

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

May 5, 2024 ~ Sixth Sunday of Easter



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
May 5, 2024

Dear Parishioners of St. Elizabeth,

Easter Reflections: Recognizing Jesus in our lives and in the present world: During the Easter season, the gospel readings present us with the anecdotes of Jesus encountering his incredulous disciples and revealing himself again and again. There is a common thread that runs through these apparitions of the Risen Christ: the apostles and others to whom Jesus appear do not easily recognize Jesus. It takes time for them to awaken into the identity of Jesus. Jesus does all sorts of gentle and kind things to encourage them into the reality of his resurrection. Mary Magdalene, for example, thinks that Jesus is a gardener. Others at times think that he is a ghost. The two Emmaus disciples do not recognize him. Something keeps their eyes from recognizing him. They finally see him as Jesus only in the breaking of the bread, though their hearts were burning when he interpreted the scriptures. At the resurrection of Jesus, something is the same, something is different. He is a new being. He can appear inside the locked rooms. He has body but his body is so different that they cannot see him as Jesus immediately: they are startled and terrified. Those who were very close to him face this situation again and again.

What about us? Over 2000 years later, can we recognize the risen Christ? Something is preventing us from seeing him in our lives. Are we afraid, terrified, and startled like the apostles? Do these fears keep us from recognizing Jesus? Or are we being just plain busy with so many other things that Jesus cannot rise in our minds and hearts? We have a bigger challenge than those faced by the early apostles. We have never seen Jesus with our physical eyes. We can feel, touch, recognize, and encounter Jesus only through the spirit. We have to allow our minds and hearts find Jesus. It's the inner seeing that can lead us to the risen Christ. It is the way Paul saw Jesus spiritually and completely surrendered to him and promoted him for the rest of his life. It would take quietness and peace---and plumbing our inner depths. Are we ready to recognize this person who has fascinated the world for over 20 centuries? Are we ready to look at the Jesus of History and Christ of Faith and come to the conviction that Jesus who lived a couple of thousands of years ago is truly living now in our lives and in the world? Can we be adventurous enough to try to remove all sorts of obstacles that prevent us from recognizing him, loving him, and following him here and now?

First Holy Communion: Six of our Faith Formation children are receiving First Communion this Sunday at the 10:30 a.m. Mass. Congratulations to the children and families! It's a joyful and memorable spiritual event in our parish that uplifts the spirit of the community into the heavenly heights. We, the grown-up folks, long for their innocence, faith, sense of wonder, simplicity, gratitude, and their excitement. We wish we could recapture a bit of their state of mind and heart in our practice of faith. The Communion--- the Body of

Christ---they receive today for the first time makes them princes and princesses of our parish and our whole neighborhood because they have Jesus with them as their most precious gift and treasure. Let's keep these children and their families in our hearts and prayers. May this sacrament be a source of renewal of life for them and for our entire parish as well.

Word of God: 6th Sunday of Easter: Invitation to Mysticism: The gospel passage continues the theme from the parable of the Vine and the Branches we read last Sunday in which we meditated on the intimate and unbreakable connection we the branches need to have with Jesus the vine if we have to bear any fruit, while the Father, the vine grower, prunes and purifies us for the most effective mission we are called to fulfill for his Son Jesus Christ. Sometimes we might mistakenly think that mysticism is only for a few rare saints, but Christian spirituality entails the gift of mysticism for every baptized person. It's this mysticism that is at the heart of the gospel this Sunday. The Father loves the Son; the Son loves us the same way the Father loves the son. We need to remain (abide, stay, live, dwell) in Jesus' love. By keeping Jesus' commandments we will remain in his love exactly as Jesus remains in his Father's love by keeping the Father's commandments. Loving one another in the same sacrificial way as Jesus loves us is the commandment that will make us abide in Jesus' as well as the Father's love. This will bring us joy and that joy will be complete. Is this not pure and unadulterated and exhilarating mysticism? John in the second reading reinforces the mystical life Jesus is inviting us to. Love is of God and so we know God only through love. This is mysticism that we are called to live on a daily basis. Keep loving God and others in a selfless, self-sacrificial, joyful, generous, and grateful ways is the surest way to practice this mysticism. Are we excited about this simple formula for the mystical life Jesus is calling us to?

May, a Month Dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary: Hail, Holy Queen: Hail, holy Queen, Mother of mercy, hail, our life, our sweetness and our hope. To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve: to thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this vale of tears. Turn then, most gracious Advocate, thine eyes of mercy toward us, and after this our exile, show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus, O merciful, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary! Amen.

Humor for the Tax Season: Father O'Malley answers the phone: "Hello, is this Father O'Malley?" "It is." "This is the IRS. Can you help us?" "I can." "Do you know a Ted Houlihan?" "I do." "Is he a member of your congregation?" "He is." "Did he donate \$10,000 to the church?" "He will."

Your Friend and Pastor,

Father Charles Puthota

Sixth Sunday of Easter May 5, 2024

It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit.
— John 15:16



LOVE ONE ANOTHER

In the Gospel for the Sixth Sunday of Easter we are met with an extraordinary challenge: Jesus commands us to "love one another as I love you" (John 15:12). The letter from John echoes this command. Of course, we are to love those in our family, those we work with, those we like. But the scriptures make clear that we are also to love those we never notice, those we purposely avoid, and even those we are tempted to despise.

In this Sunday's selection from the Acts of the Apostles Peter shows us how far God's love extends, and how far our love should extend in response. Peter realizes that God no longer "shows partiality" to the Jews, sharing divine love exclusively with them. Christ has revealed that God's love extends to all people, and so should ours. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — The gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out on the Gentiles also (Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48).

Psalms — The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power (Psalm 98).

Second Reading — Let us love one another, because love is of God (1 John 4:7-10)

Gospel — This is my commandment: love one another as I love you (John 15:9-17).

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:

April 27 - 28

Weekly Need: \$ 5,000.00
First Collection \$ 2,223.00
Over/Under \$ 2,777.00

Catholic Home Mission \$ 725.00

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	May 6 Lourdes Padilla (L)
Tuesday 8:30 am	May 7 † Jesus "Jesse" Quinonez
Wednesday 8:30 am	May 8 † Joseph, † Tessie and † Saviour Schembri
Thursday 8:30 am	May 9 Dave and Sandy Mehrwein (L) † Mary Mercurio
Friday 8:30 am	May 10 † Maria Rebagliati
Saturday 8:30 am 4:30pm	May 11 † Emil Bertana Mangion Family Living and Deceased † Eddie Mandani
Sunday 8:30 am 10:30 am	May 12 People of the Parish Mother's Day All Mothers Living and Deceased Mother's Day All Mothers Living and Deceased

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday, 5/6	Acts 16:11-15; Ps 149:1b-6a, 9b; Jn 15:26 — 16:4a
Tuesday, 5/7	Acts 16:22-34; Ps 138:1-3, 7c-8; Jn 16:5-11
Wednesday, 5/8	Acts 17:15, 22 — 18:1; Ps 148:1-2, 11-14; Jn 16:12-15
Thursday, 5/9	Acts 1:1-11; Ps 47:2-3, 6-9; Eph 1:17-23 or Eph 4:1-13
Friday, 5/10	Acts 18:9-18; Ps 47:2-7; Jn 16:20-23
Saturday, 5/11	Acts 18:23-28; Ps 47:2-3, 8-10; Jn 16:23b-28
Sunday, 5/12	Acts 1:1-11; Ps 47:2-3, 6-9; Eph 1:17- 23 or Eph 4:1-13

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday, 5/5	6 th Sunday of Easter
Friday, 5/10	St. John of Avila St. Damien de Veuster

**Thank you! Congratulations! We Reached our Goal!
2024 Archdiocesan Annual Appeal**

Anonymous	Gemignani, David *	Pasco, Elizabeth
Puthota, Fr. Charles *	Ghiglieri, Norene	Perata, Mary *
Abranches, Sandra *	Gonzalez, Philippe/Jennifer *	Pilare, Corazon *
Alano, Teresita / Adolfo *	Gotauco, Adrian *	Puccinelli, M/M Sergio
Alipio, Marietta *	Gotauco, Tessie *	Pugh, Tom /Jackie *
Alviar, Feliciano / Annabelle *	Grima, John /Carmen	Quiton, Aurora *
Arnold, Sharon *	Guardado, Mary/Jose *	Resurreccion, Lourdes *
Aung, Maureen	Gughemetti, M/M Al	Reyes, Nestor / Rosalie
Bansuelo, Luz	Hendricks, M/M Michael	Rivera, Rodolfo / Maria
Barba, Gilbert / Alicia *	Holmes, Gregory / Clara *	Romias, Editha
Barbieri, M/M Mark *	Imbellino, Bob *	Rossi, Elisabetta *
Bensi, M/M Mark	John, Richard *	Ruiz-Mendez, Ines *
Borg, Ron *	Kern, Scott / Rowena *	Sammut, Tony/Mary
Brady, Peter / Dolores *	Lampa, Lourdes	San Diego, M/M Gavin *
Bugante, M/M Rolando	Landstorfer, Franz / Patricia	San Pedro, Contessa
Canlas, M/M Benito	Landstorfer, John *	Sanchez, Virginia *
Cantu, M/M Peter *	Loza, Fernando / Natalie	Sifuentes, Teresa *
Chang, Mario / Patricia	Madriaga, Ignacio *	Sisters of the Good Shepherd *
Cagalingan, Prudencio/Carol *	Mambretti, Diana	Soares, Sharon *
Casazza, Anna	Manalo, M/M Gildo	Sunga, Ernesto
Clement, Edward / Lucille *	Mandani, Edilberto / Aleja	Tablante, Victor Patricia *
Contreras, Felix	McCarthy, Phil *	Tablante, Eric
Crow, Lilia *	Mendoza, Rhina	Thierry, Annie
de los Reyes, Herminia *	Micallef, Emmanuel /Carmen *	Tolentino, Ledivinia *
Del Rosario, Adelaide	Moretto, Iliia *	Trinidad, Gloria *
DeVera, May / Vito *	Munoz, M/M Ricardo	Valledor, Julie
De Vera Acosta M/M Neri	Nacor, Eriberto	Velasco, Pauline
Falzon, Mary	Ngo, M/M Hung	Vinluan, Tessie *
Farrugia, Charles	O'Sullivan, Claire / James *	Visperas. Nona
Feliciana, Lester / Jean	Orton, Thomas / Carmen *	Walsh, Michael *
Ferguson, Donna	Ouano, Carmelita	Welsh, Dolores *
Frediani, Donald *	Padua, Richard /Maria *	Zarich, Ennio / Marianne
Gagliardo, Grace	Pascual, Florante *	
Galea, Nazareno/Leona	Perez, M/M Cipriano *	
Galimba, Rodrigo / Rachel *		
Galiza, M/M Herminio		

* 1.5% Circle donors have an asterisk next to their name. (\$500.00 and more)
Amount Assessed: **\$32,089.00** ~ Amount collected to date: **\$41,490.00**

**NEXT WEEK THE 2ND COLLECTION IS FOR
CATHOLIC CHARITIES**

This second collection is an annual opportunity for parishioners in the Archdiocese of San Francisco to support mothers and their families in San Francisco, San Mateo, and Marin counties. Every day, low-income mothers are struggling to make ends meet. Many in our community have no option but to move money around, choosing between paying rent and utilities, buying food, and medicine, living from emergency to emergency. With your help, Catholic Charities provides life-affirming services so mothers and their families can flourish, without difficult choices. Please give generously and dedicate your Mother's Day donation to at-risk mothers that need hope and resources.

You can visit CatholicCharitiesSF.org/Love to donate online. For more information, contact Bridget Mahoney at BMahoney@CatholicCharitiesSF.org

On The Horizon at St. Elizabeth

●Confirmation

Saturday, May 11th at the Cathedral of St. Mary The Assumption.

●Ascension of the Lord

Saturday, Vigil (May 11th) 4:30 pm
Sunday, May 12th

Masses at 8:30 am and 10:30 am

●Pentecost Sunday

Saturday, Vigil (May 18th) 4:30 pm
Sunday, May 19th

Masses at 8:30 am and 10:30 am

●Memorial Day

Monday, May 27th

Holiday: office closed.