

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

August 11, 2024 ~ Nineteenth 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
August 11, 2024

Dear Parishioners of St. Elizabeth,

Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Thursday August 15, A Holy Day of Obligation, Masses at 8:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.: In the Catholic imagination, our Blessed Mother Mary occupies a vitally prominent role. She is the mother of Jesus. She brought the savior and redeemer into the world. Her role, therefore, is extremely significant. In the gospels we see that she was filled with grace, that she said yes to God, that she listened to God's word and observed it, and that she was at the foot of the cross. Michaelangelo's Pieta (at St. Peter's Basilica) represents most poignantly the suffering of Mary as the dead body of Jesus is placed on her lap. There was no one closer to the mystery of Jesus than our Blessed Mother. Because of her momentous role in the history of our salvation, because she is the mother of God's own son, she was protected from sin and decay from the moment of conception (when Mary's mother Anne conceived her in her womb, which is the mystery of the Immaculate Conception) until she breathed her last. The Catholic way of viewing her last moment in this world is that she did not die, but she slept into eternal life by being assumed into heaven. Her soul was never tainted by sin; her body was never stained by decay. She was gloriously assumed into heaven and crowned queen of heaven. She is our tender-hearted mother who always wants us to be happy and love Jesus her son. The same way she is mother of Jesus, she is our mother. What a privilege it is! Let's celebrate the feast of the Assumption of our BVM with great joy, faith, and gratitude. As William Wordsworth says, the BVM is "our tainted nature's solitary boast."

From the Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church: Mary, Mother of Christ, Mother of the Church: In what sense is the Blessed Virgin Mary the Mother of the Church? The Blessed Virgin Mary is the Mother of the Church in the order of grace because she gave birth to Jesus, the Son of God, the Head of the body which is the Church. When he was dying on the cross Jesus gave his mother to his disciple with the words, "Behold your mother" (John 19:27). How does the Virgin Mary help the Church? After the Ascension of her Son, the Virgin Mary aided the beginnings of the Church with her prayers. Even after her Assumption into heaven, she continues to intercede for her children, to be a model of faith and charity for all, and to exercise over them a salutary influence deriving from the superabundant merits of Christ. The faithful see in Mary an image and an anticipation of the resurrection that awaits them and they invoke her as advocate, helper, benefactress and mediatrix. What kind of devotion is directed to the holy Virgin? It is a singular kind of devotion which differs essentially from the cult of adoration given only to the Most Holy Trinity. This special veneration directed to Mary finds particular expression in the liturgical feasts dedicated to the Mother of God and in Marian prayers such as the holy Rosary which is a compendium of the whole Gospel.

Word of God: 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time: Have you ever noticed that there is much reference in our Catholic church to the activity of eating? The Eucharist is itself to do with eating. It is the sacred bread, the Body of Christ. It is also the bread in the form of the Word of God because "one does not live by bread alone but by every word that comes from the mouth of God." The Word of God this Sunday asks us to eat so that we might have life and everlasting life. In the first reading from 1Kings, Elijah is fed with a cake and water, so that he would be able to walk the long journey with strength. The responsorial psalm is about our "tasting and seeing" that the Lord is good. This prompts honest questions: Have we ever experienced God personally in our lives? On our life journey, have we learned to "taste and see" God, his love and presence, his goodness and grace? Sometimes in religion, we might be tempted to take the easy road of being on autopilot and do things in an impersonal way and not really personally see our connection with God. In the gospel, we have the most daring call from Jesus that we must taste him because he is the bread that came down from heaven. If we eat of his body and drink of his blood, he assures us that we will have eternal, everlasting life. That is why coming together for Eucharist is essential and vital for Christians. That is why we need to open our minds and hearts so that we could more actively and continuously share in the life of Christ. Let's continue to celebrate the mystery of the Eucharist with joy and active participation.

Feast of Saint Maxmillian Kolbe, Priest and Martyr, Wednesday August 14: Some years ago, while on a pilgrimage to Poland, I had the memorable experience of visiting the places connected with this most amazing saint. At Auschwitz, in the cell where he was made to die, first from starvation and then by lethal injection, there is a picture of the saint with a candle burning next to it. Also, I visited the Franciscan priory in Niepokalanow (42 miles from Warsaw) where he had been a friar and a museum dedicated to the life of the saint. He was educated in Rome and received a doctoral degree, established a printing press that published the largest circulated Catholic magazines and leaflets in Poland, and went to Japan to establish new Franciscan foundations. As you well know, he gave his life away in the Concentration Camp so that a fellow prisoner Franciszek Gajowniczek could be spared. St. Maximilian is a man for others following in the footsteps of his Master. Jesus' words echo in his powerfully: "No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends" (John 15:13).

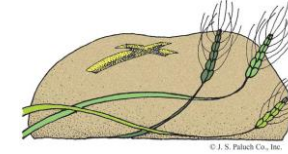
Fishing Joke: When the preacher approached the boy who was fishing in the park pond, he said, "Young man, do you know the parables?" "Yes sir," the lad quickly replied. "Which do you like best?" The boy looked up and, grinning, replied, "The one where everybody loafs and fishes."

Your Friend and Pastor,

Father Charles Puthota

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time August 11, 2024

I am the living bread that came down from heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever.
— John 6:51



STRENGTHENED BY THE BREAD OF LIFE

Today we resume the "Bread of Life" discourse from John's Gospel that began two weeks ago. He makes reference to the Jews' ancestors who ate manna in the desert. These days we would think primarily of Israel wandering in the desert, but faithful Jews would also have known the story of Elijah that we hear today. Strengthened by food and drink in the desert, the angel of the Lord sends him on his forty-day and forty-night journey (the biblical number for a preparation time). Like the food given to Elijah in the desert, Jesus tells his listeners that he is bread for the life of the world. It is very important that we not stop listening to Jesus after his promise of eternal life—a marvelous promise, but this "reward" is not the only reason we feast on the Bread of Life. We also come to the table to be made strong for the journey of mission, that the whole world might have life in the fullness of Christ. We are compelled, if we have eaten of the bread of life, to go forth in service to all.

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TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Elijah looked and there at his head was a hearth cake and a jug of water (1 Kings 19:4-8).
Psalm — Taste and see the goodness of the Lord (Psalm 34).
Second Reading — Be imitators of God, as beloved children, and live in love (Ephesians 4:30 — 5:2).
Gospel — Jesus said, "I am the living bread; whoever eats this bread will live forever" (John 6:41-51).
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 August 3 - 4

Weekly Need:	\$ 5,000.00
First Collection	\$ 3,474.00
Faith Formation	\$ 717.00
Over/Under	\$ 809.00

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.

Mass Intentions † Denotes deceased – (L) Living

Monday 8:30 am	August 12 † Eddie Mandani
Tuesday 8:30 am	August 13 † Bruna De Rosa † Simon Martinez Rebecca Williford Padua (L)
Wednesday 8:30 am	August 14 † Demetrio Alipio
Thursday 8:30 am	August 15 Souls in Purgatory † Asuncion Ramirez Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
6:00 pm	
Friday 8:30 am	August 16 † Joseph Skropanich
Saturday 8:30 am	August 17 † Anna Skropanich † Renzo Fontana † Earl McCarthy † Filomena and † Emanuel Scerri
4:30 pm	
Sunday 8:30 am	August 18 People of the Parish Pilar Manalo (L) † Italo Zarich Maltese Society
10:30 am	

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday, 8/12	Ez 1:2-5, 24-28c; Ps 148:1-2, 11-14; Mt 17:22-27
Tuesday, 8/13	Ez 2:8 — 3:4; Ps 119:14, 24, 72, 103, 111,131; Mt 18:1-5, 10, 12-14
Wednesday, 8/14	1 Chr 15:3-4, 15-16, 16:1-2, Ps 132:6-7,9-10, 13-14, Cor 15:54b-57, Lk 11:27-29
Thursday, 8/15	Rv11:19a. 12:1-6a, 10ab, Ps 45:10bc, 11-12ab,16 1Cor 15:20-27, Lk 1:39-56
Friday, 8/16	Ez 16:1-15, 60, 63 or 16:59-63; Is 12:2-3, 4bcd-6; Mt 19:3-12
Saturday, 8/17	Ez 18:1-10, 13b, 30-32; Ps 51:12-15, 18-19; Mt 19:13-15
Sunday, 8/18	Prv 9:1-6; Ps 34:2-7; Eph 5:15-20; Jn 6:51-58

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday, 8/11	19th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday, 8/12	St. Jane Frances, de Chantal
Tuesday 8/13	Sts. Pontian and Hippolytus
Wednesday, 8/14	St. Maximilian Kolbe
Thursday, 8/15	The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Friday, 8/16	St. Stephen of Hungary

On The Horizon at St. Elizabeth

●The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Thursday, August 15th. A Holy Day of Obligation.
Masses at 8:30 am and 6:00 pm.

●Father Charles' 35th Ordination Anniversary

Monday, August 19th.

●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.



We congratulate D'Angelo Francis Moresco and Frankie Fortunato Moresco, who were baptized at our Rectory Chapel on August 3, 2024.

Thank you I.C.F.



Thank you to the Italian Catholic Federation Branch # 258 for their donation of \$500.00 for the Faith Formation Program and \$1000.00 for Cantwell Hall kitchen repairs. Your generosity is appreciated.

FAITH FORMATION REGISTRATION IS OPEN FOR 2024-2025

Registration forms may be requested by calling Laurrie 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