

ST. ELIZABETH CHURCH

Established 1912 / Present Church dedicated 1962

Mailing Address: 449 Holyoke Street, S.F. CA 94134 **Phone:** 415-468-0820

Website: www.stelizabetsf.org **Email:** stelizabethchurchsf@gmail.com

February 19, 2023 - Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time



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 Office

449 Holyoke Street
415-468-0820 Fax 415-468-1457

Parish Office Hours

Monday through Thursday
8:00 am to 12:00 pm

Closed Friday

Parish Staff

Patti Spiteri	Administrative Assistant / Pastoral Coordinator
Sandy Mehrwein	Secretary
Fred Spence	Maintenance
Laurie Digneo	Faith Formation

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 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 19, 2023**

Dear Parishioners of St. Elizabeth,

Archdiocesan Annual Appeal (AAA): Goal to reach: \$37,462. 1.33% is \$500. Please see names of donors in the bulletin. This weekend we are starting the third week of the month-long AAA campaign, which we started the weekend of February 04-05. I urge and encourage everyone to give as generously as possible. If possible, do give 1.33%, which is \$500. The facts are simple and direct. We need to raise \$37,462 as our commitment toward the Archdiocese this year. We do not consider it a burden but a privilege, not a problem but an opportunity. The purpose is for the Archdiocese to do God's work that they are called to do, and, as you know, much of that work is to support the ministries and services in the parishes including our own. Even as our parish runs because of the offerings you give from the pews weekend after weekend, the Archdiocese runs from the offerings that come from all the parishes in the Archdiocese through the AAA. We do this campaign in our parish for one month. If everyone participates, this will be a success quickly. We are making some progress, but we need more people to come onboard and help. Please see the names in the bulletin of all donors so far to AAA 2023. While I thank all those who have donated, I request everyone else to give soon. Last weekend at the two weekend Masses, Ron Borg spoke persuasively about AAA and the need for our participation. I thank him for his service to our community. Please consider AAA 2023 prayerfully in the spirit of Lent which is almost upon us.

Quotes on Giving: "We make a living by what we get. We make a life by what we give." — Winston Churchill. "No one is useless in this world who lightens the burdens of another." — Charles Dickens. "You can give without loving, but you cannot love without giving." — Amy Carmichael. "For it is in giving that we receive." — Francis of Assisi. "Love only grows by sharing. You can only have more for yourself by giving it away to others." — Brian Tracy. "There is no better exercise for your heart than reaching down and helping to lift someone up." — Bernard Meltzer. "What we spend, we lose. What we keep will be left for others. What we give away will be ours forever." — David McGee.

Ash Wednesday: February 22. Mass times: 8:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. **Abstinence:** Everyone 14 years of age and older is required to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, each Friday of Lent, and Good Friday. **Fasting:** Those 18-60 years of age are to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. On these two days the law of fasting allows only one full meal a day, but does not prohibit taking some food during the day, as long as this does not constitute another full meal. Drinking liquids during the day is permitted. Please do not neglect to take your medications.

Word of God: This Sunday before we begin Lent we are invited by God to seek holiness: "Be holy, for the Lord, your God, am holy.... You shall not bear hatred for your brother or sister in your heart... You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Holiness is connected here in this first reading from Leviticus with love of neighbor. The more we love, the closer we are to being holy. In the second reading, we are reminded that we are the temples of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in us. We have been anointed by the Spirit and so we need to seek holiness and strive to be wise in the way God looks at everything, not in the way the world thinks of wisdom. "The wisdom of the world is foolishness in the eyes of God." The call for holiness in the Gospel reading is reinforced by the last two antitheses of Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount, where he gives us a new interpretation of the Mosaic law. No eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth, but we are to repay evil with good. Also, no hating our enemies. We are to be like the heavenly father who lets sunshine and rain fall on the good and the bad. Indiscriminate loving of everyone is at the heart of Christian holiness because we are made by love for love. That is the way to be authentic followers of Christ. So, shall we rethink and rearrange our lives according to the mind and heart of Jesus Christ?

A Story to Think About: Holiness, like greatness, is unselfconscious: For thirty-five years Paul Cezanne lived in obscurity producing masterpieces that he gave away to unsuspecting neighbors. So great was his love for his work that he never gave a thought to achieving recognition nor did he suspect that some day he would be looked upon as the father of modern painting. He owes his fame to a Paris dealer who chanced upon some of his paintings, put some of them together and presented the world of art with the first Cezanne exhibition. The world was astonished to discover the presence of a master. The master was just as astonished. He arrived at the art gallery leaning on the arm of his son and could not contain his amazement when he saw his paintings on display. Turning to his son he said. "Look, they have framed them!" (TSOTB, ADM)

Religious Humor: 1. Adam and Eve: The Faith Formation teacher told the children in the class the story of Adam and Eve. The children were asked to draw pictures to illustrate the story in their own way. Little Tommy drew a picture of a car with three people in it. In the front seat was a man. In the back seat were a man and a woman. The teacher asked the boy to explain the drawing. The little boy said: "Why, this is God driving Adam and Eve out of the garden." 2. A boy asks his father to use the car and the father replies, "No, not until you cut your hair!" The boy says, "But father.... Jesus had long hair!" The father replies, "Yeah, but Jesus walked everywhere."

Your friend and pastor,
Father Charles Puthota

**Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
February 19, 2023**

Be holy, for I, the LORD, your God, am holy.
— *Leviticus 19:2b*



DISCIPLES TOGETHER

Today's readings reflect on our communal identity as disciples. Before we begin Lent together in a few days, we take time to appreciate what God has done by giving us our family of faith. In Leviticus, God tells Moses to "speak to the whole Israelite community" and give them instructions for living in love. Moses passes along the message—to each and every believer—that God's people must strive together for holiness. Saint Paul echoes this message, insisting that we are indeed God's holy children. As temples of the Spirit, we belong to Christ and to one another. This mutual belonging is a blessing and a challenge. In Matthew's Gospel, Jesus sets a high bar for Christian community: his followers must love not only those who are easy to love, but also the people who upset us. Together, let us ask God to give us this kind of love.

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TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Take no revenge and cherish no grudge; love your neighbor as yourself. (Leviticus 19:1-2, 17-18).

Psalm — Our God shows mercy and graciousness (Psalm 103).

Second Reading — You are the temple of God, and holy (1 Corinthians 3:16-23).

Gospel — Offer no resistance; love your enemies (Matthew 5:38-48).

Maltese Society

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

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday 8:30 am	February 20 † Rita and † Stan Tanner
Tuesday 8:30 am	February 21 † Minviluz B. Nacor
Wednesday 8:30 am 6:00 pm	February 22 Ash Wednesday Ash Wednesday
Thursday 8:30 am	February 23 Budesá Family Living & Deceased
Friday 8:30 am	February 24 † Edilberto Mandani † Alex Rojas
Saturday 8:30 am 4:30 pm	February 25 † Tessie † Joseph and † Saviour Schembri † Filomena Scerri
Sunday 9:30 am	February 26 People of the Parish Italian Catholic Federation † Alice Soriano

† Denotes deceased – (L) Living

**Saturday/Sunday Collection
February 11 & 12**

Weekly Need:	\$ 5,000.00
First Collection	\$ 2,668.00
Parish Maintenance	\$ 495.00
Over/Under	\$ 1,837.00

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.



**The Parish Office will be closed
Monday, February 20th in observance of the
Presidents Day Holiday**

Thank You!

2023 Archdiocesan Annual Appeal Supporters

Clement, Edward & Lucille *
Crow, Lilia *
Gemignani, David *
John, Richard *
McCarthy, Phil *
Micallef, Emmanuel & Carmen *
Ngo, Hung & Hieu *
Oropeza, Timothy & Francisca
Orton, Thomas Carmen *
Padua, Richard & Maria *
Perata, Mary
Puthota, Fr. Charles *
Sanchez, Virginia *
Sisters of the Good Shepherd
Soares, Sharon *
Sunga, Ernesto
Velasco, Carol *

*Please note: *Donations are acknowledged once we receive the monthly report from the Archdiocese Office of Development*

**1% Circle donors have an asterisk next to their name*

**Names of those who have donated \$25.00 or more are listed in the bulletin*

**Thank you to our anonymous donors*

**If your name is missing, contact the Rectory Office*

** If contributing by check directly to St. Elizabeth please make payable to Archdiocesan Annual Appeal*

SACRAMENTS

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.

Faith Formation: For information contact Laurie Digneo 415-672-4903

Sophielady7@aol.com

St. Elizabeth Parish on the Horizon:

Archdiocesan Annual Appeal: A month long campaign, February 18-19 is the third week.

Lenten Season:

Begins with Ash Wednesday: February 22nd 8:30am and 6pm Masses.

Palm Sunday: April 2nd

Easter Sunday: April 9th



LENTEN REMINDERS AND REGULATIONS:

The following regulations are in place for abstaining and fasting during Lent:

During Lent, every Friday the 8:30 am Mass will be followed by the Stations of the Cross.

Abstinence : Everyone fourteen years of age and older is bound to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, the Fridays of Lent and Good Friday.

Fast: Everyone eighteen years of age and older but under the age of sixty is bound to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

On these two days, the law of fast allows one full meal a day, but does not prohibit taking some food during the day, so long as this does not constitute another full meal. Drinking liquids during the day is permitted. When health or the ability to work would be seriously affected, the law does not oblige. In doubt concerning fast or abstinence, a priest assigned to pastoral ministry or confessor should be consulted.

In the spirit of penance, the faithful should not lightly excuse themselves from this obligation.