

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

October 5, 2025 Twenty Seventh 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
October 5, 2025

Dear St. Elizabeth Parishioners,

Word of God: 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year C:
Today’s readings speak to us about faith – its endurance in trial and its humble expression in daily life. The prophet Habakkuk cries out to God in frustration: “How long, O Lord? I cry for help but you do not listen!” It’s a raw and honest prayer, echoing the experience of anyone who has struggled with injustice, suffering, or silence from God. God responds not with immediate action but with a vision: “The just one, because of his faith, shall live.” In other words, hold on. Trust. God’s justice will come. Faith is not about easy answers, but about steadfast trust even when answers are delayed.

In the Gospel, the apostles ask, “Increase our faith.” Jesus responds, “If you had faith the size of a mustard seed...” Faith isn’t about size – it’s about authenticity and trust in God's power. Even a small seed of true faith can do the impossible when rooted in God. Jesus continues with a parable about a servant who, after fulfilling his duties, does not expect praise. It’s a lesson in humility. Faith isn’t for showing off or earning rewards – it’s about serving God with love, not entitlement. We do our part, not because we expect something in return, but because we belong to God. We are challenged to live faithful, humble lives – trusting God in dark times and serving Him with hearts that seek no applause. Even when faith feels small, if it's real, it carries the strength to endure and the grace to transform.

Blessing of Animals: This Sunday, October 5, immediately following the 10:30 a.m. Mass, there will be blessing of animals. Do bring your pets for the blessing in honor of St. Francis of Assisi, who loved animals and the whole creation.

Tuesday October 7, Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary: The Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary is a solemn commemoration of the powerful intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary through the prayer of the Rosary. The origin of the feast dates back to the pivotal Battle of Lepanto in 1571, when Christian forces, vastly outnumbered, triumphed over the Ottoman navy. Pope Pius V had called on all of Europe to pray the Rosary for victory. After the miraculous outcome, he attributed the success to the Virgin Mary's intercession and established the feast as Our Lady of Victory, later renamed by Pope Gregory XIII as Our Lady of the Rosary. The Rosary is not just a devotional prayer but a spiritual journey through the life of Christ, seen through the eyes of Mary. Comprising meditations on the Joyful, Luminous, Sorrowful, and Glorious Mysteries, it helps the faithful grow in love for Jesus and understand the central mysteries of our faith. Mary, as a model of contemplation and discipleship, leads believers to her Son with motherly care.

This feast reminds the Church of the Rosary’s enduring power in times of personal and communal trials. Pope John Paul II called it "a prayer of great significance," capable of bringing peace to hearts, families, and nations. On this day, Catholics are invited to renew their devotion to the Rosary, trusting in Mary's intercession and drawing closer to Christ through this time-honored, grace-filled prayer.

October, a month dedicated to our Lady of the Rosary:
October is dedicated to Our Lady of the Rosary, highlighting the importance of the Rosary in the life of the Church. This devotion invites the faithful to reflect on the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus through the eyes of Mary. The centerpiece of the month is the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary on October 7, commemorating the victory at the Battle of Lepanto through Mary's intercession. Throughout October, we are encouraged to pray the Rosary daily, seeking peace in the world, strength in trials, and deeper union with Christ through the loving guidance of his Blessed Mother.

October 11, Saturday Feast of St. John XXIII: The Feast of St. John XXIII is celebrated on October 11, marking the anniversary of the opening of the Second Vatican Council in 1962, which he convened. Born Angelo Giuseppe Roncalli in 1881, he was elected pope in 1958 and affectionately known as "Good Pope John" for his warmth, humility, and pastoral care. His most enduring legacy is the calling of Vatican II, which sought to renew the Church and engage the modern world with the timeless message of the Gospel. He emphasized Christian unity, dialogue, and compassion. His encyclicals, including *Pacem in Terris*, addressed peace and human dignity. John XXIII was canonized in 2014 by Pope Francis. His feast day celebrates his vision, simplicity, and deep trust in the Holy Spirit. He reminds the Church to be ever faithful yet ever open to the promptings of God in a changing world, guided always by love and mercy.

Memorable Quotes: "When the going gets rough - turn to wonder." - *Parker Palmer*. "If you have knowledge, let others light their candles in it." - *Margaret Fuller*. "A bird doesn't sing because it has an answer, it sings because it has a song." - *Maya Angelou*. "We are not what we know but what we are willing to learn." - *Mary Catherine Bateson*.

Humor of Pope St. John XXIII: 1. A reporter once asked Pope John XXIII, "How many people work at the Vatican?" With a smile, he replied, "About half of them." 2. It is said that before going to bed, Pope John XXIII would say to Jesus: “Well, Lord, it’s Your Church. You take care of it. I’m going to sleep now.” 3. When a woman asked Pope John XXIII about his weight, he said, “My dear, the Papal Conclave is not exactly a beauty contest.” 4. Visiting a hospital, Pope John XXIII asked a boy what he wanted to be when he grew up. The boy said either a policeman or a pope. “I would go in for the police if I were you,” the Holy Father said. “Anyone can become a pope, look at me!”

Your Friend and Pastor,

Father Charles Puthota

Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 5, 2025
Come, let us bow down in worship;
let us kneel before the LORD who made us.
— *Psalm 95:6*



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A LITTLE FAITH
Today our readings are about faith, frustration, and how much is enough. Habakkuk is a complainer having an argument with God. Timothy is encouraging a community challenged by cowardice and the apostles want more faith than they have. Things aren't happening fast enough for any of them or for us. All of them and we want God to do something sooner rather than later and we want God to give us a reason to believe that it will all work out. What does God do? God puts it back on them—and us—telling Habakkuk to describe the world he wants; telling the apostles to do more than the expected. Doing more with less is a familiar phrase today and a reminder that a little faith may be enough even for the most difficult times.

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TODAY’S READINGS
First Reading — The just ones, because of their faith, shall live (Habakkuk 1:2-3; 2:2-4).
Psalm — If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts (Psalm 95).
Second Reading — Bear hardship with the strength that comes from God (2 Timothy 1:6-8, 13-14).
Gospel — The apostles said to Jesus, “Increase our faith” (Luke 17:5-10).

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.

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday, 10/5	27 th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday, 10/6	St. Bruno, Blessed Marie Rose Durocher
Tuesday, 10/7	Our Lady of the Rosary
Thursday, 10/9	St. Denis and Companions, St. John Leonardi
Saturday, 10/11	St. John XXIII

Mass Intentions
† Denotes deceased – (L) Living

Monday 8:30 am	October 6 † Vittorio Rossi † Ivy Wilson
Tuesday 8:30 am	October 7 † Tessie, † Joe and †Saviour Schembri
Wednesday 8:30 am	October 8 † Ray Garibaldi † Carmela Sapiano
Thursday 8:30 am	October 9 † Mary McCarthy Sophia Padua (L)
Friday 8:30 am	October 10 † Federico B. Santiago † Manuel Icban
Saturday 8:30 am 4:30 pm	October 11 † Jesus B. Castillo † Paul, † Theresa and † Joe Vella † Filomena and † Emanuel Scerri
Sunday 8:30 am 10:30 am	October 12 People of the Parish † Jacob Castro Tolentino † Marlito Romias

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 – deadline 10/9

Sunday Collection
September 27 - 28

Weekly Need: \$ 5,000.00
First Collection \$ 1,868.07
Over/Under \$ 3,131.93

Parish Maintenance \$ 542.00

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.**



**The parish office will be closed on
Monday, October 13th for Columbus Day.**



Virginia Sanchez with Father Charles on a Venetian Bridge with Gondolas in the canal below.



In front of the Duomo in Florence.

Volunteers Needed

Laguna Honda Hospital needs volunteers to wheel residents (patients) from their Units to the chapel on Thursdays and on Sundays.

For more information, please contact Sister Olga at 415-928-9408