

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

January 21, 2024 The Third Sunday in Ordinary Time



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)

Rev. Charles Puthota, Ph.D., *Pastor*

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

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

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

January 21, 2024

Dear Parishioners of St. Elizabeth,

Laudato Deum: You may be familiar with Pope Francis’ encyclical “Laudato Si” of 2015 in which he had spoken about the climate change and its impact on ecological, social, and economic issues. In a follow-up apostolic exhortation, “Laudato Deum” (Praise God), the Holy Father issued on October 4, 2023 (Feastday of St. Francis of Assisi) calls for urgent action against the climate crisis and criticizes those who deny the climate change as well as the governments of the world that do little to counter the climate change. The Pope says that the planet is approaching a “point of no return” as global warming hurtles toward the maximum recommended limit of 1.5 degrees Celsius (2.7 Fahrenheit) higher than the pre-industrial average.” He adds: “Even if we do not reach this point of no return, it is certain that the consequences would be disastrous and precipitous measures would have to be taken, at enormous cost and with grave and intolerable economic and social effects.” The Pope observes that the international organizations and conferences such as COP (Conference of Parties) since 1995 have not produced practical results. Science has been throwing clearer light on the crisis, but the nations and organizations have not been able to implement concrete measures to preserve and protect the earth. Pope Francis appeals to a renewed vision of community. He challenges Catholics to be prophetic in their solidarity with the poor and the disadvantaged. Jesus is at the heart of this enterprise. We are to collaborate with him in our awareness and action to care for our common home, the Planet Earth.

Word of God: Third Sunday in Ordinary Time, the Call of the Apostles: Jesus calls. The call is continuous and constant. Last Sunday we meditated on the call of the little boy Samuel and that of the disciples of John who follow Jesus and respond to the invitation to “come and see.” The Word of God this Sunday speaks of the call of Jonah in the first reading and the call of the apostles Peter and his brother Andrew and John and his brother James. What is it that is so magnetic and mysterious about the call of Christ that the fishermen leave everything and follow Jesus on the shores of the Sea of Galilee? They give up what they have been doing, their families and fishing profession, and follow Jesus right away. They were unworthy, uneducated, and flawed, but Jesus sees great potential in them. Jesus sees not just who they are but what they could become if only they would generously collaborate with Jesus. Jesus is always looking at our reality and the potential. We are capable of all sorts of beautiful things for God and others. The call comes to us today, amidst our circumstances and situations. We need to hear that voice of Jesus in our hearts and souls. We need to be alert and discerning. That call of Jesus always entails, as T. S.

Eliot would say, “costing not less than everything.” If we have to find fulfillment and happiness in life, we have to heed the call of Christ and respond generously. Our response would truly give glory to God and place us at the service of God’s people.

Thursday, January 25 Conversion of St. Paul: Reflecting on the theme of the call in the Word of God this Sunday, we might like to see in that context the call of Saul who became Paul. It would be worth out time to look up the Italian painter Caravaggio’s two powerful paintings on the conversion of Paul. The dramatic conversion of Paul is one of the most stunning and consequential happenings in the religious history of the world. Paul who was a fierce persecutor of Christianity becomes the most ardent promoter of it. Thanks to his going beyond the Jewish fold to the gentiles, Christianity opened up in an incredible way to many nations and cultures. But before all that, Jesus claimed Paul to himself. Paul in his letters again and again insists on how unworthy he was and yet Jesus called him and entrusted to him the mission to the gentiles. He was a sinner and yet Jesus sought after him and chose him to be an apostle. We are all called too, despite our sinfulness and unworthiness. Where there is sin, grace abounds! Jesus needs present-day apostles to proclaim God’s love and mercy to the world of today, starting with our own families and neighborhoods. It’s the new evangelization!

Seeing --- Story to Ponder: A writer arrived at the monastery to write a book about the Master. “People say you are a genius. Are you?” he asked. “You might say so,” said the Master with a smile. “And what makes one a genius?” asked the intrepid reporter. “The ability to see,” said the Master. The writer was betwixt and between. Scratching his hair with one hand and rubbing his tummy with the other, he muttered, “To see what?” The Master quietly replied, “The butterfly in a caterpillar, the eagle in an egg, the saint in a selfish person, life in death, unity in separation, the divine in the human and the human in the divine.”

Quotable Quote: “If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more, and become more, you are a leader.” --- John Quincy Adams, 6th President of U.S.A.

Humor: “I’m going to be standing outside. So if anyone asks, I’m outstanding.” “I was chasing my dreams, but tripped over reality and busted my head on the truth.” “Dear haters, I couldn’t help notice ‘Awesome’ ends with ‘me’ and ‘Ugly’ starts with ‘u’.” “Right before I die, I’m going to swallow a bag of popcorn kernels to make the cremation a bit more interesting.” “Sometimes I shock myself with the smart stuff I say and do. Then, there are times when I try to get out of the car with my seat belt on.” “Men say that women should come with instructions. What’s the point of that? Have you ever seen a man read instructions?

Your Friend and Pastor,

Father Charles Puthota

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
January 21, 2024

The kingdom of God is at hand.
Repent, and believe in the gospel.
— Mark 1:15



THE DEMANDS OF DISCIPLESHIP

Today we encounter readings that already have a Lenten feel about them. Nineveh undergoes a forty-day fast, the psalmist reminds us that God alone can show sinners the way, Paul shows us how fleeting the things and events of this world are, and Jesus cries out “Repent!” before he calls his new followers. “Come after me,” Jesus says, but if we are to truly live out the commands and demands of our discipleship through baptism, we must first know our need for conversion, our repentance, our need to believe in the gospel fully. Today’s Gospel opens with the stark reminder of what befell John the Baptist for completely living out his vocation as the herald of Christ and the gospel: he was arrested, imprisoned, and martyred. Though few of us will experience consequences that extreme, we must all be ready to risk some sort of rejection as, heeding the call of Jesus, we live out the kingdom of God at hand, repent of our sins, and believe in the good news of salvation.
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TODAY’S READINGS

First Reading — The people of Nineveh believed God and turned from their evil ways (Jonah 3:1-5, 10).
Psalm — Teach me your ways, O Lord (Psalm 25).
Second Reading — The world in its present form is passing away (1 Corinthians 7:29-31).
Gospel — This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand (Mark 1:14-20).
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:
January 13-14

Weekly Need:	\$ 5,000.00
First Collection	\$ 2,967.00
Parish Maintenance	\$ 560.00
Over/Under	\$ 1,473.00

If you make your offertory donation by check, without using parishioner envelopes, it would be most helpful if your put your envelope number in the memo section of the check. Thank you for your continued generosity.

MASS INTENTIONS

† Denotes deceased – (L) Living

Monday 8:30 am	January 22 † Joseph John Crow
Tuesday 8:30 am	January 23 † Lulu Abranches
Wednesday 8:30 am	January 24 † Rodolfo C. Trinidad
Thursday 8:30 am	January 25 † Victor Da Silva † Francisca Fabia
Friday 8:30 am	January 26 † Kathy Fazio
Saturday 8:30 am 4:30pm	January 27 † Philip Abranches † Boniface and † Olivia Abranches † Ricardo Tagle
Sunday 8:30 am 10:30 am	January 28 People of the Parish Tessie Vinluan (L) Calvin Trinidad (L)

READINGS FOR THE WEEK
January 22-28

Monday, 1-22	2 Sm 5:1-7, 10; Ps 89:20-22, 25-26; Mk 3:22-30,
Tuesday, 1-23	2 Sm 6:12b-15, 17-19; Ps 24:7-10; Mk 3:31-35
Wednesday, 1-24	2 Sm 7:4-17; Ps 89:4-5, 27-30; Mk 4:1-20
Thursday, 1-25	Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22; Ps 117, 2; Mk 16:15-18
Friday 1-26	2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5; Ps96:1-3,7-8a,10 321: Mk 4:26-34
Saturday, 1-27	2 Sm 12:1-7a, 10-17; Ps 51:12-17; Mk 4:35-41
Sunday, 1-28	Dt 18:15-20; Ps 95:1-2, 6-9; 1 Cor 7:32-35; Mk 1:21-28

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES
January 21-27

Sunday, 1-21	3 rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
Tuesday, 1-23	St. Vincent; Saint Marianne Cope
Wednesday, 1-24	St. Francis de Sales
Thursday, 1-25	The Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle
Friday, 1-26	Ss. Timothy and Titus
Saturday, 1-27	St. Angela Merici; Blessed Virgin Mary

On The Horizon at St. Elizabeth

● Parish Consultors Meeting

Tuesday, February 13th 9:15 am Cantwell Hall.

● Ash Wednesday

Wednesday, February 14th, Masses at 8:30 am and 6:00 pm.

● Lenten Retreat

Saturday, March 2nd.

End of Year Statements

We are preparing to close the books on 2023. Please contact the parish office in writing or email if you are in need of a year-end statement of your donations. We are able to provide statements to parishioners who have donated using Sunday Envelopes.

Please note that any donations received after December 31st will be credited to 2024.

We will not be responsible for donations not credited due to missing envelope numbers.

St. Elizabeth's Maltese Society St. Paul of the Shipwreck Festa Sunday, February 4, 2024

Mass: 10:30AM

St. Elizabeth Church

(459 Somerset Street, San Francisco, 94134)

Festa: Cantwell Hall

(490 Goettingen Street, San Francisco, 94134)

No Host Cocktails: 12:00PM

Lunch: 12:30PM

Menu:

Salad, Pasta, Half Chicken, Roasted Potatoes, Vegetables,
Bread & Butter, Dessert

Tickets:

Adults \$30/ Children: \$15 (12 years and younger)

Reservations:

Jeanette Santos 415-225-5315

Mary Sammut: 415-467-1686

No Tickets Sold at the Door

Raffle Donations Welcome

Pray for our Dear Departed



Romana Villanueva

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

U.S. BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION

**In re: The Roman Catholic Archbishop of San
Francisco, Case No. 23-30564**

**Notice of Deadline for Filing
Claims: February 20, 2024**

YOU MAY HAVE A SEXUAL ABUSE CLAIM OR OTHER CLAIM AGAINST THE ARCHDIOCESE OF SAN FRANCISCO

On August 21, 2023, The Roman Catholic Archbishop of San Francisco, a California corporation sole, aka Archdiocese of San Francisco (the "Debtor"), filed for protection under chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code").

If you were sexually abused by any person connected with the Debtor, you must file a claim so as to be received by February 20, 2024, or otherwise you will be forever barred, estopped, and enjoined from asserting such claim against the Debtor.

Claims based on acts or omissions of the Debtor that occurred before August 21, 2023, must be filed on or before February 20, 2024, even if such claims are not now fixed, liquidated, or certain or did not mature or become fixed, liquidated, or certain before August 21, 2023.

For more information on how to obtain and file a proof of claim form and associated documents,

7 6 please visit
https://omniagentsolutions.com/RCA_SF,

or contact Omni Agent Solutions, Inc., the Debtor's claims agent via email at RCASFinquiries@omniagnt.com or by phone at 888-480-6507 (U.S. and Canada toll free) or 747-293-0084 (International), between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. (prevailing Pacific Time), Monday through Friday.

****If you have questions about the bankruptcy case filed by the Archdiocese of San Francisco, please also visit the website at <https://sfarch.org> and follow the links for Chapter 11 Filing****