

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

October 1, 2023~Twenty-Sixth 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

October 1, 2023

Dear Parishioners of St. Elizabeth,

Faith Formation Parents Meeting: Last Saturday September 23, after the 8:30 a.m. Mass, I spoke to the parents, teachers, and students of our Faith Formation program. I'm grateful and joyful for their presence and for enrolling their children in our program. We keep proclaiming the good news and inspiring them to be engaged in the life of the parish. I'm expecting the students to attend the Saturday Mass at 8:30 a.m. in our church and then continue their classes downstairs. Mass and class will be a combined program every Saturday for these students. I thank the parents and teachers for this cooperation and collaboration.

Maui Fire Victims Special Collection: On the weekend of September 16 and 17, our parish took up a special second collection for the Maui wildfire victims. Thank you for generously donating \$1,188, which has been mailed to Catholic Charities Hawaii with my personal note, assuring them of our parish's continued prayers for the victims.

Synod starting this month in Rome: This October 4 through 29, the first session of the Synod on Synodality is meeting in Rome. Let's keep the Synod in our prayers. The theme is: Communion, Participation, Mission.

Month devoted to Rosary: Traditionally, the month of October is devoted to the Blessed Virgin Mary of the Rosary. October 7 is the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary. As we pray the Rosary, the mysteries we meditate on are those intimately connected with the life of Jesus, Mary, and our own pilgrimage of life. We are not outsiders but insiders and participants in these divine mysteries. Maybe, we could think about praying the Rosary every day of October. At St. Elizabeth Church, there are gorgeous stained-glass windows depicting the Joyful, Sorrowful, and Glorious mysteries of the Rosary. As we look up on them, let's lift up our hearts and minds to God, who through those divine mysteries has brought about new and everlasting life and purpose and meaning for our everyday existence.

Sunday October 1: Feast of St. Therese of Child Jesus: Traditionally the feast of this amazing and awesome saint, only 24 years old when she died, is celebrated on October 1, but this year, since it falls on a Sunday, it is not celebrated liturgically. However, we could keep some of the insights of this saint in the forefront of our lives. I had the privilege of visiting this saint's shrine at Lisieux in Northern France some years ago and felt touched by her spirit. Again, I'll be visiting her shrine again early November this year. We could reflect on these three perspectives. 1. Little Flower: Therese called herself "the Little Flower" because she did not think she was worthy to be a great flower like a rose or lily. She was content

not to be a great saint. It was enough for her to be little flower by the mountainside, still able to get a loving glance from God. 2. Little Way: She felt she was not called to do earth-shaking things for God. It was enough for her to do the ordinary, everyday things with much love: ordinary things to be done with extraordinary love and energy. This is called the Little Way. 3. Your Name is written in Heaven. As a little girl, when she was carried by her father in the evenings, she would say, "Daddy, my name is written in heaven." Our names are all written in heaven too. How shall we love and serve God and others because our names are written in heaven?

Monday October 2, Feast of the Guardian Angels: The secular culture surprisingly seems to hold the angels in high esteem. The mystery of angels seems to enthrall people, even those who do not seem to have a firm belief in God. This might be a starting point for them: that the angels are God's agents and messengers, they operate at God's bidding, with a mission to promote, protect, and proclaim. The angels--the Archangels and Guardian Angels--are created by God to promote God's ways, to protect people from harm, and to proclaim God's message to people. God has sent us each one of us a guardian angel to be close to us, to whisper his message of presence and love, to keep us from straying into danger. Here are a couple of prayers to our guardian angels: 1. "O angel of God, my holy guardian, given to me from heaven, enlighten me this day, and save me from all evil. Instruct me in doing good deeds, and set me on the path of salvation. Amen." 2. "Angel of God, my guardian dear, to whom God's love commits me here, ever this day be at my side, to light and guard, to rule and guide. Amen."

Wednesday, October 4, Feast of St. Francis of Assisi: If only people embraced the values of Jesus as St. Francis did, Christianity would be completely transformed. He is the patron saint of our own beautiful city of San Francisco. His life is characterized by his love for poverty and simplicity, his reverence for creation, his spirit of joy and gratitude, his desire to be like Jesus, his service to the poor, his love for the Church, his desire to bring about peace and reconciliation--these are a few blessings we could practice. Here's his famous prayer: *Lord, make me an instrument of your peace: where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive, it is in pardoning that we are pardoned, and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.*

Think About It: "Life itself is the most wonderful fairy tale." --Hans Christian Andersen.

Humor: A mother superior, while travelling on a plane, was offered a cigarette by a fellow passenger. The witty nun, as affable as ever, said, "No thanks. One habit is enough for me."

Your Friend and Pastor,

Father Charles Puthota

Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time October 1, 2023

Have in you the same attitude that is also in Christ Jesus.
— *Philippians 2:5*



GOD'S WAYS

In the stream of readings during this portion of Ordinary Time one week's texts can often appear to pick up exactly where the previous week's concluded. The sentiments expressed in today's first reading seem to be a direct reaction to the Gospel passage we heard last week. In that Gospel, the landowner pays the same wages to his workers whether they worked for a full day or for only a few minutes. Today Ezekiel gives us the lament, "The LORD's way is not fair!" (Ezekiel 18:25). These Sundays in Ordinary Time offer us a glimpse into the ways of the Lord. We see how God's way has the tendency to turn the accepted conventions of the day upside down. Those who always expected that their way to heaven was guaranteed are disappointed. Those who thought they never had a chance are given that chance. Today offers us another opportunity to discover the abundance of God's mercy and love.

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TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — When the wicked turn away from their wickedness they have committed and do what is right, they shall surely live (Ezekiel 18:25-28).

Psalms — Remember your mercies, O Lord (Psalm 25).

Second Reading — Consider others as better than yourselves; look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others (Philippians 2:1-11).

Gospel — Tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of you (Matthew 21:28-32).

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: September 23-24

Weekly Need: \$ 5,000.00

First Collection \$ 2,531.00

Over/Under \$ 2,469.00

Priest Retirement Fund \$ 1,001.00

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	October 2 †Joseph and †Carmen Spiteri † Tessa Lencioni
Tuesday 8:30 am	October 3 † Lulu Abranches
Wednesday 8:30 am	October 4 † Jovito Cruz
Thursday 8:30 am	October 5 † Jewell Coccellato † Luisa S. Gito
Friday 8:30 am	October 6 † Ivy Wilson Vito Devera (L)
Saturday 8:30 am	October 7 † Lupe Arco † Run Gestra Ines Ruiz (L)
4:30 pm Sunday 8:30 am	October 8 People of the Parish † Carmela Sapiano † Ray Garibaldi
10:30 am	

READINGS FOR THE WEEK **October 2 - 8**

Monday:	Zec 8:1-8; Ps 102:2,16-23 Mt 18:1-5, 10
Tuesday:	Zec 8:20-23; Ps 87:1b-7; Lk 9:51-56
Wednesday:	Neh 2:1-8; Ps 137:1-6; Lk 9:57-62
Thursday:	Neh 8:1-4a, 5-6, 7b-12; Ps 19:8-11; Lk 10:1-12
Friday:	Bar 1:15-22; Ps 79:1b-5, 8-9; Lk 10:13-16
Saturday:	Bar 4:5-12, 27-29; Ps 69:33-37; Lk 10:17-24
Sunday:	Is 5:1-7; Ps 80:9, 12-16, 19-20; Phil 4:6-9; Mt 21:33-43

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES **October 1 - 7**

Sunday:	26 th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday:	The Holy Guardian Angels
Wednesday:	St. Francis of Assisi
Thursday:	Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos
Friday:	St. Bruno; Blessed Marie Rose Durocher; First Friday
Saturday:	Our Lady of the Rosary; First Saturday

Parish Events on the Horizon

- **Monday, October 9th**
Columbus Day Holiday: office will be closed
- **Sunday, October 15th**
Maltese Society Champagne Bingo
- **Wednesday, November 1st**
All Saints Day (a Holy Day of Obligation)
Masses are at 8:30 am and 6:00 pm
- **Thursday, November 2nd**
All Souls' Day

Fall 2023 Lay Minister Training

Looking for recertification or refreshing your lay minister's knowledge serving as Readers and Extra-ordinary ministers? The Office of Worship will be offering training for new and experienced Extra-ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion and Readers over two consecutive Saturdays during the month of October.

- St. Raymond Church 10/7 & 10/14
- Holy Name Church 11/5 & 11/12

This training fulfills the requirement of the Archdiocese to be certified every three years for these ministries.

Registration: \$20.00 pre-registered; or \$25.00 for same-day registrants.

Registration forms are available in the Parish office.



St. Elizabeth's Maltese Society

Champagne Bingo

Sunday, October 15, 2023

Cantwell Hall
490 Goettingen Street

Doors Open at 12:00 pm.

Lunch served at 1:00 pm

Bingo begins at 2:00 pm

\$25 Per Person

Ticket Includes Lunch

(Pasta with Meat Sauce, Salad, Bread,
Champagne, & Dessert) and BINGO Packet

R. S. V.P. by October 8th

(Reservation Required, no tickets sold at the door)

Raffle Donations Welcome

Please Contact Jeanette Santos

to purchase tickets

415-225-5315



Malta Day celebration on September 23rd at the Elks' Lodge with the Maltese Consul Luis Vella and his wife and St. Elizabeth Parishioners.



The Parish office will be closed
on Monday October 9th
for Columbus Day.

The Synod on Synodality

October 2021 to October 2024

Theme: Communion, Participation, Mission: The Synod on Synodality is a three-year process of listening and dialogue that began with a solemn opening in Rome on October 9 and 10, 2021. The synodal process will conclude in 2024. Each individual diocese in the whole world has gone through a process of preparation for the Synod. The Synod is both an event and a process in which the whole People of God are called to walk to gather together toward what the Holy Spirit helps it to discern as being the Lord's will for his Church. Pope Francis has invited the entire Church to reflect on a theme that is decisive for its life and mission: "It is precisely this path of synodality which God expects of the Church of the third millennium. This journey, which follows in the wake of the Church's "renewal" proposed by the Second Vatican Council, is both a gift and a task: by journeying together and reflecting together on the path that has been made, the Church will be able to learn through Her experience which processes can help Her to live communion, to achieve participation, and to open Herself to mission." The 16th Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops will be held in two sessions. The first one from October 4 to 29, 2023. The second session will be in October 2024.