

ST. ELIZABETH CHURCH
Established 1912 / Present Church dedicated 1962
Mailing Address: 449 Holyoke Street, S.F. CA 94134
Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
February 12, 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 Message from Father Charles Puthota

February 12, 2023

Dear Parishioners of St. Elizabeth,

Archdiocesan Annual Appeal (AAA) 2023: The amount to raise is \$37,462. 1.33% Donation is \$500. Please see in the bulletin the names of those who have donated so far to AAA 2023. The asterisk indicates the 1.33% donors. Last weekend (February 04-05) we launched this annual appeal, a monthlong drive. I preached at both weekend Masses, connecting the Word of God about being light and salt. The reason for this campaign is simple: the Archdiocese is entrusted with a mission to preach the good news and to provide all necessary ministries and services to the parishes within the Archdiocese. Without our assistance, at the Archdiocesan level they could not be doing what they are called to do. So we feel privileged to help and collaborate in their work. Also, let us keep in mind that we are not apart from the Archdiocese. We, our parish and all other parishes, make up the Archdiocese. When we strengthen the Archdiocese, we are actually strengthening our own St. Elizabeth Parish. So please give generously and early so that we can complete this campaign within a month. Would it be possible for you to belong to "1.33% Circle" by donating \$500 or more toward AAA? Some of you have given in the past way more than 1.33%. Your spirit of stewardship and generous donations are much appreciated. Please would you keep St. Elizabeth Parish and the Archdiocese as your Number One charity to support because we are an integral and inseparable part of these faith-based, nonprofit communities that stand for life now and life eternal.

Season of Lent is Near: Ash Wednesday is on February 22: We could start the anticipation of this holy, penitential season by thinking about our plans for prayer and penance. We could actually think about the three aspects of our existence: Body, Mind, and Spirit. What is it that the Lord is calling us to be? What are the things we could do to nourish and protect the health of our body, mind, and spirit?

Pope Francis' Apostolic Visit to Two African Nations: Last week, From January 31 to February 05, the Holy Father Pope Francis visited the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC, formerly known as Zaire) and South Sudan. In both countries, the Roman Catholics make up about half of the populations. Rich in natural resources, these countries have been plagued by long-standing conflicts that have resulted in millions of refugees and displaced people facing hunger. The Catholic Church is a key player in health and educational systems as well as in democracy-building efforts. In South Sudan, the Pope was joined by the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Wilby and the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, Iain Greenshields. Welby remarked: "This will

be a historic visit. After centuries of division, leaders of three different parts of Christianity are coming together in an unprecedented way." A group of 60 Catholic pilgrims spent nine days trekking through war-torn South Sudan to see Pope Francis in the capital, Juba. "My feet are sore, but I am not so tired. When the spirit is with you, you do not get tired," NightRose Falea, one of the pilgrims, said as she licked her cracked, dry lips. "I would not have missed coming to Juba for anything. We are here to get the Pope's blessings. I am confident that with his blessings things will change for this country," she told a reporter. The Holy Father urged people in South Sudan to reject the "venom of hatred" and told them to lose no opportunity to build peace. He pleaded with the country's leaders to focus on ending conflict. Before leaving, he told the crowd: "Dear brothers and sisters, I return to Rome with you even closer to my heart." Peace and reconciliation were the major themes of the pastoral visit of the Pope to these two nations. Let's keep these nations and many other troubled spots of the world in our prayers. May there be peace, harmony, reconciliation everywhere!

Food for Thought: Husband: "I'm going to work hard, and some day we are going to be rich." Wife: "We are rich already, dear, for we have each other. Some day we may have money."

Quotable Quote: "Spread love everywhere you go. Let no one ever come to you without leaving happier." -Mother Teresa

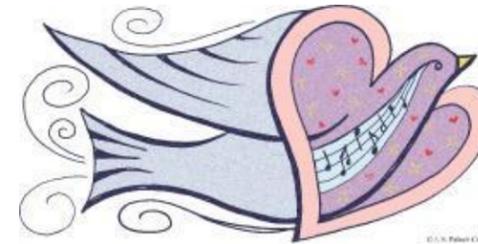
A Story to Think About: A miser hid his gold at the foot of a tree in his garden. Every week he would dig up and look at it for hours. One day a thief dug up the gold and made off with it. When the miser next came to gaze upon his treasure all he found was an empty hole. The man began to howl with grief so his neighbors came running to find out what the trouble was. When they found out one of them asked, "Did you use any of the gold?" "No" said the miser. "I only looked at it every week." "Well, then," said the neighbor, "for all the good the gold did you, you might just as well come every week and gaze upon the hole." It is not by our money but by our capacity for enjoyment that we are rich or poor. (TSOTB, ADM)

Retirement Humor: 1. **The perfect answering service recording:** "I am not available right now, but thank you for caring enough to call. I am making some changes in my life. Please leave a message after the beep. If I do not return your call, you are one of the changes." 2. **"I'm 103 years old."** A reporter was interviewing a 103-year-old woman. "And what do you think is the best thing about being 103?" the reporter asked. She simply replied, "No peer pressure."

Your Friend and Pastor,
Father Charles Puthota

**Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
February 12, 2023**

What eye has not seen, and ear has not heard, and what has not entered the human heart, what God has prepared for those who love [God], this God has revealed to us through the Spirit. — 1 Corinthians 2:9-10



THE GLORY OF THE DIVINE WAY

Today's readings draw us into ageless, vibrant depths. Followers of God's law, we belong to ancient traditions. Children of God, we marvel at the freshness of creation. The Old Testament readings, from Sirach and the Psalms, celebrate the rich blessings we receive when we observe God's commands—not because we are slaves to the law, but because the law gives life in abundance. Saint Paul's Letter to the Corinthians confirms the glory of divine law, but warns that God's ways tend to be unpopular and misunderstood in this world. Paul speaks of the ancient wisdom of God, which is mysteriously both "hidden" and "revealed." God does not have secret codes that we earthly mortals cannot understand; in love, God reveals the glory of the divine way in Jesus. Saint Matthew's Gospel emphasizes the importance of living in God's law, enlivened by a deep and personal relationship with Jesus.

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TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — God allows us to make choices, but we are not to choose injustice or sinfulness (Sirach 15:15-20).

Psalms — Happy are those who observe God's commands (Psalm 119).

Second Reading — God's wisdom is mysterious and hidden (1 Corinthians 2:6-10).

Gospel — Jesus has come not to abolish but to fulfill the law and the prophets (Matthew 5:17-37).

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday 8:30 am	February 13 † Emanuel Scerri and † Maria Vella † Ponchito Aguiluz
Tuesday 8:30 am	February 14 Jovic (L) and David (L) Snyder † Filomena Scerri
Wednesday 8:30 am	February 15 Garibaldi Family Living and Deceased
Thursday 8:30 am	February 16 Francisca Oropeza (L) and Timothy Carter (L)
Friday 8:30 am	February 17 † Ray Garibaldi
Saturday 8:30 am	February 18 † Carmen Spiteri and † Tessy Lencioni Good Shepherd Guild Living and Deceased and Families
4:30 pm	† Filomena Scerri
Sunday 9:30 am	February 19 People of the Parish † Timothy Benetti Maltese Society

†Denotes deceased – (L) Living

**Saturday/Sunday Collection
February 4 & 5, 2023**

Weekly Need:	\$ 5,000.00
First Collection	\$ 2,378.00
Faith Formation	\$ 629.00
Over/Under	\$ 1,993.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR 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.

**Thank You!
2023 Archdiocesan
Annual Appeal Supporters**

Fr. Charles Puthota*
Richard John*
Richard and Maria Padua*
Mary Perata
Virginia Sanchez*
Sisters of the Good Shepherd*
Sharon Soares*
Carol Velasco*

Please Note:

Donations are acknowledged once we receive the monthly report from the Archdiocese Office of Development

- ▶ 1.33% Circle donors have an asterisk next to their name
- ▶ Names of those who have donated \$25.00 or more are listed in the bulletin
- ▶ If your name is missing, contact the Rectory Office
- ▶ If contributing by check directly to St. Elizabeth, please make payable to Archdiocesan Annual Appeal

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.

**The Parish Office will be closed
Monday, February 20th
In observance
Of the Presidents Day Holiday.**

St. Elizabeth Parish On the Horizon:

Archdiocesan Annual Appeal: A month long campaign, February 11-12 is the second week.
Lenten Season Begins with Ash
Wednesday: February 22nd 8:30am and 6pm Masses.

Maltese Society

Red Hawk Casino Trip
Saturday, March 4, 2023
For info call:
Jeanette Santos 415-225-5315
Mary Sammut 415-467-1686

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 2023.

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

**WELCOME TO
ST. ELIZABETH PARISH COMMUNITY**

We extend our hands and hearts to you here celebrating with us, whether long-time or newly arrived 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