

ST. ELIZABETH CHURCH
Established 1912 / Present Church dedicated 1962
Mailing Address: 449 Holyoke Street, S.F. CA 94134
Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time
October 9, 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 Scripture Reflection from
Father Charles Puthota**

October 9, 2022

Dear Parishioners of St. Elizabeth,

A boy slipped and fell into a raging river. He was about to drown, when, fortunately, a man walking by plunged into the water and saved him. Later, in the hospital, after regaining consciousness, the boy said to the man, "Thank you, sir, for saving my life." The man replied: "That's okay, sonny, but live in such a way that your life was worth saving."

Gratitude is expressed in words. Often, we measure a person's good manners by the word "thank you." We delight in teaching little children to say thank you. A common disappointment is when others do not say thank you. However, we know that it is easier to say thanks than to live a grateful life. Saying thank you is important, but "doing" thanks is essential. If individuals and nations can live from a grateful heart, the whole world would be transformed.

The Word of God spotlights the necessity of the attitude of gratitude. Having been cleansed of leprosy, Naaman the Syrian is filled with gratitude. He wants to do a concrete act of thanks. But Prophet Elisha disappoints him by refusing to profit from the act of healing. All the Syrian can do now is to haul off "two mule-loads of earth" back to his land. It is his way of doing thanks. But more importantly, he realizes that he "will no longer offer holocaust or sacrifice to any other god except the Lord." From now on, he will give thanks by living a life of witness to the incredible healing God has given him.

In the gospel, after the healing, the Samaritan alone comes "glorifying God in a loud voice" and falls "at the feet of Jesus" and thanks him. Jesus' question "Has none but this foreigner returned to give thanks to God" might seem as if Jesus was fishing for gratitude. It is not so. Jesus wants thanks to be given to God. What the other nine missed by not thanking God is the opportunity to be sent out on a mission by the Son of God: "Stand up and go: your faith has saved you." Now the healed Samaritan has to live a life of the "wounded healer." His life now will show it was worth saving---by the Savior himself.

Doing gratitude is made possible by God who removes the boundaries between the insider and outsider. Naaman, the Syrian, an outsider, becomes an insider by embracing faith. The Samaritan, too, in the gospel becomes an insider like the rest of the disciples of Jesus who are sent out on his mission to heal and transform the world. The Incarnation is the ultimate mystery of God becoming the insider. Living thanks means breaking down barriers between insider and outsider and building up the universality of love and service.

Doing thanks will also spring from striking a balance between the individual and community. As a healed man, Naaman is fully restored to his community where he would enjoy his rights and privileges. The lepers in the gospel who had been shunned as untouchables are restored their rightful place in society. Jesus looks at each leper as if he were the only one in the whole world to love. But Jesus is also eager to restore them to community and society. We are individuals at our best when we are an integral part of community. The Kingdom of God is Jesus' vision of the new community.

Jesus' approach to law and love in the healing story of the lepers inspires us about doing thanks. Jesus allows the ostracized lepers to interact with him, though the law had banished them as outcasts. He allows the Samaritan to come into his presence, even though the Jews and Samaritans had no dealings with each other. Time and again, especially in the Sabbath healings, we see Jesus choosing love over the law. Sabbath is made for us, not the other way around. Jesus shocks his contemporaries by eating with sinners and tax-collectors. The greatest commandment is that of love. In Jesus Christ there is only one law: the law of love. It is to love God and others. All other laws are subservient to the law of love. Is it possible that at times we are so eager to follow rules and laws that we neglect love? Doing thanks necessarily will entail our living by the law of love.

Let us say thanks to those who planted flowers by planting flowers ourselves. We shall grow fruit trees as a way of giving thanks to those who have offered us fruits. The way we can truly do thanks for life is by sharing it with others. Let thanks be always on our lips and in our deeds.

Your Friend and Pastor,
Father Charles Puthota

**Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time
October 9, 2022**

If we have died with Christ Jesus
we shall also live with him;
if we persevere
we shall also reign with him.
— 2 Timothy 2:11-12a



THE GIFT OF SALVATION

Naaman and the leper who returned to Jesus saw God's hand in their healing. Only through God's intervention could they have been cured. Through this recognition of God's presence and action in their lives, they grew in faith. For what are you grateful? Pause for a moment to reflect on all of the blessings in your life. God is the source of these many blessings—life, love, gifts, and so much more. Of all the gifts for which we must be grateful, none is as great, or as astounding, as the gift of salvation offered to us through Jesus Christ. Let this sink in, not only in your mind but in your heart. Like Naaman and the leper who returned, allow yourself to be touched by the immense love of God for you.

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TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Naaman, cleansed from his leprosy, returns to Elisha and pledges his belief in and allegiance to the LORD (2 Kings 5:14-17).

Psalm — The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power (Psalm 98).

Second Reading — Remember Jesus Christ, who was raised from the dead. If we persevere, we shall reign with him (2 Timothy 2:8-13).

Gospel — After ten lepers are cleansed by Jesus, only one, a Samaritan, returns to give him thanks (Luke 17:11-19).

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	October 10
Tuesday 8:30 am	October 11 † Manuel Icban † Federico B. Santiago
Wednesday 8:30 am	October 12 † Tessie, † Joseph and † Saviour Schembri † Florencia de Luna
Thursday 8:30 am	October 13 Thomas Family † Theresa Spiteri
Friday 8:30 am	October 14 † Carlos Ramirez Sr. Christina Thomas (L)
Saturday 8:30 am	October 15 † Hildegard Hunze DeMarco † Nicolas Serafica
4:30 pm	† Julia Pecchia † Gloria Garcia Vergara
Sunday 9:30 am	October 16 People of the Parish † Carmela Padilla † Teodora and † Regino Hernandez

†Denotes deceased – (L) Living

Saturday/Sunday Collection
October 1 and 2, 2022

Weekly Need:	\$ 5,000.00
First Collection	\$ 1,955.00
Faith Formation	\$ 505.00
Over/Under	\$ 2,540.00

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.

FAITH FORMATION

*Faith Formation classes have begun.
It is Not too late to register!!*

Registration forms can be picked up at the Rectory office or at the back of church. Or you can drop into Faith Formation on a Saturday at Cantwell Hall (8:30 am-11 am) to pick up a form.

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.

2023 MASS INTENTIONS NOW AVAILABLE!

Please follow the guidelines below when sending in your Mass requests.

Due to the large volume of Mass requests, in order to be fair to the needs of our parishioners, the following is the Mass Book policy. Parishioners can a request up to 12 masses per year. Only 2 of those Masses may be on weekends depending on availability. This makes it fair to all parishioners who wish to have a weekend mass.

Mass Intentions cannot be reserved by phone or in person. Requests must be submitted in writing or emailed.

Not all dates are available, so we ask that you be prepared with alternate dates and times. If your requested date is not available an alternate date will be chosen for you.

Please note: Mass Intentions are \$10.00 each. Please send payment with your Mass Intention requests. Please allow time for processing.

Please email or mail your Mass Intention to: Saydha at stelizabethchurchsf@gmail.com

MASS INTENTIONS

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

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Baptisms are arranged through the Parish Office. Please call for information and to make arrangements.

OTHER SACRAMENTS

For Weddings, Quinceañeras, Anointing of the Sick, and Funerals. Please contact the parish office.

Office Closed

**The Parish Office will be closed
Monday, October 10, 2022
In observance of Columbus Day/
Indigenous Peoples' Day.**

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1111 GOUGH STREET, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94109

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