

# **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 15, 2024 ~ Twenty Fourth 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 15, 2024

#### Dear Parishioners of St. Elizabeth,

**Cantwell Parking Lot News:** New asphalt was laid on this parking lot last Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. It's part of our way of not only securing the lot with a brand-new fence but also improving the quality of the pavement. Once this is over, we are hoping to take care of the interior of the Cantwell Hall with various jobs such as the floor, painting, windows, chairs, bathrooms, kitchen, etc. Thank you for your understanding and patience and collaboration. Please do continue to support our parish of St. Elizabeth with your prayers, participation, collaboration, volunteering, and the offerings. Do encourage your families and friends to join us week after week for the Eucharistic celebrations, which are central to our Catholic way of being Christian. Faith and service are what Jesus is calling us to.

**Word of God:** The gospel we read this Sunday is literally central to Mark's gospel. From this point on, Jesus moves inexorably toward the cross. Jesus asks: "Who do you say that I am?" People give all sorts of answers about Jesus as perceived by others. But Jesus is keen on our personal answer to this question. Our faith has been initiated and nourished by our parents, teachers, priests, nuns, friends, teachers, and others. But we cannot live on borrowed faith. We have to have a personal contact with Jesus and come to faith. It is like our tasting food for ourselves. We cannot taste food from others' descriptions, but we have to taste and see for ourselves. Jesus is to be tasted and experienced and encountered for ourselves personally and through the community we call the Church. Who do YOU say that Jesus is? What does he mean to you in your present circumstances? How would you describe him given your experiences? What names would you give him based on your personal life-journey? Does he make a difference in your life? Does he lead you to build up the Church and the world at large based on love and service? These are vital questions to answer if we have to live authentic Christian lives.

**A Story to Ponder:** Nisterus the Great, one of the holy Fathers of the Egyptian Desert, was one day walking in the desert with a large number of disciples who revered him as a man of God. Suddenly a dragon appeared before them and they all ran away. Many years later, as Nisterus lay dying, one of the disciples said to him. "Father, were you also frightened the day we saw the dragon?" "No," said the dying man. "Then why did you run away with the rest of us?" "I thought it better to flee the dragon, so I would not have to flee from the spirit of vanity later."

#### September 21: Feast of Saint Matthew, Apostle and

**Evangelist:** When you have the time, please check out online the Italian painter Caravaggio's famous piece of art, "The Calling of St. Matthew." You could easily find the critical analysis of this painting online, especially on youtube. One of the favorite paintings of Pope Francis, it is found on the wall of the Contarelli chapel in the French church of San Luigi dei Francesi in Rome. Pope Francis said about this painting in 2013: "Here, this is me, a sinner on whom the Lord has turned his gaze." In the painting, the hand of Jesus seems to resemble God's hand reaching out to Adam's hand in Michaelangelo's creation of Adam painting in the Sistine chapel. Jesus recreates Matthew, a tax-collector, by calling him as his apostle. Matthew pointing to himself seems to ask: "Me? Are you calling me? I'm a sinner. I'm just a tax-collector. I'm unworthy. You must be calling the wrong guy." It's a moment of spiritual awakening, a point of conversion for Matthew, a turning point. "Jesus saw him at the customs' post and called him and he got up and followed him." (Matthew 9:9). Matthew wrote the gospel, the story of Jesus. He as a Jew wrote the life of Jesus to persuade the Jews to accept Jesus. Hence his many references to the Old Testament as the promise fulfilled in Jesus, the Messiah. The Sermon on the Mount in Matthew chapters 5 to 7 is a masterpiece of Jesus' teachings to be treasured forever. These are the values we are called to live by. Matthew 25 is the story of the last judgment: we will be judged on love, on what we did for the least and the lost. We could do two things as we celebrate the feast of St. Matthew. 1. We are to follow Jesus as Matthew did. We are the apostles and disciples of Jesus for the world of 21st century. 2. We could dwell on the gospel Matthew wrote (lectio divina), reflecting on the life of Christ and discovering the Jesus of history and the Christ of faith for the new life we are all offered in Jesus Christ.

**Quotes about Life:** 1. "Life is like riding a bicycle. To keep your balance, you must keep moving." - Albert Einstein. 2. "Start each day with a positive thought and a grateful heart." - Roy Bennett. 3. "Life isn't about finding yourself. Life is about creating yourself." - George Bernard Shaw. 4. "I think I've discovered the secret of life - you just hang around until you get used to it." - Charles Schulz. 5. "Your time is limited, so don't waste it living someone else's life." - Steve Jobs.

**Humor:** 1. A minister in Florida lamented that it was difficult to get his message across to his congregation: "It's so beautiful here in the winter," he said, "that heaven doesn't interest them. And it's so hot here in the summer that hell doesn't scare them." 2. A six-year-old boy was overheard reciting the Lord's Prayer at a church service: "And forgive us our trash passes as we forgive those who pass trash against us." 3. A Faith Formation teacher asked her class: "Does anyone here know what we mean by sins of omission?" A little girl replied: "Aren't those the sins we should have committed, but didn't?"

Your Friend and Pastor,

Father Charles Puthota

### Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time September 15, 2024

The Lord GOD is my help,  
therefore I am not disgraced.  
— Isaiah 50:7



#### LISTENING AND RESPONDING

There are three interwoven themes in today's readings: listening to God, faith vs. good works, and losing our life in order to find it. How are they related? The Suffering Servant of Isaiah undergoes much distress and ridicule, but is able to bear it because he has listened to the promptings of God day after day. The psalm tells us that God listens, too. God hears our prayers for help and is always ready to save us. As our faith deepens, so does our desire to do the works of justice and charity that build up the reign of God. God directs our actions in ways we often cannot see, and we don't always see the results. We are called upon in faith to trust that what we do is enough, and that willingness to listen to God's promptings will lead us in the right way.

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#### TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** — The Lord GOD is my help; who will prove me wrong? (Isaiah 50:4c-9a).

**Psalms** — I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living (Psalm 116 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9) .

**Second Reading** — Faith, if it does not have works, is dead (James 2:14-18).

**Gospel** — Jesus asked his disciples, "Who do you say that I am?" (Mark 8:27-35).

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 September 7 – 8

**Weekly Need:** \$ 5,000.00  
**First Collection** \$ 2,437.00  
**Over/Under** \$ 2,563.00

**Catholic University** \$ 556.00

*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

<b>Monday</b> 8:30 am	<b>September 16</b> John Padua (L)
<b>Tuesday</b> 8:30 am	<b>September 17</b> † Vicente G. Gayaban † Timoteo B. Nacor, Jr.
<b>Wednesday</b> 8:30 am	<b>September 18</b> † Renzo Fontana
<b>Thursday</b> 8:30 am	<b>September 19</b> † Jose Padilla
<b>Friday</b> 8:30 am	<b>September 20</b> † Krista Budesa Luciana Padilla (L)
<b>Saturday</b> 8:30 am 4:30 pm	<b>September 21</b> † Astrida D. Mendoza † John Budesa † Maria Dulce Angelica Garza Del Rosario
<b>Sunday</b> 8:30 am 10:30 am	<b>September 22</b> People of the Parish † Issac Puthota Arlene Vinluan (L) Italian Catholic Federation

#### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday, 9/16	1 Cor 11:17-26, 33; Ps 40:7-10, 17; Lk 7:1-10
Tuesday, 9/17	1 Cor 12:12-14, 27-31a; Ps 100:1-5; Lk 7:11-17
Wednesday, 9/18	1 Cor 12:31 — 13:13; Ps 33:2-5, 12, 22; Lk 7:31-35
Thursday, 9/19	1 Cor 15:1-11; Ps 118:1b-2, 16ab-17, 28; Lk 7:36-50
Friday, 9/20	1 Cor 15:12-20, Ps 17:1bcd, 6-7, 8b, 15; Lk 8:1-3
Saturday, 9/21	Eph 4:1-7, 11-13, Ps 19:2-5, Mt 9:9-13
Sunday, 9/22	Wis 2:12, 17-20; Ps 54:3-8; Jas 3:16 — 4:3; Mk 9:30-37

#### SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday, 9/15	24 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time; Catechetical Sunday
Monday, 9/16	St. Cornelius
Tuesday, 9/17	St. Robert Bellarmine, St. Hildegard
Thursday, 9/19	St. Januarius
Friday, 9/20	Sts Andrew Kim Tae Gon and Paul Chong Ha-Sang
Saturday 9/21	St. Matthew

## On The Horizon at St. Elizabeth

### ● 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.

## 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://www.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)**

## 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.

# BAY AREA ROSARY RALLY

## IN HONOR OF "OUR LADY WHO UNITES ALL PEOPLES"

The Mass of the Americas will  
be offered for All Immigrants by  
Archbishop Salvatore J. Cordileone

## SATURDAY, OCT. 12, 2024

Cathedral of St. Mary of the Assumption  
1111 Gough Street @ Geary, San Francisco

### SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- 9:30 a.m. Confessions
- 10:00 a.m. Talk: History of the Rosary  
with Father Michael Hurley, OP
- 10:30 a.m. Rosary in the Cathedral
- 11:00 a.m. Mass followed by Procession  
and Benediction
- 1:00 p.m. Ethnic Food Festival,  
information tables (Patrons' Hall),  
and Immigrant Rights workshop (Hall A at 1:15 p.m.)

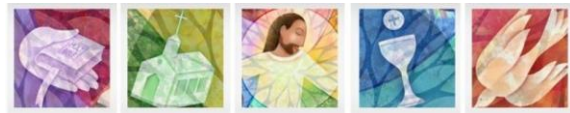


Those who participate in praying the rosary  
in common can obtain a plenary indulgence

\* In addition to having no attachment to sin, gaining a plenary indulgence requires participants to fulfill three conditions: sacramental confession, Eucharistic Communion, and vocal prayer for the intention of the Pope.



[www.sfarch.org/event/rosary-rally](http://www.sfarch.org/event/rosary-rally)



## Faith Formation

### REGISTRATION IS STILL OPEN

Faith Formation classes began Saturday, September 7<sup>th</sup>. Registration is still being accepted for the 2024-2025 Faith Formation program. Registration forms may be requested by calling Laurrie Digneo at 415-672-4903 or email: [sophielady7@aol.com](mailto:sophielady7@aol.com).

Forms can also be picked up at the Rectory office or at the Church. **Registration Fees** are \$50.00 per child.