

# **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](http://www.stelizabetsf.org) Email: [stelizabethchurchsf@gmail.com](mailto:stelizabethchurchsf@gmail.com)*

## **March 12, 2023 Third Sunday of Lent**

**March 13, 2023 10-year  
Pontificate of Pope Francis**



**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  
8:30 am to 12:00 pm

### **Closed Friday**

### **Parish Staff**

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

### **Mass 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  
4:00 pm before the 4:30 pm Mass  
9:00 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.



**From the Pastor's Desktop**

**A message from  
Father Charles Puthota**

**March 12, 2023**

**Dear Parishioners of St. Elizabeth,**

**Lenten Musings: Appearance Versus Reality; Truth Versus**

**Falsehood:** We are immersed in the season of Lent, journeying toward Easter. First of all, Lent is not a time of doom and gloom. Actually, it is a time of joy because we make another effort at renewing our lives---and that truly brings us peace and fulfillment. Getting away from the superficiality of life, we try to go deeper into the meaning of life and love. Often times, we are blinded or dazzled by appearances, but Lent is a time for us to go beyond---to the root of things, to the heart of the matter, to see clearly with the heart and mind. Various religions warn us about the dangers of living in a world of appearances rather than in a world of reality. We are bombarded with lies or half-truths from different directions. For example, the media often times present distorted or embellished facts. Often we are taken in by these falsehoods because they are presented attractively or in a clever manner. Lent is a time to get grounded in reality of our human existence; its purpose, its goal, its direction. On Ash Wednesday, in the Gospel, Jesus challenged us that when we pray, fast, or give alms, we are to do these not to blow our own horn but for the sake of the invitation from the Heavenly Father who sees everything in a hidden way and fulfills our dreams and desires. Ultimately, our lives have to be grounded in God who is the inner reality of our lives. He is the ground of our being, the foundation of our lives, the reason for our existence, the author of our lives, the source of our goodness, the origin of our love. If we are able to live a life united with God, then we are able to discern all sorts of shallow things that we need to get away from and the new things we need to embrace in order to be true to ourselves. "To thine own self be true, And it must follow, as the night the day, Thou canst not then be false to any man," says Polonius in Hamlet.

**Ten Years As Pope: Pope Francis was Elected Pope on March 13, 2013: Congratulations to Pope Francis who completes ten years of pontificate!** Pope Francis' name was Jorge Mario Bergoglio before he became the Pope. He was born on December 17, 1936, in Buenos Aires, Argentina. He is the first Jesuit Pope, the first Latin American Pope, the first Pope from the Americas and the first non-European Pope in more than 1,000 years. Pope Francis can speak Spanish, Italian, and German. Francis rises at around 4:30 a.m. and spends the next two hours praying, meditating on the Scripture readings for the day and preparing his morning homily. He delivers it off-the-cuff at the 7 a.m. Mass in the chapel of the Vatican's Casa Santa Marta where he lives. Throughout his public life, Francis has been noted for his humility, emphasis on God's mercy, international visibility as pope, concern for the poor, passion for the protection of the planet earth, and commitment to interreligious dialogue. He is convinced that the measure of greatness of a society is

found in the way it treats those most in need, those who have nothing apart from their poverty; that the only war that we must all fight is the one against evil; that to be saints is not a privilege for the few, but a vocation for everyone.

**Pope Francis' Writings:** The three Encyclicals are: Lumen Fidei (in 2013 on faith), Laudato Si (in 2015 about environment), Fratelli Tutti (in 2020 about global social relationships). Among his much-appreciated Exhortations are: Evangelii Gaudium (in 2013 on proclamation of gospel in today's world), Amoris Laetitia (in 2016 on love in the family), Gaudete et Exsultate (in 2018 on call to holiness in today's world). His first words after election as Pope on March 13, 2013: "Brothers and sisters, good evening. You know that the duty of the conclave was to give a bishop to Rome. It seems that my brother cardinals went almost to the end of the world to get him."

**Pope Francis' Famous Quotes:** "I am a sinner. This is the most accurate definition. It is not a figure of speech, a literary genre. I am a sinner." "The thing the church needs most today is the ability to heal wounds and to warm the hearts of the faithful; it needs nearness, proximity. I see the church as a field hospital after battle. It is useless to ask a seriously injured person if he has high cholesterol and about the level of his blood sugars! You have to heal his wounds. Then we can talk about everything else. Heal the wounds, heal the wounds. ... And you have to start from the ground up." "The Eucharist is not a prize for the perfect, but a powerful medicine and nourishment for the weak." "We must restore hope to young people, help the old, be open to the future, spread love. Be poor among the poor. We need to include the excluded and preach peace."

**Happy St. Patrick's Day: March 17:** "Christ with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me, Christ in me, Christ beneath me, Christ above me, Christ on my right, Christ on my left, Christ when I lie down, Christ when I sit down, Christ when I arise, Christ in the heart of every man who thinks of me, Christ in the mouth of everyone who speaks of me, Christ in every eye that sees me, Christ in every ear that hears me." (From St. Patrick's famous Breastplate Prayer).

**Irish Blessings:** "May your neighbors respect you, Trouble neglect you, The angels protect you, And heaven accept you." "May you live to be a hundred years, with one extra year to repent." "Always remember to forget the things that made you sad. But never forget to remember the things that made you glad." "When I count my blessings, I count you twice. May God bless you."

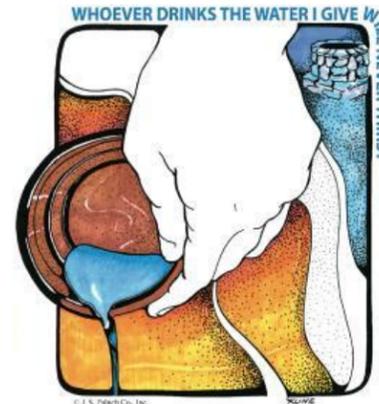
Your Friend and Pastor,  
  
Father Charles Puthota

**Third Sunday of Lent**

**March 12, 2023**

**While we were still sinners Christ died for us.**

**— Romans 5:8**



**GOD EVER PURSUES US**

We hear today of God's unrelenting pursuit of us. Our readings tell stories of God's intense desire to share the divine life with us. From Exodus, we see how God shows endless persistence and compassion, even to those who grumble against God, or seem to have forgotten God. From the Gospel of John, we hear of how Jesus, in his extended conversation with the Samaritan woman, gives her dignity, names uncomfortable truths, and gradually leads her into a new path of faith. We can have confidence that as we bring our own confusions, fears, and failings to God, we may receive God's mercy and forgiveness. God always persists and continually finds new ways to invite people into unity with God. As Paul describes in Romans, in the cross we see how God will go to any length to demonstrate the depth and breadth of divine love.

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**TODAY'S READINGS**

**First Reading** — When the people grumbled to Moses for water in the desert, the LORD heard and brought forth water from the rock for all to drink (Exodus 17:3-7).

**Psalm** — Listen to God's voice today; be not hardhearted (Psalm 95).

**Second Reading** — God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit (Romans 5:1-2, 5-8).

**Gospel** — Ask, and you will be given living water so that you will never thirst again (John 4:5-42 [5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42]).

**MASS INTENTIONS**

<b>Monday</b> 8:30 am	<b>March 13</b> † Naning Obtinario † Timoteo B. Nacor Jr.
<b>Tuesday</b> 8:30 am	<b>March 14</b> † Nelsita Reyes
<b>Wednesday</b> 8:30 am	<b>March 15</b> † Jessie Borg
<b>Thursday</b> 8:30 am	<b>March 16</b> † Theresa, † Paul and † Joseph Vella Verma DeVera (L)
<b>Friday</b> 8:30 am	<b>March 17</b> † Gregorio Macaspac † Joseph A. Sant
<b>Saturday</b> 8:30 am	<b>March 18</b> † Giovanni Rebagliati † Leon and † Maureen Winant † Edilberto Mandani
4:30 pm <b>Sunday</b> 9:30 am	<b>March 19</b> People of the Parish Maltese Society † Filomena Scerri

† Denotes deceased – (L) Living

**Saturday/Sunday Collection**  
**March 4 - 5**

<b>Weekly Need:</b>	<b>\$ 5,000.00</b>
<b>First Collection</b>	<b>\$ 3,300.00</b>
<b>Faith Formation</b>	<b>\$ 527.00</b>
<b>Over/Under</b>	<b>\$ 1,173.00</b>

**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.*

**Pray for our Dear Departed**



Timothy Benetti  
Eliana Maldonado  
"Eternal Rest Grant unto Them, O Lord . . ."

## Thank You!

2023

### Archdiocesan Annual Appeal Supporters Abranches, Sandra \*

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Andreatta, David  
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Velasco, Pauline \*  
Walsh, Deborah \*  
Walsh, Michael \*

*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 (\$500.00 and more)*

*\*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*

## St. Elizabeth Parish on the Horizon:

**Archdiocesan Annual Appeal:** A month long campaign, March 5-6 is the fifth week.

AAA goal: \$37,462.00

Donations to date: \$19,145.00

Balance to reach: \$18,317.00

**Lenten Retreat:** Friday March 17<sup>th</sup>

**Chrism Mass:** Thursday March 30<sup>th</sup> 5:00 pm at the Cathedral

**Lenten Season:**

**Palm Sunday:** April 2<sup>nd</sup>

**Easter Sunday:** April 9<sup>th</sup>

**Stations of the Cross:** On Fridays after the 8:30 am Mass during Lent.

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### Archdiocesan News

#### **Eucharistic Revival Lenten Preaching Series**

Each event will include a Eucharistic reflection, Adoration, Benediction, and the Sacrament of Penance.

March 7 - Tues, 7 p.m.: Star of the Sea Catholic Church (SF)

March 8 - Wend, 7 p.m.: St. Augustine Catholic Church (So.

SF) March 9 - Thu, 7 p.m.: St. Pius X Catholic Church

(Redwood City) March 10 - Fri, 7 p.m.: St. Peter Catholic

Church (SF) (Español) March 11 - Sat, 10 a.m.: St. Raphael

Catholic Church (San Rafael)

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### St. Patrick's Day

This year the memorial of St. Patrick falls on Friday, March 17<sup>th</sup>. The Archbishop has granted a dispensation to commute the observance of abstinence from meat to the Wednesday before or after March 17<sup>th</sup>. That is, either Wednesday, March 15<sup>th</sup> or Wednesday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>.



**It is with great joy we welcome Kai Bautista into our church and community. Kai received the Sacrament of Baptism at our Rectory Chapel on March 4<sup>th</sup>.**