

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

September 21, 2025 Twenty Fifth 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
Laurrie Digneo	Faith Formation Coordinator

Faith Formation

Classes are held every Sunday
Beginning with the 8:30 am Mass
Classes to immediately follow in Cantwell Hall
(Please note new day on Sunday).

Benediction and Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena: Wednesdays after the 8:30 am Mass.

Legion of Mary Meeting: 3:00 pm Tuesday 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

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.



From the Pastor’s Desktop

A Message from
Father Charles Puthota
September 21, 2025

Dear St. Elizabeth Parishioners,

Catechetical Sunday: The third Sunday of September is designated as Catechetical Sunday each year. The purpose of this celebration is to acknowledge the role of catechists in the church all over the world, to thank them for their dedicated and generous service and to remind ourselves of our baptismal call to proclaim the Kingdom and spread the Gospel. We encourage one another to rededicate ourselves to sharing and living the faith. This day we commission catechists and give them special blessings and certificates in gratitude for teaching the faith to children and adults in parishes. The theme this year is: “Always be ready to give an explanation... for a reason for your hope” (1 Peter 3:15). I would like to thank our parish catechists: Laurrie Digneo (coordinator), Richard John, Fran Oropeza, Maria Oropeza, Michael Walsh, Cipriano Peneyra, Andrea Olson, Chelsa Galimba and the pastoral coordinator Patti Spiteri for all their dedicated work.

Word of God: 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year C: The readings confront us with a fundamental question: Whom do we serve—God or wealth? The prophet Amos denounces those who exploit the poor for profit. He paints a picture of merchants so consumed by greed they can’t wait for the Sabbath to end so they can resume cheating. God hears the cries of the oppressed and vows not to forget such injustice. This is a call to examine our own economic behaviors and ask: Are we living justly? Are we concerned for the vulnerable?

In the Gospel, Jesus tells the parable of the dishonest steward. At first, it’s puzzling – why is the steward praised? Jesus isn’t praising dishonesty but highlighting the steward’s shrewdness and urgency. If people can be that clever about money, how much more should we be wise and intentional about things that matter eternally? We’re stewards too – of time, relationships, wealth, and faith. Jesus is asking us to use all we have for the kingdom of God, not just ourselves. Paul, in his letter to Timothy, shifts the focus to prayer – especially for those in authority. Good governance and peace are conditions where the Gospel can flourish. God desires all to be saved, and our prayer and witness are part of that mission. The readings challenge us to align our lives with Gospel values: justice, stewardship, and prayer. We cannot serve both God and mammon. Let us serve the living God with integrity, generosity, and hearts rooted in what truly lasts.

From the Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church; From the Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church: The Church; **Why is the Church one?** The Church is one because she has as her source and exemplar the unity of the Trinity of Persons in one God. As her Founder and Head, Jesus Christ re-established the unity of all people in one body. As her soul, the Holy Spirit unites all the faithful in

communion with Christ. The Church has but one faith, one sacramental life, one apostolic succession, one common hope, and one and the same charity. **Where does the one Church of Christ subsist?** The one Church of Christ, as a society constituted and organized in the world, subsists in (*subsistit in*) the Catholic Church, governed by the Successor of Peter and the bishops in communion with him. Only through this Church can one obtain the fullness of the means of salvation since the Lord has entrusted all the blessings of the New Covenant to the apostolic college alone whose head is Peter.

Tuesday, September 23, 2025: Feast of St. Pius of Pietrelcina: This saint, also known as Padre Pio, was an Italian Capuchin friar, priest, and mystic. He is renowned for receiving the stigmata, the wounds of Christ's crucifixion, which he bore for fifty years. A deeply spiritual man, Padre Pio spent countless hours in prayer and confession, offering spiritual guidance to many at the monastery of San Giovanni Rotondo. He would often say: “I only want to be a poor friar who prays.” His life was devoted to prayer and the Eucharist. He also founded the "Home for the Relief of Suffering," a hospital dedicated to aiding the sick and needy. Veneration for him intensified after his death, and he was canonized by Pope John Paul II in 2002.

Saturday, September 27: Feast of St. Vincent de Paul: The date of his feast marks the anniversary of his death in 1660 in Paris. He is widely recognized as the patron saint of charitable societies and works. Vincent de Paul dedicated his life to serving the poor, founding various organizations like the Congregation of the Mission (Vincentians) and co-founding the Daughters of Charity with Saint Louise de Marillac. His tireless efforts in organizing aid for the needy earned him the title "Apostle of Charity."

A Story to Ponder: Kakua was the first Japanese to study Zen in China. He had little use for travelling, for he took his meditation seriously. Whenever people found him out and invited him to preach, he would say a word or two and escape to another part of the forest where he would not be disturbed. On his return to Japan the Emperor heard of him and commanded him to preach at court. Kakua stood silent and helpless before the King. Then he pulled out a flute from the folds of his robe, played one short note on it, bowed profoundly to the King and disappeared.

Quotes about Life: “In three words I can sum up everything I’ve learned about life: It goes on.” —Robert Frost. “You can’t help what you feel, but you can help how you behave.” —Margaret Atwood. “No need to hurry. No need to sparkle. No need to be anybody but oneself.” —Virginia Woolf.

Spoonerism Humor: 1. The bridegroom, who was in a horribly nervous condition, appealed to the clergyman in a loud whisper, at the close of the ceremony, “Is it kisstomary to cuss the bride?” The clergyman replied, “Not yet, soon.” 2. The famous Dr. Spooner called on the Dean of Christ Church and inquired, “Is the bean dizzy?”

Your Friend and Pastor,

Father Charles Puthota

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 21, 2025

God . . . wills everyone to be saved
and to come to knowledge of the truth.
— 1 Timothy 2:4



GOD IS ON THE SIDE OF THE POOR

Two of today’s readings make it quite clear that God is on the side of the poor. Amos describes in detail the exploitation of the poor and needy. The psalm repeats that God acts to benefit the poor and lowly. But Luke turns things upside down, telling a tale of a conflicted steward, about to be fired, who demonstrates his cleverness and is rewarded. Like the community to whom Paul writes in Timothy, these readings are personal, directed to believers, members of the Jewish and Christian communities, who struggle to deal with personal choices about how to conduct their lives. They offer an outline for how God wishes us to live in a world as complicated and as confusing as our own.

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TODAY’S READINGS

First Reading — The Lord never forgets the sins of those who take advantage of the poor (Amos 8:4-7).
Psalm — Praise the Lord who lifts up the poor (Psalm 113).
Second Reading — God our savior wills everyone to be saved (1 Timothy 2:1-8).
Gospel — The one who is trustworthy in small matters is also trustworthy in great ones (Luke 16:1-13 [10-13]).

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.

FAITH FORMATION REGISTRATION
IS OPEN FOR 2025-2026

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.

Registration fees are \$50.00 per child.

Accepting applications until October 1st

Mass Intentions
† Denotes deceased – (L) Living

Monday 8:30 am	September 22 † Astrida D. Mendoza
Tuesday 8:30 am	September 23 Caitlyn Quinn Trinidad (L)
Wednesday 8:30 am	September 24 † Isaac Puthota
Thursday 8:30 am	September 25 † Lina Garbarino
Friday 8:30 am	September 26 † Francisca Monsanto
Saturday 8:30 am 4:30 pm	September 27 † Aurora T. Mallari † Maria Dolores Gutierrez † Teresa and † Jim Perata
Sunday 8:30 am 10:30 am	September 28 People of the Parish † Maria Moretto † Gertrudes and † Perfecto Vinluan

ON THE HORIZON AT ST. ELIZABETH

●**Catechetical Sunday**
Sunday, September 21st. 8:30 am mass.
●**Blessing of Animals**
Sunday, October 5th after 10:30 am mass
Columbus Day
Monday, October 13th office closed.
●**AAA 1.4% Luncheon**
Sunday, noon ~ October 26th. Invitations
have been mailed. Please RSVP promptly.

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday, 9/21	25 th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Tuesday, 9/23	St. Pius of Pietrelcina (Padre Pio)
Friday, 9/26	Ss. Cosmas and Damian
Saturday, 9/27	St. Vincent de Paul



Bay Area Rosary Rally in honor of St. Francis of Assisi and the Jubilee Year of Hope

October 4, 2025
7:00am - 12:00pm
Cathedral of St. Mary of the Assumption
1111 Gough St.
San Francisco, CA 94109

Schedule:

7:00 a.m. Gather for the Jubilee Pilgrimage Walk at St. Anthony of Padua (SF)
7:15 am. Procession begins to the Cathedral of St. Mary of the Assumption Cathedral
9:15 a.m. Talks on St. Francis and the Blessed Mother
Fr. Bobby Barbato, OFM. Cap (English)
Fr. Alberto Villafan, OFM (Spanish)
**Confessions available*
10:00 a.m. Mass with Archbishop Salvatore J. Cordileone
11:30 a.m. Eucharistic Procession and recitation of the Rosary
12:00 p.m. Benediction

Due to safety concerns, no banners are permitted in the processions; however, religious images and statues are allowed

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.

Pray for our Dear Departed




Francis and Aldina Finianos

"Eternal Rest Grant unto Them, O Lord . . ."



ARCHDIOCESE OF
SAN FRANCISCO
FILIPINO MINISTRY



13th ANNUAL GALA

One Faith | One People | One Mission

Sunday | October 5, 2025 | 5:00 PM
Patrons Hall, Cathedral of St. Mary of the Assumption
1111 Gough Street, San Francisco, CA 94109

Dinner Ticket: \$100 ★ Raffle Ticket: \$20
1st Prize: \$3,000 | 2nd Prize: \$2,000 | 3rd Prize: \$1,000
To purchase dinner & raffle tickets, contact:
415.595.9248 (Estelle) | 415.317.5481 (Willie) | 415.336.9193 (Estrella); 415.521.6934 (Sherry)

www.filipinoministrysf.org | filipinoministrysf@gmail.com

Together in Holiness **Marriage Conference**

Married and engaged couples are invited to the ninth annual ***Together in Holiness*** marriage conference on **September 27, 2025 from 10:45 am – 6:00 pm at the Church of the Immaculate Heart of Mary in Belmont, CA.** This one-day conference will help you strengthen your relationship with your spouse and discover God's plan for your family. Registration: \$64/couple and \$5/child for on-site childcare. An Early Bird discount is available through August 11 as well as scholarships upon request. This conference is presented by the St. John Paul II Foundation and the Archdiocese of San Francisco. For more info, visit togetherinholiness.org/sanfrancisco or email jessie@forlifeandfamily.org.