

# **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 19, 2023 Fourth Sunday of Lent**



**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>Laurrie 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 19 2023**

**Dear Parishioners of St. Elizabeth,**

**Archdiocesan Annual Appeal (AAA):** Archdiocesan Annual Appeal 2023 (AAA): Our goal: \$37,462. Amount reached as of March 15: \$25,315. Amount needed to reach goal: \$12,147. Please see the names of donors in the bulletin. We started the AAA 2023 campaign on the weekend of February 4-5, 2023. We have completed six weeks now since we started the campaign. Please see the names of the AAA 2023 donors in the bulletin. There is an asterisk for those who have donated \$500 or more, our 1.33% Circle. Thank you for your generosity and good will toward St. Elizabeth Church and the ministries and services of the Archdiocese. Your donations go toward supporting and strengthening the work the Archdiocese. The Church is called to do these tasks: proclaiming the Kingdom and bearing witness to Christ; working toward a human family of love, justice, peace, dignity, and respect; to help create a world where God's blessings are shared and cherished by everyone; and for the Church to be a Mother welcoming anyone and everyone into her arms of goodness, kindness, compassion, and forgiveness. Please give whatever you can give to help further the mission of Christ in our own Archdiocese. To those who have not given so far: would you please prayerfully consider supporting AAA? Please give early and generously.

**Lent: Fourth Sunday of Lent: Laetare Sunday:** This Sunday in Lent is called Laetare Sunday, which means Rejoice Sunday. As we go through the penitential and ascetical practices of Lent, journeying toward the sufferings and death of Jesus in the Holy Week, we are given a hint, a hope, of the joyful anticipation of the victory of Jesus at Easter. The name comes from the first words of the Entrance Antiphon for Mass, "Laetare Jerusalem" ("Rejoice, O Jerusalem"). This Sunday we stand at about the half-way point of the Lenten season. The altar may be decorated with flowers this Sunday. The liturgical color of the vestments is rose.

**Ten Practical Things You Can Do in Lent:** As you know well, Lent is a time set aside for slowing down and thinking about how we live and love, how our faith journey is, how our family life is, how we relate to larger community, what we do to help those in need, etc. Shall I make 10 practical suggestions for this holy season? 1. Make sure to attend the weekend Mass. 2. If possible, catch a daily Mass either before you go to work or at lunch break near where you work. 3. Read reflectively a chapter each day from one or two of the gospels. 4. Go to confession before Easter. 5. Become more kind toward and

respectful of others, starting with your family. 6. Do one thing at least which will connect you with someone sad, poor or in need. 7. Read online some of the sayings and actions of Pope Francis as a way of being inspired. 8. Do one thing by way of faith or service to connect you deeply with the Catholic Church. 9. Do one thing by way of service to connect you with the town/city/world. 10. Appreciate people more readily, generously, and gratefully.

**Word of God: Blindness and Sight:** You may be aware that the RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) program. It's for the adults seeking to become Catholics. They go through a long process of preparation: Inquiry, the Catechumenate, Purification and Enlightenment. and Mystagogy. The Readings at the Mass we read this year, Year A, are related specifically to the catechumens journeying toward baptism at Easter. Not only for RCIA catechumens, but the process of faith and growth is for everyone. Last Sunday, the theme was the living water, as RCIA candidates as well as all of us thirst for the life in Christ, and that living water is the Spirit of Christ poured into our hearts. This fourth Sunday it is about the new vision that we are all called to acquire. Seeing is believing. To be able to see, as the man born blind does, is to be on the way to new life with Christ. What are our various versions of blindness that Jesus is waiting to heal? What are the things that block our vision for God and the world? How can we see as Jesus sees everything? Let's See, Judge, Act!

**Pope Francis' Lenten Quotes:** "Each of us has a vision of good and of evil. We have to encourage people to move towards what they think is good ... Everyone has his own idea of good and evil and must choose to follow the good and fight evil as he conceives them. That would be enough to make the world a better place." "A little bit of mercy makes the world less cold and more just." "Wretched are those who are vindictive and spiteful." "The confessional is not a torture chamber, but the place in which the Lord's mercy motivates us to do better." "We all have the duty to do good."

**Tech Jokes:** 1. Son to his father as they watch television: "Dad, tell me again how when you were a kid you had to walk all the way across the room to change the channel." 2. "My sister gave birth in a state-of-the-art delivery room," said one man to another. "It was so high-tech that the baby came our cordless." 3. Department store automatic answering machine: "If you are calling to order or send money, press 5. If you are calling to register a complaint, press 6 4 5 9 8 3 4 8 2 2 9 5 5 3 9 2. Have a good day."

Wishing you a season of Lent marked by our closeness to God,

Your Friend and Pastor,

Fr. Charles Puthota

**Fourth Sunday of Lent**

**March 19, 2023**

**The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.  
— Psalm 23:1**



**SEEING THE LIGHT**

Our Lenten journey continues this Sunday as we hear of Jesus healing a blind man in the Gospel of John. Jesus proclaims himself the light of the world, a light that overcomes darkness and enables a new capacity to see. The man, blind from birth, was able to begin his path to sight by first acknowledging his blindness. We are reminded of God's ongoing invitation to us to journey from blindness to sight. We begin by acknowledging our own capacity for "blind spots," and so open ourselves to uncomfortable truths and to God's healing. We are invited to see beyond appearances, as the reading from Samuel indicates, and to look into the heart of things. We are invited to "live as children of light" as the letter to the Ephesians teaches. Like the man healed from blindness, we may gradually learn to see fully and to follow Jesus.

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**TODAY'S READINGS**

**First Reading** — As the prophet Samuel anointed David with oil, the spirit of the LORD rushed upon David

(1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a).

**Psalm** — My shepherd is the Lord; I shall not want (Psalm 23).

**Second Reading** — You who were once darkness are now light in the Lord. Live as children of light (Ephesians 5:8-14).

**Gospel** — The man who was blind from birth proclaimed: The one called Jesus made clay with his saliva, anointed my eyes with it, and told me to wash. When I washed, I was able to see! (John 9:1-41 [1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38])

**MASS INTENTIONS**

<b><u>Monday</u></b> 8:30 am	<b><u>March 20</u></b> Jovic (L) and David (L) Snyder
<b><u>Tuesday</u></b> 8:30 am	<b><u>March 21</u></b> Francisca (L) and Timothy (L) Carter
<b><u>Wednesday</u></b> 8:30 am	<b><u>March 22</u></b> † Alex Hili † Gio Batta Garibaldi and † Ruth Garibaldi Lembi
<b><u>Thursday</u></b> 8:30 am	<b><u>March 23</u></b> † Kevin McDaniel
<b><u>Friday</u></b> 8:30 am	<b><u>March 24</u></b> † Maria Dolores Oropeza
<b><u>Saturday</u></b> 8:30 am	<b><u>March 25</u></b> † Tessie, † Joseph and † Saviour Schembri † Emanuel Scerri and † Maria Vella
<b><u>Sunday</u></b> 9:30 am	<b><u>March 26</u></b> People of the Parish Italian Catholic Federation † Castula Padilla

† Denotes deceased – (L) Living

**Saturday/Sunday Collection**  
**March 11-12**

<b>Weekly Need:</b>	<b>\$ 5,000.00</b>
<b>First Collection</b>	<b>\$ 1,890.00</b>
<b>Parish Maintenance</b>	<b>\$ 497.00</b>
<b>Over/Under</b>	<b>\$ 2,613.00</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.*

**MASS INTENTIONS AVAILABLE**

We have mass intention dates available in March, April and May. Please send your request by mail, email or drop by the parish office.

Please note our office hours:  
Monday through Thursday 8:30 to 12:00 pm.

## St. Elizabeth Parish on the Horizon:

**Archdiocesan Annual Appeal:** A month-long campaign,

AAA goal: **\$37,462.00**  
Donations to date: **\$25,315.00**  
Balance to reach: **\$12,147.00**

Thank you to all who have donated to the AAA.  
If you have not yet donated, please consider doing so.  
Donation envelopes can be found in the pews or the parish office.

**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.



**It is with great joy we welcome Trystan Cunanan into our church and community. Trystan received the Sacrament of Baptism at our Rectory Chapel on March 11<sup>th</sup>.**

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

Anonymous\*  
Anonymous  
Abranches, Sandra \*  
Alviar, Feliciano and Annabelle  
Andreatta, David  
Ballesteros, Mr/Mrs Richard  
Barbieri, Mr/Mrs Mark  
Borg, Ronald \*  
Carino, Matthew  
Carter, Timothy and Francisca  
Centeno, Mario and Mary  
Clement, Edward and Lucille \*  
Crow, Lilia \*  
De Los Reyes, Herminia \*  
Del Rosario, Adelaide  
Francis, George and Sarah  
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Trinidad, Gloria \*  
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Velasco, Carol \*  
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*