

# **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](http://www.stelizabetsf.org) **Email:** [stelizabethchurchsf@gmail.com](mailto:stelizabethchurchsf@gmail.com)

**September 1, 2024 ~ Twenty Second 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**

<b>Patti Spiteri</b>	Administrative Assistant / Pastoral Coordinator
<b>Sandy Mehrwein</b>	Secretary
<b>Fred Spence</b>	Maintenance
<b>Laurie Digneo</b>	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  
September 1, 2024

### Dear Parishioners of St. Elizabeth,

**Maltese Society Champagne Bingo:** Last Sunday, August 25, the Maltese Society of our parish organized a great gathering for lunch, champagne, and Bingo. A successful event, it was attended by over 150 people. My thanks to Jeanette Santos, Emma Magarrell and their team for putting on an enjoyable afternoon event. We need more such social gatherings to bring people together. It's part of our mission to build up the "body of Christ" in our own parish community. I encourage more such gatherings from various organizations. Let me know how I can be of assistance.

**Faith Formation Masses and Classes Resume:** On Saturday September 07, the Faith Formation children will gather for the 8:30 a.m. Mass and then proceed to their class rooms in Cantwell Hall. I welcome the students, parents, and catechists to another year of faith and community. As in the last year, the students are expected to attend the 8:30 a.m. Mass on Saturdays followed by their class. I thank the parents and teachers for their collaboration in handing on the precious gift of faith to the next generation.

**Completion of the Fence in front of Cantwell Hall:** The fence project has successfully been completed. Everyone seems happy with it. The keys have been given to those who need to have them. The cameras in the area are in operation for the safety of everyone. When not in use, please be diligent about locking the fence gate.

**Next Project: to renovate and refurbish interior of Cantwell Hall:** Our next project in the parish is to take care of the Cantwell Hall. There is much that needs to be done. The floor, painting, windows, chairs, restrooms, kitchen—all these need a lot of attention. I have been hearing from many of you for some time now about the need for this work. I have been consulting with the finance committee, parish staff, and others to get advice about how to proceed and where to find the right people to do these various renovation works for us. Let us get the parish Cantwell Hall spruced up and renovated. If you have any suggestions, please do pass them on to me. Do keep in mind that we share the Hall with Alta Vista School. On Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, the school has use of it during the day for their sports needs mostly.

**Word of God, 22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time:** In the second reading this weekend, we hear the words from James: "Humbly welcome the word that has been planted in you and is able to save your souls. Be doers of the word and not hearers only." We are called to not only profess but also practice our faith. We are to hear God's word and observe it. In other words, our faith has to show forth in the way we live our lives. This fits in with the other readings about the true,

authentic meaning of religion. What is the purpose of religion? In this day and age, there are many who are skeptical and critical of the role of religion. We need to hear God speaking to us. That takes some asceticism. We have to remove the noise and clutter in our minds and hearts to be able to hear God's voice. When there are so many voices clamoring for our attention, it is very hard to hear God's gentle, whispering voice. When we have opened ourselves to hearing God's word, then we have to be "doers of the Word," which means we have to put our faith into action: Love, service, compassion, justice, fairness, humility, kindness, especially toward those who are in need. Are we ready and willing to be hearers as well as doers of the Word of God?

**Good Shepherd Gracenter Gala 2024:** As you may know, this is a licensed recovery center for women, run by the Sisters of the Good Shepherd. They have a Gala Luncheon on Sunday September 22 from 12 noon to 3:00 p.m, at Dominic's, 2850 Alemany Blvd in San Francisco. The invitation says: "So, welcome to our Gala, enjoy the music, photo booth, incredible silent and LIVE auction items, and great raffle prizes, while you hear about and from our amazing honorees!! If you need assistance in bidding, we have our STAR Super shoppers to assist you. just reach for THEIR star!!"

**Think About It:** "The whole problem with the world is that fools and fanatics are always so certain of themselves, and wiser people so full of doubts." ---Bertrand Russell (1872-1970).

**Quotes on Jesus:** "This is me, a sinner on whom the Lord has turned his gaze. And this is what I said when they asked me if I would accept my election as pontiff. I am a sinner, but I trust in the infinite mercy and patience of our Lord Jesus Christ, and I accept in a spirit of penance." ---Pope Francis. "I am an historian, I am not a believer, but I must confess as an historian that this penniless preacher from Nazareth is irrevocably the very center of history. Jesus Christ is easily the most dominant figure in all history." ---H.G. Wells. "In Jesus, God wills to be true God not only in the height but also in the depth---in the depth of human creatureliness, sinfulness and mortality." ---Karl Barth.

**Humor: Jonah and the Whale:** One day, a teacher was talking to her first grade class about whales when a little girl had a question. Little Girl: "Do whales swallow people?" Teacher: "No, even though they are much bigger than a person, they have throat pleats that filter their food of krill and plankton." Little Girl: "But Mrs. Thurston says Jonah was swallowed by a whale." Teacher getting angry: "Blue whales cannot swallow people." Little Girl: "Well, when I get to heaven I'll just ask Jonah if he was really swallowed by a whale." Teacher, still red with anger: "What if Jonah went to hell?" Little Girl: "Well, then you can ask him."

Your Friend and Pastor,

Father Charles Puthota

## Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time September 1, 2024

Humbly welcome the word that has been planted in you and is able to save your souls.

— James 1:21b



### THE HIGHEST LAW

From time to time, newspapers and magazines will offer, as an item of "filler," various laws that are still on the books but seem silly to us in our day and age. In one California city, it is illegal to have two indoor bathtubs in one house. Clean water, a precious commodity when the law was written, is now readily available, so the law seems silly. But the human value of protecting and preserving precious resources is still around, evident in many conservation laws that seem sensible to us. So it is with the laws of religious tradition. What Jesus scorns today is others' attitude toward ritual laws, an attitude that becomes nearly idolatrous when laws are observed for their own sake. Jesus teaches that observation of external ritual laws is of value only when they are emblems of our internal disposition toward the will of God. Our whole lives must follow the one ultimate law of God: to love God completely and to love neighbor entirely. Roman Catholicism is a tradition rich with customs, traditions, and even laws. As we continue to listen to the voice of Christ, we must always look into our own hearts and underneath our ritual practices to make sure that love of God and love of neighbor are what we prize above all.

Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

### TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** — For what great nation is there that has gods so close to it as the LORD, our God, is to us? (Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-8).

**Psalm** — The one who does justice will live in the presence of the Lord (Psalm 15).

**Second Reading** — Religion that is pure is this: to care for orphans and widows in their affliction (James 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27).

**Gospel** — This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me (Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23).

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 24 - 25

**Weekly Need:** \$ 5,000.00  
**First Collection:** \$ 1,919.00  
**Parish Ministries:** \$ 622.00  
**Over/Under:** \$ 2,459.00

*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

### 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

### September 2

Sharyn Digneo (L)

### September 3

† Joe Macias  
Good Shepherd Guild  
Living and Deceased Members  
and Families

### September 4

† Liliana Skropanich

### September 5

Patti Spiteri (L)

† Eugene Cukar

### September 6

† Matilda Budesa

### September 7

† Tom Perez

† Jane Falzon

### September 8

People of the Parish

† Renzo Fontana

† Aurora T. Mallari

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday, 9/2 1 Cor 2:1-5; Ps 119:97-102; Lk 4:16-30, or, for Labor Day, any readings from the Mass "For the Blessings of Human Labor," nos. 907-911

Tuesday, 9/3 1 Cor 2:10b-16; Ps 145:8-14; Lk 4:31-37

Wednesday, 9/4 1 Cor 3:1-9; Ps 33:12-15, 20-21; Lk 4:38-44

Thursday, 9/5 1 Cor 3:18-23; Ps 24:1-6, Lk 5:1-11

Friday, 9/6 1 Cor 4:6b-15 Ps 145:17-21 Lk 6:1-5

Saturday, 9/7 Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30; Ps 13:6; Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 [18-23]

Sunday, 9/8 Is 35:4-7a; Ps 146:7-10; Jas 2:1-5; Mk 7:31-37

## SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday, 9/1 22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Tuesday, 9/3 St. Gregory the Great  
Thursday, 9/5 St. Theresa of Calcutta

## On The Horizon at St. Elizabeth

### ● Labor Day

Monday, September 2<sup>nd</sup>, Office Closed

### ● Faith Formation

Start date September 7<sup>th</sup>

### ● Blessing of the Animals

Sunday, September 29<sup>th</sup> after the 10:30 am Mass at 11:45 am in front of the Church

## FAITH FORMATION REGISTRATION

Registration forms are being accepted for the 2024-2025 Faith Formation program. Registration forms are still available in the Church and, in the parish office.

For additional information please contact Laurrie Digneo at 415-672-4903

## Good Shepherd GRACENTER'S Gala Luncheon 2024



### ★ **In Person Luncheon** ★

**Sunday, September 22 12-3 p.m.**  
Dominic's SF  
2850 Alemany Blvd. SF CA 94112

### ★ **Online Auction** ★

**Bidding will open on September 16<sup>th</sup>**  
**[GSG2024.givesmart.com](https://GSG2024.givesmart.com)**

*Good Shepherd Gracenter's mission is to help women without resources break free of drug & alcohol addiction and create a hopeful future for themselves and others*

**For more info: [inquiry@gsgcenter.org](mailto:inquiry@gsgcenter.org)**

## 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 · Phillippi · Kavala · Kalambaka · Delphi · Corinth · Athens · Kusadasi· Ephesus (Mary'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 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 Laurrie Digneo at 415-672-4903

