

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 29, 2023~Thirtieth 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 29, 2023
Dear Parishioners of St. Elizabeth,

Feast of All Saints, Wednesday November 01, A Holy Day of Obligation, Masses at 8.30 a.m. and 6.00 p.m.: November dawns with this glorious feast of all saints. We have the celebration of saints throughout the liturgical calendar. These are canonized saints of the Church. They lived lives of heroic virtue and holiness. After a process of analysis and careful study, the Church determined, in many cases centuries after the death of these men and women, that they were worthy to join the long list of saints. However, there are millions and millions more who have reached the beatific vision. These too have joined the ranks of saints in heaven, even though we don’t recognize them formally and individually on the liturgical calendar. Today is the day to celebrate them all. In our own lifetime, we have met people who stood out for their selflessness and saintliness. Among those might be our parents, other family members, and friends. We celebrate them all today with joy and gratitude. What can we take away from this feast? That we are all called to be holy; that each one of us is called to be a saint. Most saints looked at the saints before them and said, if they could do it, why not I? That is the same question we would do well to ask. If all those saints could give of themselves to God and others, why can’t I? If those saints, men and women, married and single, could respond to the call of Christ in their times and circumstances, why not we in our times and situations? Here’s a scripture passage that reminds us of all saints: “After this I had a vision of a great multitude, which no one could count, from every nation, race, people, and tongue. They stood before the throne and before the Lamb, wearing white robes and holding palm branches in their hands.... [One of the elders] said to me, “These are the ones who have survived the time of great distress; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb”” (Revelation 7:9,14).

Thursday, November 02, All Souls Day---The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed: When November comes, we turn our attention in a special way to those who have gone before us. We loved them in life, we love them in death, and we’ll love them into eternal life. Life is not ended in death but only changed. Even as the seed has to die in order to bring forth new life, all our lives when they end in death come back into life because we are destined for eternity. We are mortal in the sense of our fleeting life on earth, but we are immortal in the sense of our life with God. It is our belief that we the “Church Militant” can really help the “Church Suffering” through our love and prayers. When they become the “Church Triumphant,” they who will be close to God can intercede for us who are in this “vale of tears.” In other words, all these traditional theological terms express a simple truth: that life continues after death, love is everlasting because God is love. Our human love is purified and perfected by God’s love because all our love has God’s love as

its origin and destination. This month of November, as we specially remember the dear departed, as we pray for them in a very special, even emotional way, as we visit their graves and place flowers over them, let our hearts keep chanting this simple prayer: “Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.”

Pastor’s Mass and Luncheon for Over 50 Club: In a first for St. Elizabeth Parish, I celebrated Mass for Over 50 Club in Cantwell Hall and hosted a delicious catered luncheon. In my homily to them at Mass, I expressed my gratitude to them for gathering week after week and encouraged them to join the weekly Masses, and highlighted the Catholic insights about God’s love, faith, and service. There was a great spirit of friendship and conviviality. After the luncheon, everyone enjoyed Bingo. I assured them that this event would be added to our parish annual calendar.

The Synod on Synodality: The first session comes to a close this Sunday, October 29. Let’s wait for the insights to be shared as a way of moving forward and waiting for the concluding second session in October 2024.

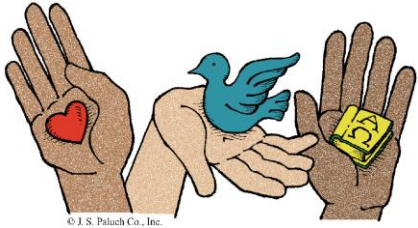
Word of God---Love of God and Love of Neighbor: The gospel this 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time is probably one of the top three most consequential passages in the whole Bible. It’s about love. Love is the summary of our life. Love is the essence, purpose, orientation, basis, foundation, direction of our life. We may have everything, but if we don’t have love, we are nothing! Jesus’ genius is in bringing the two Old Testament laws together and making them on par with each other. The old Deuteronomy 6:4 verse about loving God with all one’s heart (Shema Israel) is brought together with the somewhat not so popular verse from Leviticus 19:18 about love of neighbor. Jesus’ vision is that the love of God expresses itself in love of neighbor and if one genuinely loves neighbor, that person has love of God already in one’s soul. Loving God and loving others is what life is all about. If we do this journey well, we will be well on the way to happiness and fulfillment, despite all sorts of odds and struggles in life. Justice is an expression of love of others, which is highlighted in the first reading from Exodus in which God has preferential love for the poor and the oppressed and that the chosen people of God have to pay close attention to practicing love, especially toward those who are on the margins and peripheries.

Humor: 1. A heavy snowstorm closed the schools in one town. When the children returned to school a few days later, one grade-school teacher asked her students whether they had used the time away from school constructively. “I sure did, teacher,” one girl replied. “I just prayed for more snow.” 2. A five-year-old’s version of John 3:16: “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have ever-lasting life.”

Your Friend and Pastor,

Father Charles Puthota

**Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time
October 29, 2023**
“You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.”
— *Matthew 22:37*



BALANCE
Today’s scriptures emphasize the fundamental link between love of God and love of our neighbors, especially those who are most in need. Love of God should compel us to love the people whom God cherishes. Conversely, work for justice and charity for those in need should be rooted in our love of God. That connection and balance, however, isn’t always easy to maintain in our lives. Even in religious orders we find that some Christians are more oriented toward contemplation and prayer, while others are more active in reaching out to those who are oppressed. Today Jesus reminds us of the necessity for both in the life of faith.
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TODAY’S READINGS
First Reading — You shall not oppress an alien, for you yourselves were once aliens in Egypt (Exodus 22:20-26).
Psalms — I love you, Lord, my strength (Psalm 18).
Second Reading — You became imitators of the Lord, so that you became a model for all believers (1 Thessalonians 1:5c-10).
Gospel — You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, and you shall love your neighbor as yourself (Matthew 22:34-40).
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 21 - 22

Weekly Need:

First Collection

Over/Under

World Mission Sunday

\$ 5,000.00

\$ 2,917.00

\$ 2,083.00

\$ 820.00

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 30 † Filomena Scerri † Maria Grelli
Tuesday 8:30 am	October 31 † Mary and † Earl J. McCarthy † Isabel C. Bondoc † Valeriano B. Marigmen Sr.
Wednesday 8:30 am 6:00 pm	November 1 All Saints All Saints
Thursday 8:30 am	November 2 All Souls
Friday 8:30 am	November 3 † Maria and † Giuseppe Moretto Souls in Purgatory
Saturday 8:30 am 4:30 pm	November 4 † Lulu Abranches † Mary Kremsreiter Adrian Gotauco (L)
Sunday 8:30 am 10:30 am	November 5 People of the Parish † Jesus “Jesse” Quinonez † Reynaldo G. Gayaban

READINGS FOR THE WEEK	
October 30 – November 5	
Monday:	Rom 8:12-17; Ps 68:2, 4, 6-7, 20-21; Lk 13:10-17
Tuesday:	Rom 8:18-25; Ps 126:1-6; Lk 13:18-21
Wednesday:	Rv 7:2-4, 9-14; Ps 24:1bc-4b,5-6; 1 Jn 3:1-3; Mt 5:1-12a
Thursday:	Wis 3:1-9; Ps 23:1-6; Rom 5:5-11 or 6:3-9; Jn 6:37-40, or 10:11-10:16
Friday:	Rom 9:1-5; Ps 147:12-15, 19-20; Lk 14:1-6
Saturday:	Rom 11:1-2a, 11-12, 25-29; Ps 94:12-13a, 14-15, 17-18; Lk 14:1, 7-11
Sunday:	Mal 1:14b — 2:2b, 8-10; Ps 131:1-3; 1 Thes 2:7b-9, 13; Mt 23:1-12

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES	
October 29 – November 4	
Sunday:	30 th Sunday in Ordinary Time;
Wednesday:	All Saints (Holy Day of Obligation)
Thursday:	The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls’ Day)
Friday:	St. Martin de Porres; First Friday
Saturday:	St. Charles Borromeo; First Saturday

On The Horizon at St. Elizabeth

- **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
- **Saturday, December 9th**
Parish Advent Retreat
- **Saturday, Dec. 16th to Sunday Dec. 24th**
Simbang Gabi

2024 Mass Intentions Now Available! **Please follow the guidelines below** **when sending in your Mass requests.**

Due to the large volume of Mass requests and in order to be fair to the needs of all our parishioners, the following is the Mass Book policy as set by Father Charles Puthota, Pastor:

Initially, each parishioner can request up to **10 Masses per year. Only 2 of those Masses may be on weekends depending on availability.**

All Masses including the Saturday Vigil Mass and Sunday Mass will be accepting two intentions per Mass.

We do not accept individual Mass Intentions for holidays or holy days including the following : Ash Wednesday, Easter, Mother's Day, Father's Day, All Souls, All Saints, Thanksgiving , Christmas Eve and Christmas. The intentions will be for the entire St. Elizabeth Community.

Due to the volume of requests and limited office hours, **Masses cannot be reserved by phone or in person.** Requests must be submitted in writing or by email (preferred): stelizabethchurchsf@gmail.com

Not all dates are available for Mass Intentions, so we ask that you be prepared with alternate dates and times. If your requested date is not available an alternate date will be chosen for you.

Please make your check payable to St. Elizabeth Church and submit your check with your request. Please allow time for processing.

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.