to secure rights to fair wages and working conditions. Pope Benedict XVI in "Charity in Truth" (Caritas in Veritate) says: "I would like to remind everyone, especially governments engaged in boosting the world's economic and social assets, that the primary capital to be safeguarded and valued is man, the human person in his or her integrity. Man is the source, the focus and the aim of all economic and social life."

Word of God: For the 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, in the Gospel, Jesus tells us two things: one, that we must take up our cross daily and follow Jesus; two, that we must calculate the cost of following Jesus. "Costing not less than everything" (American poet T.S. Eliot in **Four Quartets**) would be the price that we may have to pay in discipleship. We cannot have the values of the world and Jesus' values at the same time. We are to choose which way we will travel: the one less travelled by. A concrete example is given in the second reading from the letter to Philemon when Paul is asking Philemon to accept Onesimus (Philemon's former slave) "no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a brother..." In Jesus, the old order

has passed away. We have to give up those values that do not belong to Jesus and embrace the light and love of Christ. The first reading from Wisdom reinforces this calling because the person with the Holy Spirit will judge things wisely and choose those that belong to God. Our prayer could be: "Let your face shine upon your servant; and teach me your laws" (Alleluia verse).

Extraordinary Ministers of the Holy Communion (EMHC) Training: Saturday, September 24 will be the training for EMHC. I have provided the reading material to reflect on by way of preparation for this training. Those attending will gather for the 8:30 a.m. Mass and then start our sessions in Cantwell Hall.

Archdiocesan Annual Appeal (AAA) Gratitude Dinner: Sunday September 11 the 1% Circle will gather for a sumptuous catered dinner. Several weeks ago, I had sent you the invitations to this event and I'm hoping everyone invited has RSVPed already. This is to celebrate our connection with the Archdiocese and our successful project to raise the AAA amount within a short period of time. This year we completed our goal within eight weeks (two months). Please would you keep donating generously and promptly to AAA each year?

Quotable Quote: "Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things that you didn't do than by the ones you did do."---Mark Twain

A Story to Think About: A Sufi (a mystic of Islamic tradition) of forbidding appearance arrived at the doors of the palace. No one dared to stop him as he made his way right up to the throne on which the saintly Ibrahim ben Adam sat. "What is it you want?" asked the king. "A place to sleep in this caravanserai." "This is no caravanserai. This is my palace. "May I ask who owned this place before you?" "My father. He is dead." "And who owned it before him?" "My grandfather. He is dead too." "And this place where people lodge for a brief while and move on-did I hear you say it was not a caravanserai?" **Moral of the Story:** *Everyone's in the departure lounge!*

Religious Humor: 1. A pastor phoned the municipal office to ask that a dead mule be removed from the front of the church. The young clerk, who took the phone, thought he would be smart. "I thought you clergyman took care of the dead," he remarked flippantly. "We do," answered the pastor, "but first we get in touch with their relatives." 2. Once an agnostic asked a priest if he believed that Jonah was swallowed by a whale. "When I go to heaven, I will ask Jonah," said the priest. "But suppose you won't find him there?" asked the agnostic. "Then you will have to ask him," was the reply. 3. John Wesley, founder of Methodism, once confronted the dandy, Beau Nash, on a very narrow sidewalk in Oxford. Nash with an air of arrogance said, "I never make way for a fool." "Don't you?" asked Wesley in half jest. "I always do." And he stepped aside.

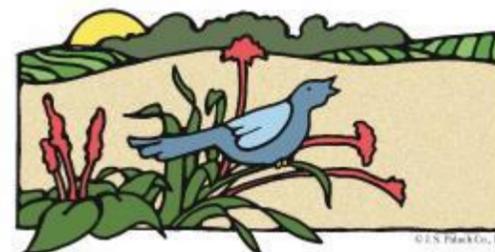
Your Friend and Pastor,

Father Charles Puthota

**Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 4, 2022**

Fill us at daybreak with your kindness, that we may shout for joy and gladness all our days.

— Psalm 90:14



LIMITS

Today's readings continue the theme of humility explored last Sunday. All three readings today encourage us to admit that we have limits, and God has none. The poignant poetry of Wisdom resonates with all of us who have ever struggled for peace in situations we cannot control: "For the corruptible body burdens the soul and the earthen shelter weighs down the mind that has many concerns." Saint Paul recognizes his own limitations, both physically (he is in prison) and spiritually: he cannot compel his friend to obey his wishes; he can only propose his request and respect Philemon's free will. In the Gospel, Jesus reminds us that God alone can complete the good we wish to do in the world. While we thank God for the gifts we receive—and the families we love—we acknowledge that they are temporary, and humbly cling to God.

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TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Who can ever know God's counsel unless God gives wisdom and sends the Holy Spirit from on high? (Wisdom 9:13-18b).

Psalm — In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge (Psalm 90).

Second Reading — Paul asks Philemon to accept back his slave Onesimus, not as a slave but as a brother (Philemon 9-10, 12-17).

Gospel — To be a disciple of Jesus one must carry one's own cross and renounce all possessions (Luke 14:25-33).

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	September 5 † J.R. Brown
Tuesday 8:30 am	September 6 † Manuel Scerri and † Joseph Vella
Wednesday 8:30 am	September 7 † Tessie, † Joseph and † Saviour Schembri
Thursday 8:30 am	September 8 † Contessa Coco Gallagher † Miriam Muscat
Friday 8:30 am	September 9 † Manolito and † Theresita Amorado † Constancio Sanchez † Nian Yu
Saturday 8:30 am 4:30 pm	September 10 † Olivia Abranches † Adoracion and † Filomeno Ausejo
Sunday 9:30 am	September 11 People of the Parish † Delia Gemignani Edgard Gonzalez Family (L)

†Denotes deceased – (L) Living

Saturday/Sunday Collection
August 27 and 28, 2022

Weekly Need:	\$ 5,000.00
First Collection	\$ 2,351.00
Parish Ministries	\$ 489.00
Over/Under	\$ 2,160.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS DONATIONS!

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 are unable to credit your contribution without your envelope number.



It is with great joy we welcome Ace Antonio Andrade into our church and community. Ace received the Sacrament of Baptism at our Rectory Chapel on August 27, 2022.

MASS INTENTIONS

Mass Intentions are still available for the 2022 year. Most dates in October, November, and December are open. Please submit your request by mail or email.



St. Elizabeth's Maltese Society Champagne Bingo

Sunday, September 18, 2022 -Cantwell Hall

Doors Open at 12:00 pm Lunch 1:00 pm
Bingo begins at 2:00 pm
\$25.00 per person - Ticket includes lunch
Pasta with Meat Sauce, Salad,
Bread, Champagne and Dessert
RSVP by September 10th
No tickets will be sold at the door.
(Reservation forms can be found in the Church)

FAITH FORMATION REGISTRATION OPEN

New and continuing registration is being accepted for the 2022-23 Faith Formation program. Registration forms may be requested by calling the Faith Formation Coordinator at 415-672-4903 or email sophielady7@aol.com. Forms can also be picked up at the Rectory office or after mass at the back of Church.

Even if your child will be a returning student, a 2022-23 Registration Form is required. Registration Fees are \$45.00 per child per year. **Classes begin on September 10th on select Saturday mornings from 9-11:00 am.**

Preparation for First Holy Communion and Confirmation are each two-year programs, beginning no earlier than 1st grade for Communion and no earlier than 7th grade for Confirmation. There is no upper age limit for Communion.

Catechist Teachers Needed

The Faith Formation program is looking for teachers to teach religion. If interested please call the Faith Formation Coordinator at 415-672-4903 or email sophielady7@aol.com.

**Good Shepherd Gracenter's online Gala for 2022 –
"GROUNDED AND GROWING"**
will celebrate the 90th Anniversary of service to San Francisco by the Sisters of the Good Shepherd and the Good Shepherd Guild



The Sisters' program, **Good Shepherd Gracenter**, is a residential program offering transitional housing and support to women without resources, who are determined to break free of drug and alcohol addiction. 95% of our graduates remain in recovery, stable housing and employment. Come and celebrate with us!

Just register at [GSG2022.givesmart.com](https://www.gsg2022.givesmart.com) to see videos, auction items and more! between Sept. 4 - 18, 2022. Bidding begins on Sept. 11th

For more info: www.gsgracenter.org
Or contact: sr.marguerite@gsgracenter.org
(628) 224-2050