

# **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)

**June 1, 2025 Ascension 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**

<b>Patti Spiteri</b>	Administrative Assistant / Pastoral Coordinator
<b>Sandy Mehrwein</b>	Secretary
<b>Fred Spence</b>	Maintenance
<b>Laurrie 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 Saturday 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 before the desired date.

**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  
June 1, 2025

Dear Parishioners of St. Elizabeth,

**Feast of the Ascension of the Lord:** We reflect this Sunday on the meaning of the mystery of Jesus being ascended to his Father. The Jesus of History now becomes the Jesus of Faith. Jesus accomplished his mission. He came from the Father. He proclaimed the Kingdom of God. He went about doing good during his public ministry. He suffered and died on the cross. He rose from the dead and appeared many times to different people, encouraging and affirming them. Now he goes back to his Father. He does not leave us orphans, though. He will send us the Holy Spirit. He has also assured us that he will be with us always, even to the end of time. When Jesus lived in this world, he could not go to every place and every nation. Now he wants us to go and share the good news with everyone in the world. We are the messengers. Not only are we messengers. We are witnesses. All of us who have encountered Jesus and experienced him personally are to go and share the good news. In our words and deeds, in our values and vision, we are to make Christ known to the world.

Jesus has passed on the baton to us. We have to carry it to others. The relay race is on. We are called to do our part in taking Christ to our own family and friends, and beyond. The angels said at his Ascension: "Men of Galilee, why are you standing there looking at the sky? This Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven will return in the same way as you have seen him going into heaven." Until Jesus comes back to fulfill the destiny of the whole universe, which we call his Second Coming, we have a job to do as Christians. We have love to share, forgiveness to offer, mercy to show, justice to establish, and dignity to uphold. We have the hungry to feed, naked to clothe, strangers to welcome, prisoners to visit, homeless to shelter. These are all the tasks that Jesus wants us to do. He needs our help. We are his eyes and heart, his hands and feet. The message of the Ascension is for us to continue and complete the mission of Christ. Through our collaboration with the Risen and Ascended Christ, let there be peace and harmony in the world. Let the blessings of our Heavenly Father flow to everyone in this world so that no one would be deprived of the blessings and necessities of life.

**Faith Formation Events--Luncheon and Mass:** On Saturday May 17, after the last class for this year, I had invited the Faith Formation children and their families to a luncheon in Cantwell Hall. Over 100 people enjoyed the delicious Mexican food. I took the opportunity to speak to the families about the importance of the program in the lives of the children and the need for the parents' collaboration. We are partners in faith and sharers of the new life in Christ! I congratulated the five First

Communion and four Confirmation students. I also thanked the parents and grandparents of the children as well as the Pastoral Coordinator Patti Spiteri, Faith Formation coordinator Laurrie Digneo and the dedicated catechists. Everyone seemed to enjoy the food and friendship. The next day, Sunday May 18, at the 10:30 a.m. Mass, the Faith Formation families were present for the **annual closing Mass**. The children brought flowers to the Blessed Virgin Mary for **May Crowning**, read the readings, and took up the collection. Certificates were distributed to the students.

**Celebrating Pope Leo XIV:** The election of the Holy Father has ignited a profound sense of pride among Catholics worldwide. Born Robert Francis Prevost in Chicago, his ascent to the papacy symbolizes a bridge between diverse cultures and the universal nature of the Church. The extensive media coverage and global attention surrounding his election underscore the enduring relevance and rich traditions of the Catholic Church. As he assumes his role, Pope Leo XIV embodies the Church's commitment to faith and fellowship, peace and justice, truth and trust, compassion and kindness, humility and service, resonating deeply with the faithful and renewing hope for what the whole human family together could accomplish for the greater glory of God.

**A Couple of Stories to Ponder:** 1. **The Weight of the Glass:** A professor held up a glass of water. "How heavy is this?" he asked. Answers ranged from 200g to 500g. "It doesn't matter. What matters is how long you hold it. A minute is fine. An hour – your arm aches. A day – you collapse." "The longer you hold it, the heavier it feels." He paused. "Same with stress. Put it down." 2. **The Cracked Pot:** A water-bearer had two pots: one perfect, the other cracked. The perfect pot delivered a full load of water; the cracked one arrived half-empty each day. Ashamed, the cracked pot said, "I'm broken. I waste your effort." The water-bearer smiled: "Look at the path you water. Flowers grow only on your side."

**Holy Humor Related to Ascension:** 1. **The First Cloud Backup:** When Jesus ascended, one of the disciples murmured, "Well, there He goes ... uploading Himself to the cloud." Peter scratched his head and replied, "So does that mean we're His local backup now?" John added, "Exactly. And we'd better not crash – He didn't leave a manual, just the Spirit!" Matthew chimed in, "I knew I should've taken notes ... oh wait, I did!" 2. **Heavenly Zoom Call:** After the Ascension, the disciples gathered to plan their next move. Peter said, "Okay, so Jesus is gone... again. But at least this time we saw where He went." James asked, "Do you think He'll send updates?" Matthew replied, "He promised the Holy Spirit – basically divine Wi-Fi. We're still connected." John smiled, "So we're in a heavenly Zoom meeting – just waiting for the Host to let the Spirit in!"

Your Friend and Pastor,

Father Charles Puthota

**Ascension of the Lord**

**June 1, 2025**

"God mounts his throne amid shouts of joy; the Lord, amid trumpet blasts." — *Psalm 47:6*



**FEET ON THE GROUND**

"Until next week, keep your feet on the ground and keep reaching for the stars!" Not today's scriptural wisdom, but legendary DJ Casey Kasem's sage advice, heard across America for generations, *American Top 40's* challenging sign-off. Though Casey wasn't quoting scripture, today's Acts of the Apostles offers similar advice. As Jesus ascended, disciples "were looking intently at the sky." Wouldn't we prefer a soul-relaxing gaze into peaceful blue skies to a heart-breaking focus on this blood-stained earth? But heavenly questioners asked Jesus' first disciples, "Why are you standing there looking at the sky?" Earth awaited their mission! While our hearts should "keep reaching for" heaven, we need to "keep our feet on the ground." Ascension's scriptures and the Jubilee of Hope remind us: the Jesus we revere as "ascended into heaven" lives right here among us on earth, awaiting our recognition and loving service.

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**TODAY'S READINGS**

**First Reading** — Jesus tells the disciples that they will be witnesses to the ends of the earth. (Acts 1:1-11)  
**Psalm** — God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord. (Psalm 47)  
**Second Reading** — God seated Jesus at his right hand in the heavens. (Ephesians 1:17-23)  
**Gospel** — As Jesus blessed his disciples he parted from them and was taken up to heaven. (Luke 24:46-53)

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**Saturday/Sunday Collection**

**May 24 - 25**

**Weekly Need: \$5,000.00**  
**First Collection: \$2,948.07**  
**Over / Under \$2,051.93**

**Missionary Cooperation \$836.00**

**Mass Intentions**

† Denotes deceased – (L) Living

<b>Monday</b> 8:30 am	<b>June 2</b> † Joseph Winant
<b>Tuesday</b> 8:30 am	<b>June 3</b> † Paul, † Theresa & † Joe Vella † Filomena & † Emanuel Scerri
<b>Wednesday</b> 8:30 am	<b>June 4</b> † Oscar T. Mallari Kathleen Galang (L)
<b>Thursday</b> 8:30 am	<b>June 5</b> † Paul Gemignani † Cornelio & † Jovita Alipio
<b>Friday</b> 8:30 am	<b>June 6</b> † Tessie, † Joe & † Saviour Schembri
<b>Saturday</b> 8:30 am	<b>June 7</b> Maria De Lourdes Padilla (L) † Rita Crumly † Maria Del Luna † Erlinda Banaag † Bruna Salvi † Mary Andreatta
4:30 pm	
<b>Sunday</b> 8:30 am	<b>June 8</b> People of the Parish
10:30 am	† Apolonia Lampa

**On The Horizon at St. Elizabeth**

- **Father Charles' Birthday**  
Wednesday, June 11<sup>th</sup>
- **Father's Day**  
Sunday, June 15<sup>th</sup>
- **Office Closed**  
Thursday, June 19<sup>th</sup> for the Juneteenth Holiday

**SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES**

Sunday, 6/1	Ascension of the Lord
Monday, 6/2	Saint Charles Lwanga & Companions
Wednesday, 6/4	Saint Boniface
Thursday, 6/5	Saint Norbert
Friday, 6/6	First Friday

# 2025 Archdiocesan Annual Appeal Donors

All donors \$25.00 and above

\*1.4% donors have an asterisk next to their name (\$500.00 and more)

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De Los Reyes, Herminia *	Micallef, Emmanuel/Carmen *	Sunga, Maria *
Del Rosario, Adelaide	Moore, Lourdes	Tablante, Eric
Devera, Vito / May *	Moretto, Ilia *	Tablante, Victor/ Patricia *
Dunleavy, M / M Brian	Munoz, Ricardo / Patsy	Tanquilut, Jose / Maria
Falzon, Mary	Nacor, Eriberto	Thierry, Annie
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**Amount Assessed: \$36,292.00 Amount collected : \$48,074.00**

**We have reached our goal**

**Congratulations and thanks!**



El Señor de Áncara (Peruvian devotion) at our parish at last Saturday 4.30 pm Vigil Mass on May 24