

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

March 10, 2024 Fourth Sunday of Lent



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

March 10, 2024

Dear Parishioners of St. Elizabeth,

Archdiocesan Annual Appeal (AAA) 2024: The goal is \$32,089. So far, you have donated \$21,153.00. The balance we need to raise is: \$10,936.00. If it is possible, can you consider giving 1.5% of the amount, which is \$500? Please give early and generously. Please see the names of donors in the bulletin. We completed last week a month-long, concerted campaign for AAA. Our parish and the Archdiocese are intimately linked in mission and ministry. Please give from the abundance of your hearts in gratitude for all the blessings we have received and as a way of standing with the Archdiocese that serves our own parish well through their many services. The Archdiocese is called to extend their ministries in various capacities to the three counties of San Francisco, Marin, and San Mateo.

Quotes on Giving: “We make a living by what we get. We make a life by what we give.”— Winston Churchill. “No one is useless in this world who lightens the burdens of another.” — Charles Dickens. “You can give without loving, but you cannot love without giving.” — Amy Carmichael. “For it is in giving that we receive.” — St. Francis of Assisi.

A Lenten Prayer for love by the renowned theologian Karl Rahner, SJ: “God of My Life, only in love can I find you, my God. In love the gates of my soul spring open, allowing me to breathe a new air of freedom and forget my own petty self. In love my whole being streams forth out of the rigid confines of narrowness and anxious self-assertion, which makes me a prisoner of my own poverty and emptiness. In love all the powers of my soul flow out toward you, wanting never more to return, but to lose themselves completely in you, since by your love you are the inmost center of my heart, closer to me than I am to myself. But when I love you, when I manage to break out of the narrow circle of self and leave behind the restless agony of unanswered questions, when my blinded eyes no longer look merely from afar and from the outside upon your unapproachable brightness, and much more when you yourself, O Incomprehensible One, have become through love the inmost center of my life, then I can bury myself entirely in you, O mysterious God, and with myself all my questions.”

Lenten Retreat Last Week: On Saturday March 02, I preached a retreat on the theme of “Spirituality: Some Insights and Practices.” It was attended by 70 people. Some had come from other parishes. After the 8:30 a.m. Mass, which was attended by the retreat participants, we went down to Cantwell Hall for breakfast and coffee. I gave three sessions, each of which started and ended with a hymn. Several of those who attended have let me know that they found the reflections on the Catholic spirituality helpful and inspirational. For example, the Catholic spirituality is sacramental, which means that everything (persons, events, nature, the course of history) is imbued with God’s hidden presence and everything is sacred. This stems from the grace of God becoming one with us, the mystery of the Incarnation.

The retreat ended with a delicious lunch catered by Ulisses Catering. It was a joyful event, with a perceptible upbeat mood. I think it is a blessing for people to come together and enjoy friendships as we are able to reflect on certain themes connected with the season of Lent. I’d like to express my deep gratitude to Phil McCarthy, David Gemignani, Luz Bansuelo, Belma Enriquez and their team for making excellent arrangements and their dedicated work. Our next retreat will be in Advent. Stay tuned!

Word of God, Fourth Sunday of Lent: The gospel from John this Sunday contains one of the most consoling passages in the whole Bible. This could indeed be the summary of the whole Bible and our Christian life. This is called “the gospel within the gospel.” It is this: “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him” (John 3: 16-17). This passage is worth memorizing. Jesus comes into the world because God loves the whole world. Does God really love the world? Yes, yes, yes. That’s why we have to love the world too. If we love the world as Jesus loves it, then we will go about making this world a better place. God is not there to condemn the world, but to love it and save it. That’s why Jesus is willing to die for us. The call of life is to turn away from evil, greed, sin, selfishness and everything that does not belong to God ---and turn toward the powers of love, goodness, compassion, and kindness. Lent is a good time to think about such things.

Pilgrimage to Greece and Medjugorje: In the Footsteps of St. Paul with Greek Isles Cruise, October 04 - 18, 2024: I’ll be spiritual director of this pilgrimage. It includes stops at Thessaloniki, Phillippi, Kavala, Kalambaka, Delphi, Corinth, Athens, Kusadasi, Ephesus (Mary’s House), Patmos, Santorini, Medjugorje. If you are interested in joining, you are most welcome. Check out www.206tours.com/cms/frputhota. For pricing and other information, please call Jon or Chris at 206 Tours (pilgrimage company) at 800-206-8687.

Quotable Quote: “You are never too old to set a new goal or to dream a new dream.” — C.S. Lewis

Pope John the 23rd Jokes: 1. Not long after he was elected pope, Pope John (now a saint) was walking in the streets of Rome. A woman passed him and said to her friend, “My God, he’s so fat!” Overhearing what she said, he turned around and replied, “Madame, I trust you understand that the papal conclave is not exactly a beauty contest.” 2. When he went to visit a friend at the nearby Hospital of the Holy Spirit in the evening, the nun answering the door said: “Holy Father, I’m the mother superior of the Holy Spirit.” He replied: “Lucky you! What a job! I’m just the ‘servant of the servants of God.’”

Be well! Stay healthy! May the present journey of Lent help bring us purified and renewed to the mysteries of the Holy Week!

Your Friend and Pastor,

Father Charles Puthota

Fourth Sunday of Lent
March 10, 2024

God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.

— John 3:17



COMMUNAL RESPONSIBILITY

The people of God forgot the covenant and flouted God’s laws. They did not listen to the prophets among them, who spoke for God in warning them. Prophets are sent from God to remind us why we are here, but they are often, even in our own time, mocked, disregarded, and mistreated rather than thanked and listened to.

The book of Chronicles tells the results of these sins: the destruction of the temple and all of Jerusalem, murder, mayhem, and finally exile to a foreign land. Why are these stories in the Bible? Just to inform us of what happened to our ancient forebears? What good would that be unless there were a message and a warning for us as well? Are we people who follow the teachings of God, who obey the words of Christ in the second covenant in his blood? Or do we continue to wreak works of darkness and violence? We are reminded by these readings that we will be judged as a people, not just as individuals. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

TODAY’S READINGS

First Reading — The wrath and the mercy of the LORD are revealed in the exile and liberation of the Chosen People (2 Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23) *or* 1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a.
Psalms — Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you! (Psalm 137) *or* Psalm 23.
Second Reading — God, who is rich in mercy, brought us to life with Christ (Ephesians 2:4-10) *or* Ephesians 5:8-14.
Gospel — The Son of Man must be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life (John 3:14-21) *or* John 9:1-41 [1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38]. 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:
March 2-3

Weekly Need:	\$ 5,000.00
First Collection	\$ 2,395.00
Faith Formation	\$ 826.00
Over/Under	\$ 1,779.00

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	March 11 † Charley Borg † Renee Lobo
Tuesday 8:30 am	March 12 † Grace and † Sam Fernandez
Wednesday 8:30 am	March 13 † Russel Tanquilut † Alejandro Monsanto
Thursday 8:30 am	March 14 † Roy Welch
Friday 8:30 am	March 15 † Jessie Borg † Naning Obtinario
Saturday 8:30 am 4:30pm	March 16 † Joseph F. and † Assunta Sant † George Falzon Vermon Devera (L)
Sunday 8:30 am 10:30 am	March 17 People of the Parish † Joseph A. Sant Maltese Society Italian Catholic Federation

READINGS FOR THE WEEK
March 11-17

Monday 3/11	Is 65:17-21; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13b; Jn 4:43-54
Tuesday 3/12	Ez 47:1-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9; Jn 5:1-16
Wednesday 3/13	Is 49:8-15; Ps 145:8-9, 13c-14, 17-18; Jn 5:17-30
Thursday 3/14	Ex 32:7-14; Ps 106:19-23; Jn 5:31-47
Friday 3/15	Wis 2:1a, 12-22; Ps 34:17-21, 23; Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
Saturday 3/16	Jer 11:18-20; Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-12; Jn 7:40-53
Sunday 3/17	Jer 31:31-34; Ps 51:3-4, 12-15; Heb 5:7-9; Jn 12:20-33

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES
March 10-16

Sunday 3/10	4 th Sunday of Lent; Daylight Saving Time begins
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2024 Archdiocesan Annual Appeal

Campaign launched on February 3-4

Anonymous
 Puthota, Fr. Charles *
 Abranches, Sandra *
 Alipio, Marietta *
 Alviar, Feliciano / Annabelle *
 Barba, Gilbert / Alicia *
 Barbieri, M/M Mark *
 Canlas, Beverly
 Casazza, Anna
 Clement, Edward/ Lucille *
 Contreras, Felix
 Crow, Lilia *
 de los Reyes, Herminia *
 DeVera, May / Vita *
 Falzon, Tony / Mary
 Feliciano, Lester / Jean
 Galimba, Rodrigo / Rachel
 Gemignani, David *
 Ghiglieri, Norene
 Grima, John /Carmen
 Gughemetti, M/M Al
 Holmes, Gregory / Clara *
 Imbellino, Bob *
 John, Richard *
 Lampa, Lourdes
 Landstorfer, Patricia / Franz
 Mambretti, Diana
 McCarthy, Phil *

Micallef, Emmanuel /Carmen *
 Moretto, Ilia *
 O'Sullivan, Claire / James *
 Orton, Thomas / Carmen *
 Ouano, Carmelita
 Padua, Richard /Maria *
 Perata, Mary *
 Pilare, Corazon *
 Puccinelli, M/M Sergio
 Pugh, Tom and Jackie
 Quiton, Aurora *
 Rivera, Rodolfo / Maria
 Romias, Editha
 Rossi, Elisabetta *
 San Diego, M/M Gavin *
 Sanchez, Virginia *
 Sifuentes, Teresa *
 Sisters of the Good Shepherd *
 Soares, Sharon *
 Sunga, Ernesto
 Tablante, Victor /Patricia *
 Tablante, Eric
 Thierry, Annie
 Velasco, Pauline
 Vinluan, Tessie *
 Welsh, Dolores *
 Zarich, Ennio and Marianne

* 1.5% Circle donors have an asterisk next to their name. (\$500.00 and more)

If contributing by check directly to St. Elizabeth please make your check payable to the Archdiocesan Annual Appeal.

Please note: Donations made directly to the Archdiocese will be acknowledged once we receive the monthly report from the Office of Development.

Amount Assessed: **\$32,089.00**

Amount collected to date: **\$21,153.00**

Balance: **\$10,936.00**

On The Horizon at St. Elizabeth

● Archdiocesan Annual Appeal

March 10 ~ Week six

● Palm Sunday

Sunday, March 24

● Holy Thursday

Thursday, March 28

● Good Friday

Friday, March 29

● Easter Vigil

Saturday March 30 Mass at 8:00 pm

Easter Sunday

Sunday March 31

Masses at 8:30 am and 10:30 am

Faith Formation Teachers Needed

Faith formation teachers are needed for the 2024-2025 school year.

Classes are held on Saturday from 8:30 am to 11:00 am in Cantwell Hall.

The program begins in September and ends in May.

For more information, please contact Laurie Digneo at 415-672-4903 or by email at sophielady7@aol.com