

**ST. ELIZABETH CHURCH**  
*Established 1912 / Present Church dedicated 1962*  
*Mailing Address: 449 Holyoke Street, S.F. CA 94134*  
**First Sunday of Advent**  
**November 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**

**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](http://www.stelizabethsf.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.

**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  
November 27, 2022**

**Dear Parishioners of St. Elizabeth,**

**Musings on the Season of Advent:** This Sunday we begin the season of waiting for the Lord. With the mournful yet hopeful song of "O come, o come, Emmanuel and ransom captive Israel" we plead with the Son of God to visit us and free us from all sorts of bondages and patterns of sin and alienation. We join all those through the centuries who longed with a burning desire for the coming of Jesus the Messiah into their lives.

This season of Advent is something like the time before the wedding. The couples have to prepare for the wedding by sitting down and talking about all kinds of things connected with their marriage and have heart-to-heart conversations. They also need to make all sorts of spiritual, liturgical, social preparations for the day of the wedding. How will the wedding ceremony be? Who will do what? Where will the reception be and what food will be served and who will make the speeches? What songs to dance to? Where will the newly-weds go for their honeymoon? And so many such details of preparation! Jesus in the Gospels refers to himself as the bridegroom who comes to meet the bride represented by God's people. The Advent season is exactly like these various preparations we need to make in order for the Christmas day and the whole Christmas season to become a source of pure joy and blessing.

We cannot put Christmas already in Advent any more that we can put the wedding day into the phase of preparation for the wedding. Therefore, let's put on the spirit of Advent, which is readiness, vigilance, awareness, waiting, expectation, longing, penance, rearranging our lives, listening to God more deeply, reassessing our relationships, making room for love. When we do all these, then when the Christmas season dawns, it would truly be like the overflowing joy of a wedding, when Jesus will be united with the Church and the whole creation in an ecstasy of intimacy and union. Are we ready to do what we need to do at Advent in order for us to get ready to do what we need to do at Christmas? Let our longing be crystallized in this simple prayer: "Come, Lord Jesus!"

**First Sunday of Advent, the Word of God:** In the Gospel this Sunday, we are warned: "Stay awake. For you do not know on which day your Lord will come...you must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come." Reminding us of the apocalyptic end of time and all the destruction that would happen at that time, Jesus calls us to be ready, watchful, and prayerful. When the great deluge happened in the time of Noah, people were completely overtaken by crisis; there was no time to do anything at the eleventh hour by way of preparation. So too now when the Lord will come suddenly, we need to be ready and alert to meet him. In view of the end of time,

there are things we could be doing. In Isaiah, as people are going on a pilgrimage to Jerusalem and the temple, they could be working for peace: "they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; one nation shall not raise the sword against another, nor shall they train for war again." Do we seek peace in our hearts and in the world? Paul, too, in the Letter to the Romans instructs us "to throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light..." because "our salvation is nearer now than we first believed, the night is advanced, the day is at hand." In short, the Word of God invites us this First Sunday of Advent to be prepared, ready, and alert. Working for peace and arming ourselves with light against all forms of darkness are what we are called to do as we wait for Jesus to be born in our lives once again.

**Thanksgiving Day Mass Collection:** On your behalf, I shall be forwarding your Thanksgiving Day 9:00 a.m. Mass offerings to "Cross Catholic Outreach." It is a Catholic charitable organization and ministry that "partners with bishops, priests, religious and lay workers to provide food, water, housing, education, orphan support, medical care, microenterprise and disaster relief---and the love of our Lord Jesus Christ---to the poorest of the poor in over 30 countries around the world." The past two years, we had donated the Thanksgiving Day Mass collection to St. Anthony's Dining Room in SF and Catholic Relief Services.

**Parish Advent Retreat:** I'll be giving three talks on the theme of "To Know Jesus, To Love Jesus, and To Follow Jesus" on Saturday, December 03. The Retreat starts with 8:30 a.m. Mass followed by "coffee and donuts/bagels." We will have singing at the sessions and reflections and plenty of time to socialize and renew friendships. After the sessions are over, we will have lunch. Contact Sharon and/or the Parish Office. Do come join, if you are able to.

**Parish Advent Confessions:** On Saturday, December 17 at 10:30 a.m. as a way of preparing ourselves for Christmas.

**Simbang Gabi Masses:** At the regular 8:30 a.m. Masses from December 16 through 24, Simbang Gabi tradition will be followed. Do come join! As we will be busy with the external preparations such as gift-buying, decorations, food, etc., it would be highly beneficial to prepare ourselves internally, spiritually, for the Birth of Christ at Christmas. I'd like to thank all those who have begun the preparations for making this tradition a success in our parish as in the past.

**Humor:** Johnny had been misbehaving and was sent to his room. After a while he emerged and informed his mother that he had thought it over and then said a prayer. "Fine," said the pleased mother. "If you ask God to help you not misbehave, He will help you." "Oh, I didn't ask Him to help me not misbehave," said Johnny. "I asked Him to help you put up with me."

**Wishing you a hope-filled Season of Advent,**  
Your Friend and Pastor,  
Father Charles Puthota

**First Sunday of Advent  
November 27, 2022**

You must be prepared; at an hour you do not expect; The Son of Man will come.

--Matthew 24:44



**PEOPLE OF THE LIGHT**

We are called to reflect the light of God's love through the ways in which we live our lives. Imagine the impact if each of us took this call to heart, every day, at home, work, or school, in our parish, in the world. "All nations shall stream toward it," toward the love that only comes from God. Yet, we must admit that much of the time we fail to be beacons of God's light. We fall asleep, complacent, preferring to go the easy route, which often leads to darkness rather than the radiance of Christ's light. As we begin the season of Advent, Saint Paul admonishes us to throw off the works of darkness, to awaken to the call of light and love. In today's Gospel, Jesus too tells us to stay awake, to be prepared to greet the Lord of light as people of the light. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

**TODAY'S READINGS**

**First Reading** — All the peoples shall stream toward the LORD'S house (Isaiah 2:1-5).

**Psalms** — We will rejoice as we go up to the Lord's house (Psalm 122).

**Second Reading** — It is the hour to cast off the dark and clothe ourselves in the light (Romans 13:11-14).

**Gospel** — Stay awake! Be prepared! The Son of Man will come when you least expect (Matthew 24:37-44).

**MASS INTENTIONS**

|                                    |   |
|------------------------------------|---|
| <b><u>Monday</u></b><br>8:30 am    | <b><u>November 28</u></b><br>† Anthony Agius<br>Phil McCarthy (L)   |
| <b><u>Tuesday</u></b><br>8:30 am   | <b><u>November 29</u></b><br>† Gerry Sapiano<br>John Soares (L)   |
| <b><u>Wednesday</u></b><br>8:30 am | <b><u>November 30</u></b><br>† Richard Styles<br>Richard John (L)   |
| <b><u>Thursday</u></b><br>8:30 am  | <b><u>December 1</u></b><br>† Maria Kielian<br>† Earl McCarthy  |
| <b><u>Friday</u></b><br>8:30 am    | <b><u>December 2</u></b><br>Herminia de los Reyes (L)<br>Maria (L) and Joey (L)<br>Tanquilut                  |
| <b><u>Saturday</u></b><br>8:30 am  | <b><u>December 3</u></b><br>Encarnacion Maog (L)<br>† Victoria Mitra<br>Charles Agius (L)<br>Luz Banzuelo (L) |
| 4:30 pm                            |   |
| <b><u>Sunday</u></b><br>9:30 am    | <b><u>December 4</u></b><br>People of the Parish<br>† Maria Rebagliati<br>† Fernando N. Camba                 |

†Denotes deceased – (L) Living

**Saturday/Sunday Collection**  
**November 19 & 20, 2022**

|                                |                    |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Weekly Need:</b>            | <b>\$ 5,000.00</b> |
| <b>First Collection</b>        | <b>\$ 2,319.00</b> |
| <b>Over/Under</b>              | <b>\$ 2,681.00</b> |
| <b>Campaign for Human Dev.</b> | <b>\$ 456.00</b>   |

*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 will not be responsible for donations not credited due to missing envelope numbers.*

## Pray for our Dear Departed



**Maria Pagaduan  
Danilo Morales**

*“Eternal Rest Grant unto Them, O Lord . . .”*

### 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](mailto:stelizabethchurchsf@gmail.com)

### November: Month of All Souls

Traditionally, November is the month when we especially remember the souls who have entered eternal life. As we prepare for these remembrances there is a specific way of preparation besides our own prayers and remembrances. You may write their names on one of the All-Souls envelopes. These envelopes will be placed on the altar for remembrances during all the Masses in November.

## St. Elizabeth Parish On the Horizon:

### First Sunday of Advent:

November 27, 2022

Parish Advent Retreat: Saturday, December 03, 2022 at 8:30-1pm

### Holy Day of Obligation Masses:

December 8, 2022 at 8:30 am and 6 pm

Simbang Gabi: Saturday, December 16 through 24th, 2022 at 8:30 am

Parish Advent Confessions: Saturday, December 17, 2022 at 10:30 am

Christmas Eve Mass: December 24, 2022 at 4:30 pm

Christmas Day Masses: December 25, 2022 at 9:30 am and 11:00 am

### SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

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

### OTHER SACRAMENTS

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



It is with great joy we welcome Vito and May Devera's granddaughter Kiara Marie Devera into our church community. Kiara received the Sacrament of Baptism at our Rectory Chapel on November 19, 2022.