

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 24, 2024 Palm Sunday



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 Fridays

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 24, 2024

Dear Parishioners of St. Elizabeth,

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion: On Palm Sunday, we commemorate Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem. Henry Hart Milman says: "Ride on, ride on in majesty! In lowly pomp ride on to die; O Christ, thy triumphs now begin, O'er captive death and conquered sin." Jesus' triumphal entry will turn into dark, sad days of excruciating suffering and shameful death. But it will all pale in the resplendent glory that will dawn on Easter. The profound Christian insight is that it's always through the cross that we find our glory. Without suffering, there is no love, no redemption, no new life. Suffering is redemptive. Death is the way to resurrection. Let's look at the face of Christ this Holy Week. Let's look into his tender eyes. Let's place our hand on the heart of Christ. Let's seek to enter his mind and heart and be close to his thoughts and feelings.

St. Elizabeth Parish Holy Week Schedule in the Mail: I sent the Easter letter last Monday March 18 to every parishioner of St. Elizabeth Parish. The letter includes the Holy Week Schedule. Please also see the schedule in this weekend's bulletin. I invite you wholeheartedly to participate in the holy rituals and sacred services of the Holy Week at our parish.

Archdiocesan Annual Appeal (AAA): Our goal was \$32,089. 1.5% was \$500. As of last Sunday March 17, we reached our goal. It took only seven weeks for us to make it. We had launched the campaign for 2024 on February 3-4 weekend. I'd like to thank all those who donated for your good will and generosity in your support for the ministries of the Archdiocese. I'm so glad that those who generously donated \$500 and more helped reach our goal quickly. Those of you who are still considering to give, please do because the excess amount will be returned to our parish by the Archdiocese so that we could utilize it to continue to do God's work at our own parish.

Morning Prayer: During the Holy Week, please do join the Morning Prayer on Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday at 8:30 a.m. There will be no morning Masses on those three days. Please see the schedule for all the services of the Holy Week.

Good Friday, A Day of Fast and Abstinence.

Donating Easter Lilies: If you are able to donate Easter lilies, you are most welcome to do so. Please bring them sooner than later to church during the weekday morning Mass (timings (8:00 a.m. through 9:00 a.m.) or before the Sunday Masses or you may leave them at the parish office during office hours (Monday through Thursday 8:00 a.m through 12:00 noon.)

Pontifical Good Friday Collection: The offering taken up on Good Friday in all the Catholic parishes around the world is called the Pontifical Good Friday Collection. It goes toward supporting the holy shrines, parishes, and ministries in the Holy Land. It includes the liturgical, ecumenical, communications, educational (Terra Sancta Schools), pastoral, social, & charitable works, all of which in the Holy Land are entrusted to the care of the Franciscans. Christians in the Holy Land rely heavily on the help that comes to them from this worldwide collection. In the context of the war going on now, this collection is all the more urgent. Please donate generously.

Can you think about a simple meditative prayer called "Lectio Divina" for the Holy Week?: You may choose one of the passion narratives from one of the four gospels. Read slowly and prayerfully this passion narrative and try to be silent for a few minutes after reading it. Pause whenever an inspiration touches you or affects you deeply. If something moves you, do stay with that feeling. If you feel inspired, speak to Jesus in your own words. St. Ignatius of Loyola suggests in the "Spiritual Exercises" to stand before the cross and ask: "Lord, what have I done for you? What am I doing for you? What shall I do for you?"

Via Dolorosa: On my four visits to the Holy Land so far, one of the memorable devotions I practiced along with the fellow-pilgrims was to walk the holy route, Via Dolorosa, which in Latin means "the way of suffering." It's in the Old City of Jerusalem. Tradition has long held that Jesus walked through this way toward Calvary. This route winds through narrow streets with thousands of shops on either side. That is why we had to wake up early in the morning by 4:30 a.m. and get to this place and start the Way of the Cross by 5:30 a.m. so that we could complete our prayers by the time shops opened in the bazaar. At the end of the walking along this holy route, I celebrated Mass at the Church of Holy Sepulcher. It was one of the most memorable walks of our life ever. We walked the same way Jesus did toward his crucifixion! We were filled with sadness for Jesus carrying the cross, but we were also filled with hope and gratitude for what Jesus brought for us through his ultimate sacrifice.

Word of God: This Palm Sunday, the Word of God is all about suffering. The first reading is from Isaiah about the suffering servant. He is subjected to excruciating suffering, but he places all his trust in God. The responsorial psalm is about: "My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?" A very powerful cry indeed! How many times have we felt this way in our life? We sometimes feel that we are abandoned by everyone, including God. Jesus himself felt this way. He used these very words on the cross. Jesus knows our human frustrations and anguish because he himself has gone through those dark moments in his life. That's the reason we can go to Jesus with great confidence. He knows exactly our struggles and sufferings. The second reading is the famous hymn from the letter to the Philippians, which celebrates Jesus's humility, obedience to his Father, his dying on the cross, his exaltation by his heavenly Father above everything and everyone. The gospel reading, the passion narrative, is taken from Mark's gospel. On Good Friday, the passion narrative will be from John's gospel. As we go through these readings, the Lord will speak to us tenderly and give us the grace to enter more deeply the sufferings and death of Jesus so that we could rise with him to a new life in the glory of the resurrection.

I wish everyone at St. Elizabeth Parish a prayerful, reflective, and grace-filled Holy Week.

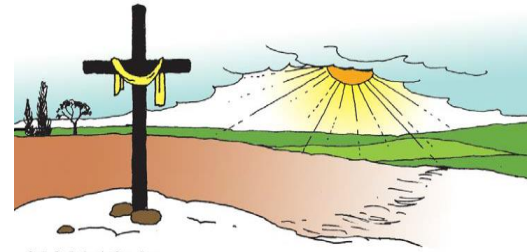
Your Friend and Pastor,

Father Charles Puthota

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord March 24, 2024

[Christ Jesus] humbled himself, becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

— *Philippians 2:8*



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PASSION

The contrast between the processional reading in today's liturgy and the proclamation of the Passion is striking. We are given a glimpse of how profoundly the word of God is fulfilled in Jesus.

First he must be hailed as the Messiah, the One who is to come. He must be acknowledged by all, though they do not know what they are saying. They think he is the promised king, a worldly king of the Jews who will free them from the Roman occupation. They do not yet understand, even the disciples, exactly where this triumphal procession is leading. In our lives, we too do not know where we are going. It is in faith that we can follow Christ wherever he may lead us, trusting that death is not the end, nor evil the victor.

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TODAY'S READINGS

Gospel at the Procession with Palms — Jesus' entry into Jerusalem (Mark 11:1-10 or John 12:12-16).

First Reading — In spite of my sufferings I am not disgraced. I am not put to shame (Isaiah 50:4-7).

Psalm — My God, my God, why have you abandoned me? (Psalm 22).

Second Reading — Christ emptied himself, and God filled this emptiness with exaltation (Philippians 2:6-11).

Gospel — The account of Christ's passion according to Mark (Mark 14:1 — 15:47 [15:1-39]).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International

Saturday/Sunday Collection: March 16-17

Weekly Need:	\$ 5,000.00
First Collection	\$ 2,562.50
Church Environment	\$ 532.00
Over/Under	\$ 1,905.50

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 25 † Timoteo B. Nacor Jr. Teresita Gotauco (L)
Tuesday 8:30 am	March 26 † Kathy Fazio † Castula Padilla
Wednesday 8:30 am	March 27 † Maria Rebagliati † Rafael Martinez
Thursday 8:30 am 6:30 pm	March 28 Morning Prayer Mass of the Lord's Supper
Friday 8:30 am 12-12:45 pm 12:45 – 1:30 pm 1:30 – 3:00 pm	March 29 Morning Prayer Stations of the Cross Reflections on the Cross Good Friday Liturgy
Saturday 8:30 am 4:30pm	March 30 Morning Prayer Easter Vigil
Sunday 8:30 am 10:30 am	March 31 Easter Sunday People of the Parish Easter Sunday

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE 2024

PALM SUNDAY VIGIL, MARCH 23

Confessions: 4:00 pm • Mass: 4:30 pm

PALM SUNDAY, MARCH 24

Confessions: 10:00 am

Masses: 8:30 am & 10:30 am

HOLY THURSDAY, MARCH 28

No Morning Mass • Morning Prayer at 8:30 am

6:30 pm - Mass of the Lord's Supper

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 9:00 pm

GOOD FRIDAY, MARCH 29

No Morning Mass • Morning Prayer at 8:30 am

12:00 - 12:45 pm ~ Stations of the Cross

12:45 - 1:30 pm ~ Reflections on the Cross

1:30 - 3:00 pm ~ Good Friday Liturgy

HOLY SATURDAY, MARCH 30

No Morning Mass • Morning Prayer at 8:30 am

Confessions: 9:00 – 10:00 am

EASTER VIGIL: SATURDAY, MARCH 30

Mass: 8:00 pm

EASTER SUNDAY: MARCH 31

Masses: 8:30 am and 10:30 am

2024 Archdiocesan Annual Appeal Campaign launched on February 3-4

Anonymous Puthota, Fr. Charles * Abranches, Sandra * Alano, Adolfo/Teresita * Alipio, Marietta * Alviar, Feliciano / Annabelle * Arnold, Sharon * Myo Aung, Maureen Bansuelo, Luz Barba, Gilbert / Alicia * Barbieri, M/M Mark * Borg, Ron * Brady, Peter / Dolores * Canlas, M/M Benito Casazza, Anna Clement, Edward / Lucille * Contreras, Felix Crow, Lilia * de los Reyes, Herminia * Devera, May / Vito * Falzon, Mary Feliciano, Lester / Jean Frediani, Donald * Galimba, Rodrigo / Rachel * Galiza, M/M Herminio	Gemignani, David * Ghiglieri, Norene Gotauco, Adrian * Gotauco, Tessie * Grima, John /Carmen Gughemetti, M/M Al Hendricks, M/M Michael Holmes, Gregory / Clara * Imbellino, Bob * John, Richard * Kern, Scott/Rowena * Lampa, Lourdes Landstorfer, Patricia / Franz Loza, Fernando/Natalie Mambretti, Diana McCarthy, Phil * Micallef, Emmanuel /Carmen * Moretto, Ilia * O'Sullivan, Claire / James * Orton, Thomas / Carmen * Ouano, Carmelita Padua, Richard /Maria * Pasco, Elizabeth Perata, Mary *	Pilare, Corazon * Puccinelli, M/M Sergio Pugh, Tom /Jackie * Quito, Aurora * Resurreccion, Lourdes * Reyes, Nestor /Roselie 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 Tolentino, Ledivina * Trinidad, Gloria * Valledor, Juliana Velasco, Pauline Vinluan, Tessie * Welsh, Dolores * Zarich, Ennio / Marianne
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* 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. Please contact the parish office directly with any questions.**

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

Amount collected to date: **\$29,548.00**

Balance: **\$2,541.00**



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Father Charles with the choir and sacristans before choir rehearsal.