

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 15, 2023~Twenty-Eighth 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 15, 2023

Dear Parishioners of St. Elizabeth,

October Month Dedicated to Our Lady of the Rosary: The Salve Regina: Hail, Holy Queen, Mother of Mercy, our life, our sweetness and our hope. To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve. To thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this valley of tears. Turn then, most gracious advocate, thine eyes of mercy toward us, and after this our exile show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus. O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary... Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ. Let us pray: O God, whose Only Begotten Son, by his life, Death, and Resurrection, has purchased for us the rewards of eternal life, grant, we beseech thee, that while meditating on these mysteries of the most holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary, we may imitate what they contain and obtain what they promise, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Synod on Synodality October 04-29, 2023: The Synod is in session in the Vatican now. Let's keep the Holy Father and all the participants in our prayers as they deliberate on how to protect, preserve, and promote "Communion, Participation, and Mission" in the Church for the good of the world.

The Old and the New Testaments: From the Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church: What is the importance of the Old Testament for Christians? Christians venerate the Old Testament as the true word of God. All of the books of the Old Testament are divinely inspired and retain a permanent value. They bear witness to the divine pedagogy of God's saving love. They are written, above all, to prepare for the coming of Christ the Savior of the universe. **What importance does the New Testament have for Christians?** The New Testament, whose central object is Jesus Christ, conveys to us the ultimate truth of divine Revelation. Within the New Testament the four Gospels of Mathew, Mark, Luke and John are the heart of all the Scriptures because they are the principle witness to the life and teaching of Jesus. As such, they hold a unique place in the Church.

Word of God this 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time: Having mediated the last three Sundays on the "vineyard parables" related to the invitation of God to go into his vineyard (Kingdom) to labor, this Sunday the metaphor shifts to a wedding feast hosted by a king. The invited guests fail to show up, giving all sorts of excuses. When the king sends his servants, they are mistreated and killed. Enraged, the king punishes those responsible and widens the invitation to the banquet to include everyone, but the wedding garment is still required. As in the last three Sundays, the gospel again has historical parallels to how Jesus is being rejected by the

leaders of the people. The first reading from Isaiah speaks also of a rich banquet with "rich food and choice wines." In a manner that is profoundly consoling (hence this reading is popular at funeral Masses), the reading speaks of God wiping away "the tears from every face," removing the people's reproach, destroying "the veil that veils all peoples," and destroying "death forever." In the ultimate sense, at the wedding banquet, at the end of time, God will not only feed the people but fulfill all their desires and dreams. Therefore, it's time for us now to come to the banquet of God's grace and abundant blessings.

Sunday, October 15, Feast of St. Teresa of Avila: Though this feast is not celebrated liturgically on account of the Sunday (October 15) on which it falls this year, we could still keep in mind that this Spanish Carmelite mystic (1515-1582) was also a reformer and doctor of the Church. Her ascetic spirituality and Carmelite reforms (along with St. John of the Cross) shaped the Church's contemplative life. Her writings on the Christian soul's journey to God (The Interior Castle, The Way of Perfection) are considered masterpieces. Her inspirational prayer-poem "Nada te Turbe" is translated as follows: "Let nothing disturb you. Let nothing frighten you. All things are passing away. God never changes. Patience obtains all things. Whoever has God lacks nothing. God alone suffices."

Wednesday, October 18, Feast of St. Luke, Evangelist: Luke wrote the gospel according to Luke and the Acts of the Apostles. St. Paul calls him "our beloved physician." The salient features of Luke's gospel are: it's the gospel of mercy, the gospel of universal salvation, the gospel of the poor, the gospel of absolute renunciation, the gospel of women, the gospel of prayer and the Holy Spirit, the gospel of joy. He wrote as a gentile for the gentiles. Check out Luke chapters 15 and 24--two of my favorite chapters in all the gospels! Shall we try reading this gospel prayerfully, every day a chapter?

Next Sunday, October 22 is World Mission Sunday: We stand in support of the missionary work of the Catholic Church. Our second collection next Sunday goes to the Pontifical Mission Societies in Rome where the Holy Father directs resources to needy places all over the world.

A Story to Ponder: A man was lost in a desert. Later, when describing his ordeal to his friends, he told how, in sheer despair, he had knelt down and cried out to God to help him. "And did God answer your prayer?" he was asked. "Oh, no! Before He could, an explorer appeared and showed me the way."

Humor: 1. "So this was your first flight. Were you scared?" "Well, to tell you the truth, I didn't dare put my full weight down on the seat." 2. Dad writes on son's Facebook wall: "Dear Son, How are you? All are fine here. We miss you a lot. Please!! Turn off the computer & come down for diner!!!" 3. Criminal: "Your money or your life." Jack Benny: [Pause.] Criminal: "Look, bud. I said your money or your life." Jack Benny: "I'm thinking it over."

Your Friend and Pastor,

Father Charles Puthota

Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time October 15, 2023

I can do all things
in him who strengthens me.
— *Philippians 4:13*



THE HEAVENLY BANQUET

The mountain of the Lord described in today's first reading is a place where there is no more hunger, no more weeping, and no more division of any kind. We need to pause and ponder these images every now and then, especially given the fact that we live in such a fractured world. The responsorial psalm continues to paint a picture of a place where only goodness and kindness flourish. These readings describe the heavenly banquet, to which God calls each of us through baptism and continues to call us throughout our lives. Let us "RSVP" to God's invitation and live our lives consistent with gospel values so that one day we will be welcomed to the table of the kingdom.

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TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — On this mountain the LORD will make for all peoples a feast of rich food and choice wines (Isaiah 25:6-10a).

Psalm — I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life (Psalm 23).

Second Reading — God will supply whatever you need (Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20).

Gospel — I have prepared my banquet, and everything is ready. Come to the feast! (Matthew 22:1-14 or 22:1-10).

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: October 7th - 8th

Weekly Need:	\$ 5,000.00
First Collection	\$ 2,584.00
Parish Maintenance	\$ 716.00
Over/Under	\$ 1,700.00

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

October 16

† Julia Pecchia

† Damaso Ramirez

October 17

† John and † Jenny Sant

† Margaret Quinto

October 18

† Carmela Sapiano

† Samuel Walden

October 19

† Theresa, † Paul,

and † Joseph Vella

October 20

† Castula Padilla

† Benjamin Salvador

October 21

† Lulu Abranches

Lolita Madriaga (L)

† Tomas Sifuentes

† Guadalupe Gomez

October 22

People of the Parish

Italian Catholic Federation

Editha Romias (L)

† Reynaldo G. Gayaban and

† Wilter A. Nacor

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

October 16 – October 22

Monday: Rom 1:1-7; Ps 98:1-4; Lk 11:29-32
Tuesday: Rom 1:16-25; Ps 19:2-5; Lk 11:37-41
Wednesday: 2 Tm 4:10-17b; Ps 145:10-13, 17-18, Lk 10:1-9
Thursday: Rom 3:21-30; Ps 130:1-6; Lk 11:47-54
Friday: Rom 4:1-8; Ps 32:1-2, 5, 11; Lk 12:1-7
Saturday: Rom 4:13, 16-18; Ps 105:6-9, 42-43; Lk 12:8-12
Sunday: Is 45:1, 4-6; Ps 96:1, 3-5, 7-10; 1 Thes 1:1-5b; Mt 22:15-21

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

October 15 – October 21

Sunday: 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday: St. Hedwig; St. Margaret Mary Alacoque
Tuesday: St. Ignatius of Antioch
Wednesday: St. Luke
Thursday: Sts. John de Brébeuf, Isaac Jogues, and Companions
Friday: St. Paul of the Cross

Parish Events on the Horizon

- **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
- **Sunday November 5th**
Daylight Savings Time Ends

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.



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.

Pray for our Dear Departed



Maria Grelli

"Eternal Rest Grant unto Them, O Lord . . ."



It is with great joy we welcome Olivia and Weston Briesach into our church and community. Olivia and Weston received the Sacrament of Baptism at our Rectory Chapel on October 7th.

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.