

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

July 16, 2023 Fifteenth 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
8:30 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 Coordinator

Mass Schedule

Saturday **4:30 pm**
Sunday **8:30 am and 10:30 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
10:00 am before the 10:30 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 Church.

1000 Hail Mary's Third Saturday after the 8:30 am Mass until 3:30 pm.

Over 50 Group Thursdays at 12 pm in Cantwell Hall.



From the Pastor's Desktop

A message from
Father Charles Puthota

July 16, 2023

Dear Parishioners of St. Elizabeth,

Parish Consultors Meeting (PCM): Maltese Society: In this meeting held on June 27, attended by 28 people, various organizations of the parish reported their history and activities. Maltese Society of the parish reported that they have 12 active members who meet once a month. They have organized bus trips and Champagne Bingo. Their annual event is the celebration of the Feast of St. Paul of the Shipwreck, which has been celebrated traditionally at our parish. This celebration is scheduled for Sunday February 4, 2024. The plans are being made already. All those attending this Feast will be invited to that Sunday Mass at 10:30 a.m., which will be followed by luncheon and raffle. If you have any ideas about this celebration, you are welcome to pass them on to us.

The Word of God on the Word of God this Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time: Both the Isaiah and Matthew readings today highlight the power and the fruitfulness of God's Word. Even as rain irrigates and makes the whole world fertile, the Word of God will achieve the results in our lives. The Word of God is compared to a seed sown by the sower. If it falls on the right soil, it will bring about abundant harvest. We are the soil. What kind of soil are we? Are we a shallow soil or rocky ground or thorny patch of land? Do we lack the depth and moisture and warmth in our living? Are we too hard-hearted for God's Word to enter our lives? Are we being choked by the thorns of obsessions, addictions, and undue attachments? Do the present-day interests of political & cultural ideology, sports, entertainment, and technology strain and stifle the spirit of freedom and perspective in our life? Do all these "securities" and comfort-zones prevent us from becoming the good soil for the Word of God to bring about the fruits? This Sunday we cannot miss the invitation to pay closer attention to the Word of God. How does God speak to me in the Bible? Do I reflect on the Bible passages which might especially speak to my situation? When we become aware of God speaking to us in the Bible, we will hopefully learn to become alive to God speaking his Word to us on the Wall Street, the Main Street and the Market Street. Ultimately, we are a "Word people" because Jesus is the Word made Flesh. We are a "Jesus people"; we are his followers and disciples; we are his apostles and messengers. How can we be rooted in that Word that God speaks to us supremely, profoundly, and perfectly in Jesus Christ?

A Slice of St. Elizabeth Parish History: In the 1960's, St. Elizabeth church community grew at such a rate that fund-raising campaign was soon undertaken to construct a new church on the corner of Somerset and Wayland streets. Construction of the new church began in 1960 with Samson Construction Company at the helm. St. Elizabeth's new church was officially dedicated in 1962 by Archbishop John Mitty. The church hall was later re-named in honor of Father Arthur J. Cantwell who served St. Elizabeth from 1942 thru 1970. The hall has been used for parish activities, festivals, athletic events, etc. At present, the Hall is shared with Alta Vista School on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.

Religious Joke: A pious man, who had reached the age of 105, suddenly stopped going to synagogue. Alarmed by the old fellow's absence after so many years of faithful attendance, the Rabbi went to see him. He found him in excellent health, so the Rabbi asked, "How come after all these years we don't see you at services anymore?" The old man lowered his voice. "I'll tell you, Rabbi," he whispered. "When I got to be 90, I expected God to take me any day. But then I got to be 95, then 100, then 105. So, I figured that God is very busy and must've forgotten about me, and I don't want to remind Him!"

Short Quotes: 1. "We need much less than we think we need." – Maya Angelou. 2. "If things go wrong, don't go with them." – Roger Babson. 3. "Everything has beauty, but not everyone sees it." – Confucius. 4. "There is no way to happiness. Happiness is the way." – Thich Nhat Hanh. 5. "Every man dies. Not every man lives." – William Wallace. 6. "Don't let yesterday take up too much of today." – Will Rogers. 7. "Be yourself; everyone else is already taken." – Oscar Wilde. 8. "Whatever you are, be a good one." – Abraham Lincoln. 9. "Simplicity is the ultimate sophistication." – Leonardo da Vinci. 10. "Creativity is intelligence having fun." – Albert Einstein.

A Story to Ponder: Holiness in the Present Moment: A holy man was once asked, "What makes a person holy?" He replied, "Every hour is divided into a certain number of seconds and every second into a certain number of fractions. Anyone who is able to be totally present in each fraction of a second is holy." A Japanese warrior was captured and thrown into prison. At night he could not sleep for he was convinced he would be tortured next morning. Then the words of his Master came to him: "Tomorrow is not real. The only reality is now." So he came to the present – and fell asleep. *The person over whom the Future has lost its grip: How like the birds of the air and the lilies of the field! No anxieties for the morrow. Total presence in the now.*

Your Friend and Pastor,

Father Charles Puthota

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 16, 2023

You have crowned the year with your bounty, and your paths overflow with a rich harvest.

— Psalm 65:12



FRUIT OF THE WORD

The seed is the word of God. The agricultural metaphors in all of today's readings give richness to the message that the word of God, cultivated in our hearts, bears much fruit in our lives. Creation itself awaits the redemption of all, even as our bodies await the resurrection. Just as we will rejoice in the fulfillment of God's word, so will all of creation sing for joy in the Reign of God. The word of God is effective and holy; it brings about exactly what it says. It is not futile or empty, but rich in meaning for those who hear and are healed. Those who hear the word of God and keep it will, with all creation, bear much fruit and sing for joy.

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TODAY'S READINGS

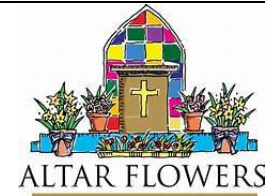
First Reading — My word will achieve the end for which it was sent (Isaiah 55:10-11).

Psalm — The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest (Psalm 65).

Second Reading — We, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan within ourselves awaiting the redemption of our bodies (Romans 8:18-23).

Gospel — Some seed fell on rich soil and produced fruit (Matthew 13:1-23 [1-9]).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.



If you are interested in donating flowers for the high altar in celebration of a special occasion, birthday, anniversary, and more, please see the sign-up sheet in the front of church. Please contact Sharon Soares, head sacristan, for more information.

MASS INTENTIONS

† Denotes deceased – (L) Living

Monday

8:30 am

July 17

Aleja Mandani (L)

† Rosita Gayaban

Tuesday

8:30 am

July 18

† Arthur Ghiglieri

Wednesday

8:30 am

July 19

† Theresa, †Paul, and † Joseph

Vella

Thursday

8:30 am

July 20

† Adolph Vannucchi

† Medardo Perez

Friday

8:30 am

July 21

† Arturo and † Aguié Padilla

Saturday

8:30 am

July 22

† Liliana Skorpanic

† Prusso Family

† Tessie, †Joseph, and

† Saviour Schembri

Sunday

8:30 am

July 23

People of the Parish

Italian Catholic Federation

† Piero DellaBordella

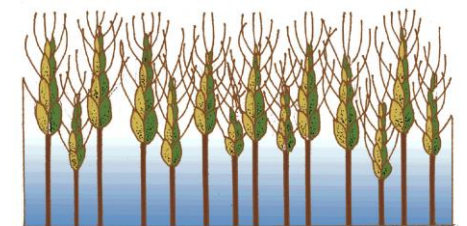
Saturday/Sunday Collection

July 8 – July 9

Weekly Need:	\$ 5,000.00
First Collection	\$ 2,764.50
Parish Maintenance	\$ 522.00
Over/Under	\$ 1,713.50

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.



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Faith Formation registration is open for new and returning students for the 2023-2024 year. First day of class is September 9th. Registration forms are available in Church, the rectory office, or contact:

Laurrie Digneo
 Faith Formation Coordinator
 415-672-4903
sophielady7@aol.com



Fatima, Spain, Lourdes & Paris Pilgrimage

Spiritual Director: Fr. Charles Puthota, Ph.D.

October 29 - November 11, 2023

Lisbon (St. Anthony) · Santarem (Eucharistic Miracle) · Fatima · Salamanca · Alba de Tormes · Avila (St. Teresa) · Burgos · Loyola (St. Ignatius) · Lourdes (St. Bernadette) · Paris · Lisieux (St. Therese the Little Flower) · Normandy · Chartres

Journey to Portugal, Spain, and France for a pilgrimage in the footsteps of Saints visiting several Marian Shrines! In Lisbon, you will be greeted with the life of St. Anthony of Padua (Patron Saint of Lost Things.) In Fatima, explore home of the three shepherd children who witnessed the apparitions of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Continue through Spain and learn of the life of St. Teresa of Avila. In France, visit Lourdes, another Marian Shrine, home to St. Bernadette, and a place of true miracles! In Lisieux walk in the footsteps of St. Therese and in Paris, witness the Miraculous Medal and learn of St. Catherine Labouré.

\$5,918 is the price for double -occupancy. If interested please call 206 Tours Company. The phone number is: 1-800-206-Tour (8687)

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: _____ Email: _____