

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

August 27, 2023 Twenty First 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

August 27, 2023

Dear Parishioners of St. Elizabeth,

In the recent weeks/months, our parish has incurred these big expense items as we take care of the maintenance of our buildings. In the spirit of transparent communication with you, I'm letting you know of the following details.

New Sound System: We have spent \$39,984.81 on the brand new sound system, installed by PCD Sound company. It's hoped that the new sound system has improved on the quality of sound inside our church. Some of you have expressed happiness that it sounds much better now in the church. There is still the problem of the echo. When the time comes, we might install some low-cost acoustic panels to absorb the sound and reduce the echo effect. Let's see!

Annual Property and Liability Insurance for parish properties: As you know, every year, we need to pay for Property and Liability insurance for four of our parish property buildings, which are the Church, the Alta Vista School, the Parish Office & Rectory, and the Convent Building. This year this amount is \$86,642.00.

New Roof for Some Parts of the Church: We recently paid \$95,468.00 for the new roof on our Church building. There is some more work that needs to be done because of leakages. The roof parts over the confessionals and St. Mary's Chapel (the old baptistry area) need to be done. The estimates for this additional work have been sought.

Alta Vista School Classroom Wall: This cost us \$25,854.87. As the "landlords" of Alta Vista School, our parish had the responsibility of paying for an old wall that was collapsing in one of the classrooms.

Fence Proposal in Front of Cantwell Hall: This project will be completed in the next few weeks/months at a cost of \$105,575.00. As you know, for decades, this area has become a tricky space because of the way non-parishioners have grown accustomed to parking there, with the result that our parish had lost control over this parking space. After consultations, including with the Archdiocese, I have finally decided to move forward with this project of securing this space for our parish use. Hopefully, we'll be able to use it well in the future as we see fit for our various parish needs. The fence all around the area in front of Cantwell Hall will have a height of six feet with a one-inch space between the vertical bars.

Mass: Five Things To Keep in Mind: As we participate in the daily or weekend Masses, let's always keep in our hearts the significance of this most important thing that we do in our parish life: 1. Mass is commemoration of Jesus' Death and Resurrection with the implications for us for our everyday lives and for the long haul. 2. It's a time of Prayer for union with God in Jesus and the Holy Spirit. 3. It's a time of listening to God's Word attentively and applying it to our lives. 4. In Communion, being

united with Jesus the Bread of Life, for us to be able to live in the Spirit of Christ. 5. Being united with one another spiritually to form the Body of Christ with implications for loving, serving, and caring for one another, to make the world a better place, to further the Kingdom of God.

The Word of God: This 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time, Jesus poses the fundamental Christian question: "Who do you say that I am?" Our authentic answers to Jesus' question can spring only from the Heavenly Father's revelation. Only through God's wisdom and knowledge, His inscrutable and unsearchable ways, which Paul celebrates in Romans, do we come to know His Son. We cannot define Jesus purely from culture and society, our wants and needs. There is a grave danger of domesticating Jesus to suit our needs and ideologies. True, he is incarnate in our times, culture, and the world as the Word-made-Flesh, but he is also counter-cultural, calling the world to conversion and judgment. He is the Son of God, our Savior, for all times and cultures. He is "the Christ, the Son of the living God," calling us to repentance and offering us eternal life. We cannot fabricate Jesus for our convenience; we cannot fashion our own idols of Jesus. Our personal experience of Jesus has to be rooted and grounded in the revelation of our Father. Letting Jesus be who he is, we discern his vital role in our lives and for the world.

As Peter is called to shepherd the Church, as Eliakim is appointed master of the house in Isaiah, we are sent out on mission in the wake of our personal experience of Jesus. With Jesus we will collaborate to let the Church shine and dispel the darkness of evil in the world. Who is Jesus to us? This question we cannot ignore as Christians. The answer---not merely in words, but in the way we live---will bind us together with Jesus and his Father, energizing us to heal the world, the world God cherishes with an everlasting love.

Quotable Quotes: "Act as if what you do makes a difference. It does." ~ William James. "The only real mistake is the one from which we learn nothing." ~ Henry Ford. "Positive anything is better than negative nothing." ~ Elbert Hubbard. "Limit your 'always' and your 'nevers'." ~ Amy Poehler. "Creativity is intelligence having fun." ~ Albert Einstein "If you tell the truth you don't have to remember anything." ~ Mark Twain. "There is no substitute for hard work." ~ Thomas Edison

A Story to Think About: The Master's expansive mood emboldened his disciples to say, "Tell us what you got from Enlightenment. Did you become divine?" "No." "Did you become a saint?" "No." "Then what did you become?" "Awake."

Church Humor: The pastor of a small church exhorted his flock to give generously when the collection plate was passed. "Give," he pleaded, "as though it were going right back into your own pocket." After the service, the pastor chided one of the members: "George, I noticed that you let the collection basket go right by you in spite of my appeal." "Well, Reverend," the man replied, "I figured as long as the money was going back into my pocket anyway, it didn't need no round trip."

Your Friend and Pastor,

Father Charles Puthota

Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 27, 2023

"Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."
— Matthew 16:19



BE A ROCK

Peter's history as a follower or friend of Jesus is a bit spotty. It might be natural to wonder if Jesus, in giving him the keys to the kingdom, didn't feel a bit like a parent giving a teenager the keys to the family car. But it was at the moment when God's power and presence broke through everything else to raise up Peter's great profession of faith in Christ as Messiah that Jesus chose to establish the bond between the loving, forgiving mercy of heaven and our vocation to be witnesses of that love, mercy, and forgiveness on earth.

Like any parent, Jesus no doubt foresaw the failings, the irresponsible maneuvers or impaired senses, the collisions that the church would be headed for. But, most importantly, he also saw us at that moment as God prefers to see us: capable of manifesting great faith, with a willingness to remain at the feet of Christ to understand what it truly means to be Messiah and Christ. As the letter to the Romans points out to us today, we have not known the mind or the wisdom of God, but God knows us and still chooses to manifest the reign of justice, joy, beauty, and peace through us. Let this be our vocation. Let us always strive to be solid ground on which the church of Jesus Christ can be founded and on which it can continue to be built.

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TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Eliakim is destined by God to be a father to those who live in Jerusalem (Isaiah 22:19-23).

Psalms — Lord, your love is eternal; do not forsake the work of your hands (Psalm 138).

Second Reading — How deep are the riches and the wisdom and the knowledge of God! (Romans 11:33-36).

Gospel — Jesus asked the disciples, "Who do you say that I am?" (Matthew 16:13-20).

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.

Saturday/Sunday Collection: August 19 - 20

| | |
|--------------------|-------------|
| Weekly Need: | \$ 5,000.00 |
| First Collection | \$ 1,804.00 |
| Church Environment | \$ 488.00 |
| Over/Under | \$ 2,708.00 |
| Assumption of BVM | \$ 992.00 |

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

† Denotes deceased – (L) Living

Monday

8:30 am

Tuesday

8:30 am

Wednesday

8:30 am

Thursday

8:30 am

Friday

8:30 am

Saturday

8:30 am

4:30 pm

Sunday

8:30 am

10:30 am

August 28

Virgil Mateo Jr. (L)

August 29

† Victoria Marigmen

August 30

† Lotte Murphy

August 31

† Isaac Puthota

September 1

† Giovanni Rebagliati

† Annie Cruz

September 2

† Thomas Conlon

† Leo Gerardo

† Joseph Macias

September 3

People of the Parish

Edgard Gonzales and

Family (L)

† Rita Crumly

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

August 28 - September 3

Monday: 1 Thes 1:1-5, 8b-10; Ps 149:1b-6a, 9b; Mt 23:13-22

Tuesday: 1 Thes 2:1-8; Ps 139:1-6; Mk 6:17-29

Wednesday: 1 Thes 2:9-13; Ps 139:7-12ab; Mt 23:27-32

Thursday: 1 Thes 3:7-13; Ps 90:3-5a, 12-14, 17; Mt 24:42-51

Friday: 1 Thes 4:1-8; Ps 97:1, 2b, 5-6, 10-12; Mt 25:1-13

Saturday: 1 Thes 4:9-11; Ps 98:1, 7-9; Mt 25:14-30

Sunday: Jer 20:7-9; Ps 63:2-6, 8-9; Rom 12:1-2; Mt 16:21-27

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

August 27 – September 2

Sunday: 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday: St. Augustine

Tuesday: The Passion of St. John the Baptist

Friday: First Friday

Saturday: First Saturday

Parish Events on the Horizon

- Monday, September 4th

Labor Day holiday: office will be closed

- Saturday, September 9th

Faith Formation begins

- Saturday, September 23rd

Faith Formation parent meeting

- Monday, October 9th

Columbus Day holiday: office will be closed

- Sunday, October 15th

Maltese Society Champagne bingo

Synod on Synodality

October 2021-October 2024

Theme: Communion, Participation, Mission

A synod in the Catholic Church is both an event and a process where clergy, religious, and laity gather to discern important matters of the faith. It is a journey of search rooted in the Holy Spirit. Synods are transformative milestones that lead to renewal in the life of the Church. The current synod is called "Synod on Synodality." It's a synod that would explore the very processes of synod and examine how as the People of God we are journeying together. Pope Francis says: "Synodality is the way of being the Church today according to the will of God, in a dynamic of discerning and listening together to the voice of the Holy Spirit."

For more information: <https://www.synod.va/en.html>

Good Shepherd Gracenter

invites you to



Sing with grateful song



Gala Luncheon 2023

Sunday, September 17th noon to 3 pm
Basque Cultural Center 599 Railroad Ave. SSF 94080

GSG2023.givesmart.com

For registration, ticket purchase, auction and more!

Online auction bidding will begin on Sept. 12th



Come for a great time in support of the
Sisters of the Good Shepherd
and the brave women at Gracenter
who are determined to break free of addiction
and make a difference in our community!

Mass Intentions

Mass Intentions are available September through December for 2023. Please request by email (preferred), mail or drop by the parish office with your written request Monday through Thursday 8:30 am to 12:00 pm. Please note that dates are limited.

The 2024 Mass book is not open for intentions.

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: _____