

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 28, 2025 Twenty Sixth 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 28, 2025

Dear St. Elizabeth Parishioners,

Word of God: 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year C: In today’s Gospel, Jesus tells the powerful parable of the rich man and Lazarus. It’s a story of contrasts –luxury and poverty, comfort and suffering, blindness and awareness. The rich man lives in extravagance, feasting daily while ignoring the beggar Lazarus, who lies at his gate, covered in sores and longing for scraps. The tragedy is not the man’s wealth, but his indifference. He sees Lazarus every day and does nothing. His sin is not what he did—but what he failed to do. His heart is closed, his life insulated by comfort, and he misses the presence of God in the suffering at his doorstep.

After death, the roles are reversed. Lazarus is comforted in heaven, while the rich man suffers. Too late, he sees clearly and pleads for his brothers to be warned. But Abraham tells him, “They have Moses and the prophets.” In other words, they already have God’s Word—the call to justice, mercy, and compassion. If they do not listen now, no miracle will change them. This parable is a wake-up call. We are invited to examine our hearts and ask: Who lies at our gate today? Are we so absorbed in our own comfort that we fail to see those in need? Salvation is not about what we believe in theory but how we live in practice. May this Gospel shake us from complacency. Let us open our eyes, our hearts, and our hands—to recognize Christ in the poor and act with compassion.

From the Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church: . **How are non-Catholic Christians to be considered?** In the churches and ecclesial communities which are separated from full communion with the Catholic Church, many elements of sanctification and truth can be found. All of these blessings come from Christ and lead to Catholic unity. Members of these churches and communities are incorporated into Christ by Baptism and we so we recognize them as brothers. **How does one commit oneself to work for the unity of Christians?** The desire to restore the unity of all Christians is a gift from Christ and a call of the Spirit. This desire involves the entire Church and it is pursued by conversion of heart, prayer, fraternal knowledge of each other and theological dialogue.

October 4: Feast of St. Francis of Assisi: The Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, celebrated on October 4, honors one of the most radiant lights of Christianity. Born in 1181, Francis renounced wealth and embraced a life of radical poverty, humility, and joyous love for all creation. He became a living icon of the Gospel, bearing the stigmata of Christ and calling all to deeper conversion through simplicity and peace. Founder of the Franciscan Order, he inspired a spiritual renewal rooted not in power but in the divine beauty of self-emptying love. His Canticle of the Creatures reveals a heart

enraptured by the Creator, seeing divine presence in brother sun, sister moon, and all living beings. Canonized in 1228, St. Francis remains a timeless herald of reconciliation, ecological care, and evangelical joy. On this feast, the Church lifts her voice in gratitude for a saint who mirrored Christ so fully and embraced the cross with holy gladness.

Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi: “Lord, make me an instrument of your peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love. Where there is injury, pardon. Where there is doubt, faith. Where there is despair, hope. Where there is darkness, light. Where there is sadness, joy. O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive, it is in pardoning that we are pardoned, and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.”

Famous Sayings of St. Francis of Assisi: 1. Preach always; use words when necessary. 2. Sanctify yourself and you will sanctify society. 3. While you are proclaiming peace with your lips, be careful to have it even more fully in your heart. 4. All the darkness in the world cannot extinguish the light of a single candle. 5. The deeds you do may be the only sermon some persons will hear today.

Blessing of Animals Next Sunday, October 5, immediately following the 10:30 a.m. Mass: It is a cherished tradition held on or near October 4, the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, patron saint of animals and creation. You may bring your pets to be blessed, expressing gratitude for God’s creatures and acknowledging the bond between humans and animals. This blessing celebrates the goodness of creation and invites all to respect and care for animals as part of God’s divine plan.

A Story to Ponder: The Stonecutter: A stonecutter envied the powerful – merchant, king, sun, cloud, wind, mountain. Each time, he became what he desired, only to discover limits. At last, as mountain, he felt invincible – until a stonecutter chipped away at him. Realizing contentment is true strength, he wished again to be himself.

Quotable Quotes: “Keep your face towards the sunshine and shadows will fall behind you.” –Walt Whitman. “The only person you are destined to become is the person you decide to be.” – Ralph Waldo Emerson.

Humor: 1. Two deacons were having a social drink at a bar when they saw their preacher go by. One of them became very upset. “I surely hope he didn’t see us.” “What difference does it make?” his friend replied. “God knows we’re in here.” “I know,” said the first deacon, “but God won’t tell my wife.” 2. The priest met Jane O and asked what she was concealing under her cape. She said it was holy water. The priest reached for the bottle, uncorked it and sniffed. “Why, Jane,” he exclaimed, “this isn’t holy water; this is gin.” Whereupon Jane crossed herself and said, “Glory be to God, another miracle.”

Your Friend and Pastor,

Father Charles Puthota

Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 28, 2025

Keep the commandment without stain or reproach until the appearance of our Lord Jesus Christ.
— 1 Timothy 6:14



HOW GOD INTENDS US TO LIVE

Today’s readings are again directed to believers, communities of faith. As in last week’s reading, Amos confronts us with a condemnation of those whose lives are focused on pleasure and self-absorption. The psalm contrasts that focus with the Lord’s—justice for the oppressed; food the hungry; freedom for captives; sight to the blind; raising of those who are bowed down; loving the just; protecting strangers, orphans, and the widow; and by doing so, thwarting the way of the wicked. Timothy urges the pursuit of righteousness, devotion, faith, love, patience, and gentleness. Luke tells the familiar tale of the wealthy man and the poor beggar at his doorstep, who experience life very differently in this world and in the next. We are once again being given clear indications about how God intends for us to live our lives. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

TODAY’S READINGS

First Reading — Woe to the complacent, stretched comfortably on their couches! (Amos 6:1a, 4-7).
Psalm — Praise the Lord, my soul! (Psalm 146)
Second Reading — Pursue righteousness, devotion, faith, love, patience, and gentleness (1 Timothy 6:11-16).
Gospel — There was a rich man who dined sumptuously each day. Lying at his door was a poor man named Lazarus (Luke 16:19-31).
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SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday, 9/28	26 th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday, 9/29	Sts. Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, Archangels
Tuesday, 9/30	St. Jerome
Wednesday, 10/1	St. Therese of the Child Jesus
Thursday, 10/2	The Holy Guardian Angels
Saturday, 10/4	St. Francis of Assisi

Mass Intentions	
† Denotes deceased – (L) Living	
Monday 8:30 am	September 29 † Giovanni Rebagliati † Milagros Macaspac
Tuesday 8:30 am	September 30 † Froreino and † Delia Gemignani † Elena Vinluan
Wednesday 8:30 am	October 1 † Giovanni Rossi
Thursday 8:30 am	October 2 The Good Shepherd Guild and their families, both living and deceased
Friday 8:30 am	October 3 † Jesus B. Castillo
Saturday 8:30 am	October 4 Vito Devera (L)
4:30 pm	† Jewell Coccellato
Sunday 8:30 am	October 5 People of the Parish
10:30 am	† Rafael Medina † Luisa S. Gito

ON THE HORIZON AT ST. ELIZABETH

●**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.

Sunday Collection September 13 - 14	
Weekly Need:	\$ 5,000.00
First Collection	<u>\$ 2,246.25</u>
Over/Under	\$ 2,753.75
Parish Maintenance	\$ 571.00

Sunday Collection September 20 - 21	
Weekly Need:	\$ 5,000.00
First Collection	<u>\$ 1,858.00</u>
Over/Under	\$ 3,142.00
Priest Retirement	\$ 1,047.00



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.

FAITH FORMATION REGISTRATION IS OPEN FOR 2025-2026


Registration forms may be requested by calling
Laurie 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

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

2026 Mass Book is 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.

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.**