

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

January 5, 2025 The Epiphany of the Lord



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 Charles Puthota
January 5, 2025

Dear Parishioners of St. Elizabeth,

The Epiphany of the Lord, Sunday January 5: Guided by the star, we come on a pilgrimage to the manger, bearing our own "gifts," like the three wise men and look upon the divine baby. Epiphany, as you know, means manifestation, revelation. The feast recognizes that Jesus is savior not just for one nation but for the whole world. The three wise men, having adored the holy baby, will take with them the astounding news of the mysterious birth of the savior to their nations and thus help spread the good news to the ends of the earth. Therefore, at the heart of this event, there is the message for us to make Christ the new-born King known to the world through our love and faith. What could I say and do to make Jesus known? What are the values I need to live by to make Jesus be born spiritually in the world now? There are certain things we could explore as inspiration from the mystery of the Epiphany. Are we ready to make the journey to the new-born baby? It would involve getting out of our familiar "places," our own positions, our rigid ways of thinking and acting---and undertaking a journey of adventure. Can we see the "star" that is sent to guide and lead us? What is that star in our lives today? In what form and shape do we see that star? How does God speak and guide us in our current circumstances? Does he use our own family members and friends to send those messages of guidance and protection? Do we miss God's signs of love and grace? God is speaking to us through the signs of the times. May we have the courage and discernment to make the journey to Christ our Lord, to recognize him in people and circumstances, and having adored him, let's go by another way back to where we came from, so that our lives could take on a whole new meaning, urgency, and purpose.

Christmas lingers: I hope your Christmas has been a blessed and heartwarming one, bringing you closer to the One who is closer to us than we are to ourselves. The beauty and glory of Christmas continues, not just for a day or a few days, but through each day and throughout our lives. The heart of Christmas is the mystery of the Incarnation: that of God becoming one with us, entering our history, our flesh and blood, our human family, and all that we are engaged in life, love, and growth, our pains and joys, our triumphs and travails, our ambiguities and anomalies. Jesus lives inside of our lives. He is Emmanuel, God who is with us, every moment of our lives. So, long live the mystery and majesty of Christmas, and well into the New Year 2025!

Jubilee Year 2025: The Catholic Jubilee Year, established in 1300 by Pope Boniface VIII, is rooted in the Jewish tradition of releasing prisoners, forgiving debts, and restoring harmony every 50 years. During the Jubilee, Catholics can receive plenary indulgences, which remove the temporal punishment for sins already forgiven. These indulgences

can also be offered by the living for the relief of souls in purgatory. (America Magazine)
The Universal Church looks toward the Jubilee Year 2025 (the 2,025th anniversary of the Incarnation of our Lord), which is an "event of great spiritual, ecclesial, and social significance in the life of the Church." Pope Francis stated in his February 2022 letter announcing the Jubilee 2025: "We must fan the flame of hope that has been given us and help everyone to gain new strength and certainty by looking to the future with an open spirit, a trusting heart and far-sighted vision. The forthcoming Jubilee can contribute greatly to restoring a climate of hope and trust as a prelude to the renewal and rebirth that we so urgently desire..." (USCCB)

The Moveable Feasts of 2025: Around this time in the Liturgical Year, the Church follows an ancient custom of announcing the dates of movable Feasts for the coming year. This proclamation has been used in connection with the blessing and distribution of calendars. We are reminded of these movable Feasts in the new year as a way of looking forward to celebrating these divine mysteries. In the new year 2025, Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, March 05. After five Sundays of Lent, Palm Sunday falls on April 13. Easter is on April 20. After six Sundays of Easter, the Ascension of the Lord is on June 01. Pentecost Sunday is on June 08. Holy Trinity is on June 15. The Body and Blood of Christ is on June 22. Christ the King is on November 23. The First Sunday of Advent is on November 30.

Quotes on the New Year: "Ring out the false, ring in the true." -- Alfred Lord Tennyson. "And now we welcome the new year, full of things that have never been." -- Rainer Maria Rilke "What the New Year brings to you will depend a great deal on what you bring to the New Year."-- Vern McLellan. "I have the opportunity, once more to right some wrongs, to pray for peace, to plant some trees, and sing more joyful songs." - William Arthur Ward

Short Humor: 1. What kind of exercise do lazy people do? Diddly-squats. 2. What did the Buddhist say to the hot dog vendor? Make me one with everything. 3. What did the pirate say when he turned 80? Aye matey. 4. Why can't you explain puns to kleptomaniacs? They always take things literally. 5. A man tells his doctor, "Doc, help me. I'm addicted to Twitter!" The doctor replies, "Sorry, I don't follow you..."

An Irish Blessing for the New Year: "May God give you, for every storm, a rainbow; for every tear, a smile; for every care, a promise; a blessing in each trial; for every problem life sends, a faithful friend to share; for every sigh, a sweet song; and an answer for each prayer. Amen."

Happy New Year! Thinking of you with affection and sending you warm wishes for the Christmas blessings to follow you each day of 2025.

Your Friend and Pastor,

Father Charles Puthota

The Epiphany of the Lord January 5, 2025

Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem!

Your light has come,
the glory of the Lord shines upon you.
— Isaiah 60:1



FINDING GOD

The splendid magi, all sparkle and dash and solemnity, march right up off the pages of Matthew's Gospel and into our churches today. Matthew alone tells us this grand and seductive story so that we might see the light and know that the child these magi visited is the fulfillment of prophecy, the king of the world that stretches to the magi's home country and beyond, right down the ages to us.

We too see and understand anew. Like the magi, our patron saints for this day, we see in the newborn child the king of the universe and light of the world. Like the magi, we find in ourselves a new faith and a new life. Like them, we return to our home by a new route.

We are asked to come away from this festive season ourselves renewed and awake to the presence of God among us. We are asked to find God where God is to be found, to be attentive and surprised and ready to bow down in adoration and to offer our gifts.
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TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! The Lord shines upon you (Isaiah 60:1-6).

Psalm — Lord, every nation on earth will adore you (Psalm 72).

Second Reading — The Gentiles are coheirs, copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel (Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6).

Gospel — Magi from the east arrived, looking for the newborn king of the Jews (Matthew 2:1-12).

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 December 28 - 29

Weekly Need:	\$ 5,000.00
First Collection	\$ 1,785.00
Parish Ministries	\$ 761.00
Over/Under	\$ 2,454.00
Christmas	\$ 7,125.00

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

January 6

† Bruna and † Italo DeRosa

January 7

Flaviano and
Mary Redublo (L)
Marissa Gonzales (L)

January 8

† Elena P. Santiago

January 9

† Milagros Pilare

January 10

† Aurora T. Mallari

January 11

Souls in Purgatory
Kristy, Karen and Karla
Tanner (L)

† Filomena and † Emanuel
Scerri

† Paul, † Theresa and
† Joe Vella

January 12

People of the Parish
† Jesse Quinonez

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday, 1/6	1 Jn 3:22 — 4:6; Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a; Mt 4:12-17, 23-25
Tuesday, 1/7	1 Jn 4:7-10; Ps 72:1-4, 7-8; Mk 6:34-44
Wednesday 1/8	1 Jn 4:11-18; Ps 72: 1-2, 10, 12-13; Mk 6:45-52
Thursday, 1/9	1 Jn 4:19 — 5:4; Ps 72:1-2, 14, 15bc, 17; Lk 4:14-22a
Friday, 1/10	Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-15, 19- 20; Lk 5:12-16
Saturday, 1/11	1 Jn 5:14-21; Ps 149:1-6a, 9b; Jn 3:22-30
Sunday. 1/12	Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or Is 40:1-5, 9-11; Ps 29:Acts 10:34-38 or Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7; Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday, 1/5	The Epiphany of the Lord
Monday, 1/6	St. Andre Bessette
Tuesday, 1/7	St. Raymond of Penyafort

On The Horizon at St. Elizabeth

●Santa Nino de Cebu

Sunday, January 19th, 10:30 am Mass.

●Martin Luther King Jr.

Monday, January 20th.

The parish office is closed.

●Archdiocesan Annual Appeal 2025

Sunday, February 16th

Launch of 2025 Appeal

●Presidents Day

Monday, February 17th.

The parish office is closed.

●Ash Wednesday

Wednesday, March 5th.

●Lenten Retreat

Saturday, March 22nd.

2025 Mass Book is now open

Please follow the guidelines below
when sending in your Mass requests.

Due to the large volume of Mass requests and in order to be fair to the needs of all our parishioners, the following is the Mass Book policy as set by Father Charles Puthota:

All Masses including the Saturday Vigil Mass and Sunday Mass (10:30 am), will be accepting two intentions per Mass. The Sunday 8:30 am Mass is designated for the People of the Parish only.

We do not accept individual Mass Intentions for holidays or holy days including the following: Ash Wednesday, Easter, Mother's Day, Father's Day, All Saints All Souls, Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve and Christmas. The intentions will be for the entire St. Elizabeth Community.

**Masses cannot be reserved
by phone or in person.**

Requests must be submitted in writing or by email (preferred): stelizabethchurchsf@gmail.com

Not all dates are available for Mass Intentions, so we ask that you be prepared with alternate dates and times. **If your requested date is not available an alternate date will be chosen for you.**

End of Year Statements

As we prepare to close the books on 2024, please contact the parish office in writing or email if you need a year-end statement of your donations. We can provide statements to parishioner who have donated using Sunday Envelopes.

Please note any donations received after December 31st will be credited to 2025.

ALTAR FLOWERS

If you are interested in donating flowers for the high altar in celebration of a special occasion, birthday, anniversary, and more, please see the sign-up sheet in the front of church. Please see a sacristan before or after mass for more information.



St. Elizabeth Choir
Sundays at 10:30 am Mass