

# **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](http://www.stelizabetsf.org) Email: [stelizabethchurchsf@gmail.com](mailto:stelizabethchurchsf@gmail.com)**

**November 5, 2023~Thirty-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**

<b>Patti Spiteri</b>	Administrative Assistant / Pastoral Coordinator
<b>Sandy Mehrwein</b>	Secretary
<b>Fred Spence</b>	Maintenance
<b>Laurie Digneo</b>	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

November 5, 2023

Dear Parishioners of St. Elizabeth,

**Remembering the Dear Departed Souls in November:** This whole month we would do well keeping in our hearts and minds the dear departed from our own families and among our circles of friends and acquaintances. We commemorate all those who have been called to God. We hold their memory sacred. We loved them in life, we continue to love them in death. Life is changed, not ended. Love is stronger than death. We bring our love, faith, and prayers to support them in their journey of purification and attainment of perfection with God. It has always been a tradition in the Catholic faith to visit graves on All Souls Day and in the month of November. Let’s make time for that. As we stand at their graves, as we may shed tears and be filled with loss and grief, let us know that God will wipe away all the tears and grant the departed souls eternal peace and fulfillment. It is also an occasion for us to think of life and death. Awareness of death can make life more precious and beautiful. Against the background of death, life takes on great urgency and acute significance. Because of death, we are to live better lives. Because of death, we have to become the sort of people God wants us to be in this life. Because of death, we need to become more authentic disciples and apostles of Jesus. Because of death, love becomes not only necessary but also urgent. “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.”

**All Souls Names on the Altar:** If you would like your dear departed remembered, please list their names on the designated envelopes, and after placing your offering inside, leave them in the parish office or in the collection baskets or with a sacristan. We will place those envelopes for the whole month of November on the altar and pray for their eternal rest and reward in heaven.

**Quotes on Death and Everlasting Life:** “Unable are the loved to die, for love is immortality.” --- Emily Dickinson. “The immortality of the soul is a matter which is of so great consequence to us and which touches us so profoundly that we must have lost all feeling to be indifferent about it.” --- Blaise Pascal. “All say, ‘How hard it is that we have to die’ --- a strange complaint to come from the mouths of people who have had to live.” --- Mark Twain. “Death is a distant rumor to the young.” --- Andrew A. Rooney. “Death may be the greatest of all human blessings.” --- Socrates. “Honey, Don’t be feared of them pearly gates... Honey, Go straight on to de Big House, An’ speak to yo’ God...” --- Sterling A. Brown. “There’s nothing certain in a man’s life except this: That he must lose it.” --- Aeschylus.

**Faith: From the Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church:** How does man respond to God who reveals himself? Sustained by divine grace, we respond to God with the obedience of faith, which means the full surrender of ourselves to God and the acceptance of his truth insofar as it is guaranteed by

the One who is Truth itself. **Who are the principal witnesses of the obedience of faith in the Sacred Scriptures?** There are many such witnesses, two in particular: One is *Abraham* who when put to the test “believed in God” (*Romans* 4:3) and always obeyed his call. For this reason he is called “the Father of all who believe” (*Romans* 4:11-18). The other is the *Virgin Mary* who, throughout her entire life, embodied in a perfect way the obedience of faith: “*Let it be done to me according to your word*” (*Luke* 1:38).

**Word of God:** This 31<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time, the gospel reading is about hypocrisy versus authenticity. Time and again, we see that Jesus is disappointed with the religious and civil leaders for the wide gap between what the profess and practice. Their teachings may be worth following, but their ability to practice what they teach lags far behind. Mahatma Gandhi said: “My life is my message.” That declaration would fit our Lord Jesus Christ in a supreme way. What Jesus proclaims he practices with extraordinary authenticity. Love, forgiveness, humility, detachment, compassion, simplicity, faith, prayer, truth, hope, kingdom, peace---all these teachings of Jesus are actually embodied in his life. Whereas, the religious leaders burden the people with all sorts of requirements while not helping them in any way; they make a superficial display of religion; seek places of honor; operate from a position of superiority while showing contempt for others. There is a warning for those in positions of authority both in religion and government, that what they preach needs to be always followed through in their own conduct. There is a saying: “Don’t tell me what to do; show me what you did.”

**A Couple of Stories to Ponder:** 1. A woman in the grocery department of a super-market bent down to pick up some tomatoes. At that moment she felt a sharp pain shooting down her back; she became immobilized and let out a shriek. A shopper standing next to her leaned over knowingly and said, “If you think tomatoes are bad, you should see the price of the fish!” 2. A man got into a bus and found himself sitting next to a youngster who was obviously a hippy. He was wearing only one shoe. “You’ve evidently lost a shoe, son.” “No man,” came the reply. “I found one.”

**Quotable Quotes:** “Don’t be afraid to give up the good to go for the great.” --John D. Rockefeller. “You miss 100 percent of the shots you don’t take.” --Wayne Gretzky. “A sense of humor is part of the art of leadership, of getting along with people, of getting things done.” --Dwight D. Eisenhower.

**Catholic Jokes:** 1. A six-year-old boy was overheard reciting the Lord’s Prayer at a church service: “And forgive us our trash passes as we forgive those who pass trash against us.” 2. A Faith Formation teacher asked her class: “Does anyone here know what we mean by sins of omission?” A small girl replied: “Aren’t those the sins we should have committed, but didn’t?” 3. While in church, a father whispered to his daughter that she should be quiet because they were in God’s house. The girl looked all around the church, and asked her father, “Which door will God be coming in?”

Your Friend and Pastor,

Father Charles Puthota

Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time  
November 5, 2023

The greatest among you must be your servant.  
— *Matthew* 23:11



THE GREATEST AMONG US

Whom do you admire? Is it the President of the United States or a movie star or a billionaire? These are people whom the world exalts as great. Like the Pharisees in today’s Gospel, they have places of honor wherever they go. Would you like to follow in their footsteps?

The scriptures for today offer different examples for us to follow. Jesus tells us that the greatest among us are the servants. These are the people we are to honor and imitate. We are called to be like Paul, who worked hard to serve the needs of his communities, and Jesus, who gave his life in service to the world.

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TODAY’S READINGS

**First Reading** — Do we not have one father? Did not the one God create us? (*Malachi* 1:14b — 2:2b, 8-10).

**Psalms** — In you, Lord, I have found my peace (*Psalms* 131:1,2,3).

**Second Reading** — You have received not a human word but the word of God (1 *Thessalonians* 2:7b-9, 13).

**Gospel** — Call no one your father on earth; you have but one Father, the one in heaven (*Matthew* 23:1-12). The English translation of the *Psalms Responses* from *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

Saturday/Sunday Collection:  
October 28 - 29

Weekly Need:	\$ 5,000.00
First Collection	\$ 2,689.00
Parish Ministries	\$ 615.00
Over/Under	\$ 1,696.00

*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

<b>Monday</b> 8:30 am	<b>November 6</b> † Vittorio Rossi † Maria Grelli
<b>Tuesday</b> 8:30 am	<b>November 7</b> † Avlina Natividad
<b>Wednesday</b> 8:30 am	<b>November 8</b> Sifuentes Family (L)
<b>Thursday</b> 8:30 am	<b>November 9</b> † Evaristo and † Eufrecena Camba † Milagros Sabio Galimba
<b>Friday</b> 8:30 am	<b>November 10</b> † Emanuel Scerri and † Maria Vella † Teodora Hernandez
<b>Saturday</b> 8:30 am 4:30 pm	<b>November 11</b> Patti Spiteri (L) † Lulu Abranches † Benjamin Salvador
<b>Sunday</b> 8:30 am 10:30 am	<b>November 12</b> People of the Parish † Rita Crumly Jesusa Arambulo (L)

READINGS FOR THE WEEK  
November 6 - 12

<b>Monday:</b>	Rom 11:29-36; Ps 69:30-31, 33-34, 36; Lk 14:12-14
<b>Tuesday:</b>	Rom 12:5-16b; Ps 131:1cde-2-3; Lk 14:15-24
<b>Wednesday:</b>	Rom 13:8-10; Ps 112:1b-2, 4-5, 9; Lk 14:25-33
<b>Thursday:</b>	Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9; 1 Cor 3:9c-11, 16-17; Jn 2:13-22
<b>Friday:</b>	Rom 15:14-21; Ps 98:1-4; Lk 16:1-8
<b>Saturday:</b>	Rom 16:3-9, 16, 22-27; Ps 145:2-5, 10-11; Lk 16:9-15
<b>Sunday:</b>	Wis 6:12-16; Ps 63:2-8; 1 Thes 4:13-18 [13-14]; Mt 25:1-13

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES  
November 5 - 11

<b>Sunday:</b>	31 <sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time; Daylight Saving Time ends
<b>Thursday:</b>	The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica
<b>Friday:</b>	St. Leo the Great
<b>Saturday:</b>	St. Martin of Tours; Veterans Day



### On The Horizon at St. Elizabeth

- **Sunday, November 19<sup>th</sup>**  
Presentation of the Faith Formation Confirmation Candidates at the 10:30 am Mass
- **Thursday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>**  
Thanksgiving - Mass at 9:00 am
- **Saturday, December 9<sup>th</sup>**  
Parish Advent Retreat
- **Saturday, Dec. 16<sup>th</sup> to Sunday Dec. 24<sup>th</sup>**  
Simbanda Gabi

### *All Souls Remembrance*

#### November Month of All Souls

Traditionally, November is the month when we especially remember the souls who have entered eternal life. As we prepare for these remembrances there is a specific way of preparation besides our own prayers and remembrances. You may write their names on one of the All-Souls envelopes. These envelopes will be placed on the altar for remembrances during all the Masses in November.



Faith Formation Halloween Party on October 28, 2023

### Pray for our Dear Departed



Anita Ferroggiaro

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

### **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](mailto: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.**



Celebrating Richard John's 95th Birthday.