

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 22, 2023~Twenty-Ninth 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 22, 2023
Dear Parishioners of St. Elizabeth,

This Sunday October 22, 2023 is World Mission Sunday: Pope Francis, in his message for World Mission Sunday 2023, reflects on the theme “Hearts on fire, feet on the move,” based on the story of the disciples who encounter Jesus on their way to Emmaus (cf. Lk 24:13-35): “Those two disciples were confused and dismayed, but their encounter with Christ in the word and in the breaking of the bread sparked in them the enthusiastic desire to set out again towards Jerusalem and proclaim that the Lord had truly risen....So let us set out once more, illumined by our encounter with the risen Lord and prompted by his Spirit. Let us set out again with burning hearts, with our eyes open and our feet in motion. Let us set out to make other hearts burn with the word of God, to open the eyes of others to Jesus in the Eucharist, and to invite everyone to walk together on the path of peace and salvation that God, in Christ, has bestowed upon all humanity.” On this day, we pray and reflect on the mission of the Church and our own personal call to mission. Let’s respond to the call to be “missionary disciples” for our times and in our circumstances and neighborhoods. This Mission Sunday, we are also invited to support the Pontifical Mission Societies, which foster missionary cooperation on both the spiritual and material levels for the areas of our world most in need of the Good News of God’s love.

October, a Month Dedicated to Our Lady of the Rosary:
Angelus: **V/.** The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary, **R/.** And she conceived of the Holy Spirit. Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you; blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death. Amen. **V/.** Behold the handmaid of the Lord,
R/. Be it done unto me according to your Word. Hail Mary... **V/.** And the Word was made flesh, **R/.** And dwelt among us. Hail Mary... **V/.** Pray for us, O holy Mother of God, **R/.** That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.
Let us pray. Pour forth, we beseech you, O Lord, your grace into our hearts: that we, to whom the Incarnation of Christ your Son was made known by the message of an Angel, may by his Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of his Resurrection. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

Word of God: 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time: The Gospel event this Sunday raises the question: what belongs to God? The simple answer is: Everything. So what would it entail? In the words of the famous poet and playwright T.S. Eliot: “costing not less than everything.” This is what is expected of us in our dedication and commitment to God. Jesus’ words “repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God” have the profound meaning that, while we have to fulfill the necessary and legitimate civic duties and

responsibilities, our ultimate fulfillment as human beings would come from the fact that we need to “repay to God what belongs to God.” God has given us everything and everything we need to return to God in faith and gratitude. We surrender to his love because we owe everything to God. Everything belongs to God; even Caesar belongs to God. Ceasar had better repay everything to God! There is a prayer of St. Ignatius of Loyola from his classic “Spiritual Exercises” that captures the essence of the Gospel this Sunday. It’s the “suscipe” prayer: “Take, O Lord, and receive all my liberty, my memory, my understanding, and my entire will, all that I have and possess. You have given all to me. To you, O Lord, I return it. All is yours, dispose of it wholly according to your will. Give me your love and your grace, for this is sufficient for me.”

Synod on Synodality: This synod (the first session) is taking place now in Rome and will conclude on October 29. The second session will take place in 2024. Let’s keep this process of dialogue and deliberation in our prayers. The Church is **in** the modern world and an integral part of the modern world and as such is called upon to address “the joys and hopes, the griefs and anxieties” of the world. While we look at our own inner structures and workings as a Church, the more urgent need is how to relate the Church to the world and the world in turn to the Church. While we might be doing the “inward looking,” we are at the same time impelled by the Spirit of Christ to be “outward looking.” The Church’s identity and mission is to be the light to the world, to be a community of love and service, to be a shining example of what the Kingdom of God looks like in the world.

A Couple of Stories to Think About: 1. Said a world-famous violinist about his success in playing Beethoven’s Violin Concerto: “I have splendid music, a splendid violin and a splendid bow. All I need to do is bring them together and get out of the way.” 2. “What is that door doing under your arm?” “It’s the front door of my house. I lost the key, and am taking it to have a fresh key made.” “Make sure you don’t lose the door now, or you won’t be able to enter your house.” “Well, I left a window open just to be on the safe side.”

Quotable Poetry Quotes: “I carry your heart (I carry it in my heart)” — E.E. Cummings. “We shall not cease from exploration and the end of all our exploring will be to arrive where we started and know the place for the first time.” –T.S. Eliot.

Church Humor: 1. “Did you hear Robinson snoring in church this morning?” It was simply awful.” “Yes, I did---he woke me up.” 2. “When I look at the congregation,” the minister told the audience, “I ask myself, ‘where are the poor?’ But then, when I look at the collection, I say to myself, 'where are the rich?’” 3. A pastor got up one Sunday and announced to the congregation: “I have good news and bad news. The good news is, we have enough money to pay for our new building program. The bad news is, it’s still out there in your pockets.”

Your Friend and Pastor,

Father Charles Puthota

Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time
October 22, 2023

“Repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar, and to God what belongs to God.”
— *Matthew 22:21*



POWER STRUGGLE

Power struggles occur on every level of society, from the world stage to relationships at work, to our own homes. We struggle for position in the hierarchy of power: Who has power over whom? How do they wield it? What is the source of that power? What is the healthy response?

In this Sunday’s Gospel reading the Pharisees engage Jesus in a power struggle over whether Jews should show tribute to Caesar by paying taxes. Jesus’ response puts this and every struggle for power into perspective. In harmony with the words of Isaiah and Paul, Jesus teaches us that God is the ultimate source of all power—the power of earthly rulers, the Pharisees, Jesus, the Church, and the power within ourselves.

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TODAY’S READINGS

First Reading — The LORD said to Cyrus, his anointed, “I am the LORD, there is no other” (Isaiah 45:1, 4-6).

Psalm — Give the Lord glory and honor (Psalm 96).

Second Reading — Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy to the church of the Thessalonians: We thank God always for all of you (1 Thessalonians 1:1-5b).

Gospel — Give to Caesar what is Caesar’s, and to God what is God’s (Matthew 22:15-21).

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 14th -15th

Weekly Need:	\$ 5,000.00
First Collection	\$ 2,635.50
Church Environment	\$ 539.00
Over/Under	\$ 1,825.50

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.

MASS INTENTIONS

† Denotes deceased – (L) Living

<u>Monday</u> 8:30 am	<u>October 23</u> †Delfin S. Mendoza † Heidy Stolte † Sean Hyland
<u>Tuesday</u> 8:30 am	<u>October 24</u> † Edilberto Mandani
<u>Wednesday</u> 8:30 am	<u>October 25</u> † Martha Puthota † Marcos V. Valledor
<u>Thursday</u> 8:30 am	<u>October 26</u> † Lulu Abranches
<u>Friday</u> 8:30 am	<u>October 27</u> † Albert J. Songco
<u>Saturday</u> 8:30 am 4:30 pm	<u>October 28</u> Gotauco Family (L) Luciana Padilla (L) † Dorothy and † Guido Morri
<u>Sunday</u> 8:30 am 10:30 am	<u>October 29</u> People of the Parish † Damaso Ramirez †Tessie, † Joseph and † Saviour Schembri

READINGS FOR THE WEEK
October 23-29

Monday:	Rom 4:20-25; Lk 1:69-75; Lk 12:13-21
Tuesday:	Rom 5:12, 15b, 17-19, 20b-21; Ps 40:7-10, 17; Lk 12:35-38
Wednesday:	Rom 6:12-18; Ps 124:1-8; Lk 12:39-48
Thursday:	Rom 6:19-23; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 12:49-53
Friday:	Rom 7:18-25a; Ps 119:66, 68, 76-77, 93-94; Lk 12:54-59
Saturday:	Eph 2:19-22; Ps 19:2-5; Lk 6:12-16
Sunday:	Ex 22:20-26; Ps 18:2-4, 47, 51; 1 Thes 1:5c-10; Mt 22:34-40

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES
October 22-28

Sunday:	29 th Sunday in Ordinary Time; World Mission Day
Monday:	St. John of Capistrano
Tuesday:	St. Anthony Mary Claret
Saturday:	Ss. Simon and Jude

Parish Events on the Horizon

- **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.

- 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.

Mass Intentions are available
November 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.

Pray for our Dear Departed



Francisco Robles

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

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.



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 a sacristan for more information.