

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

July 28, 2024 ~ Seventeenth 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 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
July 28, 2024

Dear Parishioners of St. Elizabeth,

In view of the Feast of St. Ignatius of Loyola on July 31, here are my reflections:

Uniqueness: When the Jesuit Order was founded and called the Society of Jesus, some other religious orders had concerns about the name. But St. Ignatius prayed copiously for the grace of calling it the Society of Jesus and nothing else. Also, St. Ignatius wanted the Order to be apostolic rather than monastic. He wanted the Jesuits to go all over the world with a great flexibility and dynamism to work for God and people. Another interesting characteristic of the Jesuits is that St. Ignatius did not want a particular religious garb for his men. They would adapt to the local, national customs and wear the priests' garb of the particular area where they minister. Last but not least, as far as I know, the Jesuits are the only Order that does not require their men to do the Divine Office in common. It is left to the individuals to pray it at their convenient time. They had to be engaged in their apostolate with all their commitment and dedication and accommodate the praying of the Divine Office individually at their own time.

Let me list some of the insights of St. Ignatius:

Conversion: This is at the heart of the spirit of St. Ignatius. He himself was converted. A wayward worldly soldier he was before, but after he was injured in war in Pamplona, he began to ask the question: "If the saints could do so much for God, why can't I?" While convalescing in the family castle of Loyola in the Basque countryside (where I had the privilege of celebrating Mass in the very room where St. Ignatius spent his convalescence months), there was a deep conversion that God brought about in his life. His attention now turned to Christ. He transferred his chivalry and passion in service of Christ our Lord. Later in the cave of Manresa, he spent months praying, undergoing the process of conversion, and jotting down his insights which would later become the spiritual classic called the Spiritual Exercises. In the retreats based on the Ignatian spirituality, especially in the beginning, conversion would be the focus of attention. The retreatant is asked to meditate on God's amazing love, one's sinfulness, and conversion, and rededication to God's love and service.

The First Principle and Foundation: In the Spiritual Exercises, St. Ignatius says that we must be clear about the purpose of our life, not just in the immediate sense, but in the long range. We are created to love, serve, and reverence God and by means of that to attain our final fulfillment and destiny, which is union with God in eternity. Everything in the world is given to us as a means --- as a help --- for us to reach our ultimate destiny. Therefore, we are to choose only those that will help us toward achieving the purpose of our lives and avoid those that do not help us toward our ultimate goal.

Discernment of Spirits: St. Ignatius observed early on that there were positive and negative movements and forces acting on his soul. Some thoughts lead us to peace and consolation; some others lead us to emptiness, turmoil and desolation. In order for us to make choices in life, if we pay close attention to the movement of the spirits in our souls, we will be able to discern what God wants us to do. God's Spirit will guide us by providing the climate in our soul which would be an indication for us to choose a particular option, way of

life, etc. In other words, by becoming aware of the spirits acting on our soul like the wind on the water, we will become experts in listening to God's voice at a deeper level and respond to it with openness and courage.

For the Greater Glory of God: This is AMDG! Which is short for Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam --- For the Greater Glory of God. Please note that it is not the great glory, nor the greatest glory. It is the "greater" glory. The adjective "greater" indicates that it's a constant striving for the greater glory. We keep growing always in this area. We cannot possibly give the greatest glory, which is reserved for the time when we will join the angels and saints. But here on earth, we are running the race, always stretching out spirits and hearts for God and people, never resting on our laurels.

Finding God in all things and All things in God: There is a dynamic dialog, the constant relationship between the divine and the human. The world is charged with the grandeur of God, as the Jesuit poet Gerald Manley Hopkins says. We are called to grow in the divine milieu, the sense of God's presence in everyone and everything. Our daily lives are suffused with the sense of transcendence. God works, directs, guides, graces, and empowers throughout our lives. To the extent that we can see that "the earth is crammed with heaven," we can find ourselves standing on the holy ground. We can then take all our endeavors and quests and struggles to the heart of God.

The Ignatian Indifference: This means that when we have several options to choose from, we need to be indifferent, in the sense that we do not cling to any one option, until the process of discernment is undertaken. It's the healthy sense of being open to that particular option which God is leading us to make. This spirit of non-clinging, this indifference in the Ignatian sense, is necessary for us to be able to make any good choice.

Magis: The word "Magis" in the Ignatian vision expresses the desire to keep doing always "more" for God. We can never be content with what we are and what we do. There is always room for improvement; there is greater glory to be given in and through our endeavors; there is always more that we can do as human beings and Christians. There is the healthy sense of restlessness within us, which St. Augustine speaks of, which will keep stirring within us the never-ending desire to live and work for the greater glory of God.

Contemplation in Action: St. Ignatius felt that we need to bring prayer into life and our life into prayer. We are called to be contemplatives in action. Our actions would be a continuation of our union with God experienced in contemplation and meditation. Then we can take life into prayer, asking God to sanctify our deeds. While we are in contemplation, we shall in an authentic way bring ourselves without any falsehood, and stand before God. There is a perpetual flow and play between our prayer and life, faith and service; they are not disconnected areas, but the two sides of the same coin.

St. Ignatius' Prayer for Generosity: Dearest Lord, teach me to be generous; teach me to serve you as you deserve; to give and not to count the cost; to fight and not to heed the wounds; to toil and not to seek for rest; to labor and not to ask for any reward, save that of knowing that I do your most holy will. Amen.

Your Friend and Pastor,

Father Charles Puthota

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time July 28, 2024

The eyes of all look hopefully to you,
and you give them their food
in due season.

— Psalm 145:15



WEEKLY MIRACLE

This week marks the beginning of a kind of "liturgical detour." We have been listening to Saint Mark's Gospel during this liturgical year (Year B). Today we begin to hear a long section from John's Gospel, starting with the miracle of the multiplication of the loaves and fishes. This miracle story is a prelude to the Lord's statements that we will begin hearing in a few weeks, in which Jesus refers to himself as the "bread of life." Each week we witness a miracle at Mass. We do not see a multiplication of loaves before us. What our eyes of faith allow us to see is the miracle of the transformation of common elements—bread and wine—into the Lord's Body and Blood. Once we have received the Lord, the multiplication begins, for in the Eucharist we are strengthened to multiply our efforts to feed the poor, shelter the homeless, and bring comfort to the despairing.

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TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — When they had eaten, there was some left over, as the LORD had said (2 Kings 4:42-44).

Psalm — The hand of the Lord feeds us; he answers all our needs (Psalm 145).

Second Reading — Strive to preserve the unity of the spirit through the bond of peace (Ephesians 4:1-6).

Gospel — Jesus took the loaves, gave thanks, and distributed them to those who were reclining, and also as much of the fish as they wanted (John 6:1-15).

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.

Mass Intentions † Denotes deceased – (L) Living

Monday
8:30 am

Tuesday
8:30 am

Wednesday
8:30 am

Thursday
8:30 am

Friday
8:30 am

Saturday
8:30 am
4:30 pm

Sunday
8:30 am
10:30 am

July 29

† Martha Puthota
† Patria Tanquilut Castro

July 30

† Angelita Castillo
Jesus Castillo (L)
† Asuncion Rufo

July 31

† Juana Tamondong

August 1

Scott Kern (L)
Pilar Manalo (L)

August 2

† Marcos V. Valledor
† Renata Macaspac

August 3

† Cenovio Oropeza (L)
† Maria Tina Fontana

August 4

People of the Parish
† Eduardo Tanquilut
† Eva Perata

Saturday/Sunday Collection July 13 - 14

Weekly Need:	\$ 5,000.00
First Collection	\$ 2,806.00
Parish Maintenance	\$ 649.00
Over/Under	\$ 1,545.00

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.

Saturday/Sunday Collection July 20 - 21

Weekly Need:	\$ 5,000.00
First Collection	\$ 1,566.00
Church Environment	\$ 487.00
Over/Under	\$ 2,947.00

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.

On The Horizon at St. Elizabeth

●AAA 1.5% Donor Thank you Luncheon

Sunday, August 4th

●Maltese Champagne Bingo

Sunday, August 25th



St. Elizabeth Maltese Society Champagne Bingo Sunday, August 25, 2024 Cantwell Hall

Doors open at 12:00 pm
Lunch served at 1:00 pm
Bingo begins at 2:00 pm

\$25.00 per person

Ticket includes Lunch (Pasta with Meat
Sauce, Salad, Bread, Champagne and
dessert and 1 Bingo packet

R.S.V.P. by August 16th

(Reservation required,
No Day of Ticket Sales)

Jeanette Santos 415-225-5315

Mary Sammut 415-467-1686

Greece & Medjugorje Pilgrimage In the Footsteps of St. Paul with Greek Isles Cruise!

Spiritual Director: **Fr. Charles Puthota, Ph.D.**

October 4 – 20, 2024



**Thessaloniki · Philippi · Kavala · Kalambaka ·
Delphi · Corinth · Athens · Kusadasi· Ephesus (M
ary's House) · Patmos · Santorini · Medjugorje**

For eleven days you will follow the footsteps of St. Paul and experience beautiful sites throughout Greece. Visit Philippi where Paul the Apostle delivered his first sermon and established the first Church in Europe, Mars Hill in Athens where he spoke to the Athenians, Corinth and the site of St. Paul's trials by Gallio, and more! You will even visit the House of the Virgin Mary in Ephesus in Turkey where she lived until her Assumption according to Catholic Doctrine. A popular Pilgrimage site, this Shrine has even received several papal visits and blessings. On your 3-day cruise you will discover the captivating and beautiful Greek Islands like Mykonos, Crete, and Santorini.

**For more information and pricing please
contact:**

Jon at 206 Tours at 1-800-206-8687.



Faith Formation

FAITH FORMATION REGISTRATION IS OPEN FOR 2024-2025

Registration forms may be requested
by calling

Laurie Digneo at 415-672-4903

email: sophielady7@aol.com. Forms
can also be picked up at the parish office
or at the Church. Annual registration fees
are \$50.00 per child.

Faith Formation Teachers needed

We need teachers for the 2024-2025
school year. If you enjoy working with
children and have a general knowledge of
the Catholic religion, we would love to
have you be part of the Faith Formation
program. If interested, please contact
Laurie Digneo.

Pray for our Dear Departed



Elzo Grelli

“Eternal Rest Grant unto Them, O Lord . . .”