

ST. ELIZABETH CHURCH
Established 1912 / Present Church dedicated 1962
Mailing Address: 449 Holyoke Street, S.F. CA 94134
Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
January 15, 2023



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 on God's Call
From the Pastor
For the Second Sunday on Ordinary Time
January 15, 2023**

Dear Parishioners of St. Elizabeth,

Years ago a woman at my previous parish told me about her grandson's decision to enter seminary. I had known the young man as a student some years before at one of our parish schools. Now he graduated with a bachelor's degree. The only son of his parents, he has a sister. Sharing her feelings, the grandmother asked me to pray for her family. She was echoing the sentiments of her daughter---the young man's mother---who was both happy and sad about her son's decision.

His mother, too, spoke to me a few times about her son's decision to enter seminary. The family, active in parish life, is delighted about the young man's decision. At the same time, they are aware of the implications: they cannot keep him for themselves. They have to set him free and let him go where he is needed. They have to get used to a different set of expectations about him in the future, something at once joyful and heartbreaking. Having heard the call, he is now rearranging the family ties in relation to Christ. He has dared to follow Jesus.

Isn't it true that God continues to call us in our present world? His son Jesus Christ keeps challenging us to follow him and become his disciples. In the Old Testament, God calls Adam and Eve into life for a glorious state of love and grace. We are familiar with the call of Abraham, Moses, David, and the prophets.

The first reading from the second servant song of Isaiah exemplifies vocation when God calls the servant nation of Israel, their sufferings in Babylonian exile notwithstanding. The servant could also be an individual, called, anointed from the womb, and sent out to be "a light to the nations." This individual is often interpreted as referring to Jesus, the future Messiah.

The theme of vocation is demonstrated in the life of Paul who is "called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God." The Church in Corinth too is "called to be holy" because they "have been sanctified in Christ Jesus."

John the Baptist's vocation is to fulfill a specific mission: to prepare the way of the Lord and point him out as "the lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world." He recognizes Jesus as anointed by the Spirit and testifies that "he is the Son of God."

In the 21st century, in the technology-based, sports-and-entertainment driven, consumer-oriented world of ours, Jesus desperately needs us to heed his call. Much of the world is still in need of food, shelter, clothing, education, and health. Millions are without the basic blessings of safety, security, stability, hope, and peace. There is more sadness in the world than joy. There is abundance of wealth, but it does not reach those in abject poverty. Pope Francis has been speaking out persuasively about this situation.

Vocation galvanizes us to address these needs. We need more young men and women responding to service in the Church as deacons, priests, and nuns. We need to do more to inspire, promote, nourish, and cherish vocations.

In the larger sense though, vocation is universal, challenging every woman, man, and child to respond to the Baptismal call to be holy and to follow Jesus. It's the call to forget self and serve others, as Jesus did.

This call, as Pope Francis has rightly said, is extended to all communities, organizations, religions, and even to atheists. Governments and nations are anointed and missioned to make this world a better place. In this new year of 2023, guided by the Christmas star, we need to sow the seeds of vocation for recreating a world filled with God's blessings for all.

Let's hope and long for vocations. Let's pray for more women and men to generously consider serving God and his people through religious life and priesthood. Vocations do not often happen without the context, a context in which individuals are introduced to faith in the family and through friends. If the context of faith and service, as we understand it in the Catholic tradition, are introduced to young people, there is a chance of vocation being considered as a wonderful way of being human, religious, Christian, and Catholic.

Your Friend and Pastor,

Father Charles Puthota

**Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
January 15, 2023**

I will make you a light to the nations,
that my salvation may reach
to the ends of the earth.
— Isaiah 49:6b



OUR STRATEGIC GOAL

As a Church, we now move into Ordinary Time. "Ordinary" comes from the Latin root for "order," which is why we line the Sundays up on the calendar and count them—with "ordinal" numbers—one by one. The orderly way we proceed through the liturgical year reminds us that our faith offers a strategic goal for our lives: eternal happiness with God, who is love. Today's readings share stories of believers who order their daily activities toward the goal of sharing God's love. Isaiah embraces his role as God's servant and works to bring glory not only to Israel, but to the entire world. In a similar way, Saint Paul identifies himself as Christ's witness in the world and reminds the Corinthians of their life goal: "to be holy." The Gospel shows us John the Baptist, servant and witness, attentive to God's loving orders, the divine plan for salvation. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — The glory of the Lord shows through Israel, a light to all nations, that salvation may reach to the ends of the earth (Isaiah 49:3, 5-6).

Psalm — I am here to do as you ask, O Lord (Psalm 40).

Second Reading — All those who call upon the name of the Lord are called to be holy (1 Corinthians 1:1-3).

Gospel — John the Baptist testifies: The one who comes after me, on whom the Spirit comes down and remains, is the Son of God (John 1:29-34).

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday 8:30 am	January 16 † Timoteo D. Nacor Sr. Sharon Soares (L)
Tuesday 8:30 am	January 17 † Norma Mangonon
Wednesday 8:30 am	January 18 Jovic (L) and David (L) Snyder
Thursday 8:30 am	January 19 Communion Service
Friday 8:30 am	January 20 † Lorenza Tanquilut
Saturday 8:30 am 4:30 pm	January 21 † David Cirelli † Tessie, † Joseph and † Saviour Schembri
Sunday 9:30 am	January 22 People of the Parish Italian Catholic Federation † Patricia Hendricks † Daisy Lem

†Denotes deceased – (L) Living

Saturday/Sunday Collection
January 7 & 8, 2023

Weekly Need:	\$ 5,000.00
First Collection	\$ 2,261.00
Parish Maintenance	\$ 471.00
Over/Under	\$ 2,268.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS DONATION!

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.

2023 Calendars are available.

Please be sure to pick up a copy in the church or rectory during office hours.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

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

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

2023 MASS INTENTIONS ARE 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 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

END OF YEAR STATEMENTS

We are preparing to close the books on 2022. Please contact the parish office in **writing** or **email** if you are in need of a year-end statement of your donations. We are able to provide statements to parishioners who have donated using **SUNDAY ENVELOPES.**

Please note that any donations received after December 31st will be credited to 2022.

We will not be responsible for donations not credited due to missing envelope numbers, (or not having a Sunday collection envelope.)

St. Elizabeth Parish
On the Horizon:

Monday, January 16th, 2023:

Office closed in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday.

Maltese St. Paul of the Shipwreck Feast:

Saturday, February 11th –Details to Follow

19th Annual Walk for Life
San Francisco

Saturday, January 21, 2023

Civic Center Plaza

Rally begins at 12:30 pm

Register and Info: 415-658-1793

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday: January 16th Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Tuesday: January 17th St. Anthony

Wednesday: January 18th Week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins

Thursday: January 19th Julian Calendar

Theophany (Epiphany)

Friday: January 20th St. Fabian; St. Sebastian

Saturday: January 21st St. Agnes

WELCOME TO
ST. ELIZABETH PARISH COMMUNITY

We extend our hands and hearts to you here celebrating with us, whether long-time or newly arrive in our parish. We thank God that you are with us. If you are not registered or have changes to your registration please fill in the form and submit it to the office.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

Zip: _____ Phone: _____

New Parishioner

New Address/Phone

Send Sunday Envelopes