

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 12, 2025 Twenty Eighth 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

Admin Asst./Pastoral Coord. 415-468-0820 Press #2
Secretary 415-468-0820 Press #1

Fred Spence Maintenance
Laurie 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).

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 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



Dear St. Elizabeth Parishioners,

From the Pastor’s Desktop

A Message from
Father Charles Puthota
October 12, 2025

Word of God: 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C: The theme of the Word of God this Sunday is of **saving faith** and the power of **gratitude**. In the Gospel, Jesus heals ten lepers, yet only one, a Samaritan outsider, returns to give thanks. All ten received a physical miracle, but the grateful Samaritan was granted a deeper grace: "Your faith has saved you." This shows that true healing extends beyond the physical; it is an encounter with God that transforms the heart. The First Reading provides an Old Testament parallel in Naaman, a Syrian foreigner. After being cured of leprosy, he, too, returned to express profound gratitude, recognizing that the God of Israel is the "only God in all the world." Both outsiders teach us that God’s salvation is for all, and a heart moved to thanks is a heart open to true faith.

St. Paul, in the Second Reading, reminds us of the foundation of this faith: the unchained Word of God and the fidelity of Christ, who "remains faithful, for he cannot deny himself." Our faithfulness, particularly in moments of struggle, should be sustained by the hope of glory. When we return to God in gratitude, like the Samaritan, we acknowledge His faithfulness and receive the gift of salvation that leads to eternal glory. Let us, therefore, approach every day with a grateful heart.

World Mission Sunday (Next Sunday) on October 19, 2025:
The theme: “Missionaries of Hope Among all Peoples.” This annual observance is a global call for Catholics to renew their commitment to the Church's universal mission through prayer and sacrifice. The theme, chosen by Pope Francis for the Jubilee Year of Hope, reminds every baptized person that they are called to be a messenger of Christ's hope in the world. The **collection** taken up on World Mission Sunday on October 19 is critical. It constitutes the Holy Father's **Universal Solidarity Fund**, which is distributed to over 1,100 mission dioceses across Africa, Asia, Latin America, and Oceania. This money is essential for funding vital needs: building churches and chapels, supporting the training of priests, seminarians, and catechists, and providing healthcare, education, and pastoral programs in young or struggling mission territories. It is the primary means by which the global Church supports those on the frontiers of faith.

Feast of St. Teresa of Ávila, Wednesday, October 15: St. Teresa of Avila is one of the greatest mystics and reformers in the history of the Church. Born in 1515 in Ávila, Spain, Teresa entered the Carmelite Order and became a driving force for its renewal. With deep prayer and courage, she founded the **Discalced Carmelites**, emphasizing poverty, simplicity, and a life centered on contemplation. St. Teresa’s writings, such as *The Interior Castle* and *The Way of Perfection*, remain treasures of Christian mysticism. She taught that

prayer is “an intimate sharing between friends,” a loving dialogue with the God who dwells within the soul. Despite opposition, illness, and misunderstanding, Teresa’s joyful spirit and trust in God transformed her struggles into paths of holiness. Declared a **Doctor of the Church** in 1970, she reminds all Christians that holiness is attainable through love, perseverance, and friendship with Christ. On her feast, we are invited to seek deeper prayer, to reform our hearts, and to find God in the ordinary duties of life. St. Teresa’s own words inspire us still: *“Nada te turbe, nada te espante, Todo se pasa, Dios no se muda, La paciencia todo alcanza, Quien a Dios tiene, nada le falta, Solo Dios basta.”* **“Let nothing disturb you, let nothing frighten you. All things are passing away. God never changes. Patience obtains all things. Whoever has God lacks nothing. God alone suffices.”**

Feast of St. Luke the Evangelist, Saturday, October 18: St. Luke, one of the four Evangelists, is known as the author of the *Gospel according to Luke* and the *Acts of the Apostles*. A physician by profession and a companion of St. Paul, Luke was a Gentile convert who brought a universal perspective to the Gospel message. His writings emphasize God’s mercy, compassion, and concern for the poor, the marginalized, and women. He portrays Jesus as the Savior of all people and highlights the joy of discipleship and the power of the Holy Spirit. Luke’s Gospel contains beloved parables such as the Good Samaritan, the Prodigal Son, the Lost Coin, the Lost Sheep, and the Rich Man and Lazarus. His literary style is elegant and deeply humane, reflecting a heart sensitive to human suffering and divine grace. Tradition holds that Luke was also an artist and painted the first icon of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Humor of St. Teresa of Ávila: 1. **“No wonder You have so few friends!”:** One time, Teresa was traveling through Spain to visit one of her convents. Her cart broke down, she fell into the mud, and it began to rain heavily. She looked up to heaven and said, “Lord, if this is how you treat your friends, no wonder you have so few!” Her honesty and humor revealed her intimacy with God — she could complain and laugh with Him like an old friend. 2. **“Lord, deliver us from sour-faced saints!”** Teresa often said she preferred people with a sense of humor to those who were too grim about holiness. She once remarked, “A sad nun is a bad nun.” For her, joy was a sign of true faith — she believed a saint should show the world that following God is not gloomy but delightful. 3. **Her battle with levitation:** During prayer, St. Teresa sometimes experienced levitation. She joked that she tried hard to hold on to the floor or grab the furniture so that the other sisters wouldn’t notice. She said to God, half laughing, half pleading, “Lord, please don’t do this to me in public — I have a reputation to keep!” 4. **Teresa’s kitchen theology:** When a sister complained that she couldn’t pray while doing chores, Teresa replied with her earthy wisdom: “God walks among the pots and pans.” She knew holiness was not found only in ecstasy, but in peeling potatoes with love — and she could make you laugh while teaching it.

Your Friend and Pastor,

Father Charles Puthota

**Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time
October 12, 2025**

If we have died with [Christ Jesus] we shall also live with him; if we persevere we shall also reign with him.

— 2 Timothy 2:11-12a



HEALING AND SALVATION

The readings today speak of healing and salvation. In Second Kings, Naaman, a commander of the army of the king of Syria, develops leprosy. He goes to a stranger, a prophet from Israel, when no one else can cure his disease. Much to his surprise, after a simple bath in the river, he is cured. In Luke's Gospel, Jesus cures ten lepers and sends them to the priest. Only one, a Samaritan, returns to thank Jesus for his cure and only he hears the words, “Your faith has saved you.” The psalm and Timothy remind us that salvation involves justice, kindness, and faithfulness and forever links us with Jesus. In a world as broken as ours, both healing and salvation are necessary.

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TODAY’S READINGS

First Reading — Naaman, cleansed from his leprosy, returns gratefully to Elisha (2 Kings 5:14-17).

Psalm — The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power (Psalm 98).

Second Reading — If we have died with Christ we shall also live with Christ (2 Timothy 2:8-13).

Gospel — Ten lepers are healed by Jesus, but only one, a Samaritan, returns to give him thanks (Luke 17:11-19).

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Sunday Collection
October 5 - 6

Weekly Need:	\$ 5,000.00
First Collection	<u>\$ 3,192.07</u>
Over/Under	<u>\$ 1,807.93</u>

Faith Formation	\$ 957.00
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Mass Intentions
† Denotes deceased – (L) Living

<u>Monday</u> 8:30 am	<u>October 13</u> † Vittorio Rossi
<u>Tuesday</u> 8:30 am	<u>October 14</u> † Carlos Ramirez Sr. Harper De Lara (L)
<u>Wednesday</u> 8:30 am	<u>October 15</u> † Carmela Padilla Contessa San Pedro (L)
<u>Thursday</u> 8:30 am	<u>October 16</u> † Julia Pecchia
<u>Friday</u> 8:30 am	<u>October 17</u> † Jesus B. Castillo † Armando Santiago
<u>Saturday</u> 8:30 am 4:30 pm	<u>October 18</u> † Samuel Walden † Carmela Sapiano † Riglio “Reno” Roselli
<u>Sunday</u> 8:30 am 10:30 am	<u>October 19</u> People of the Parish † Adoracion V. Ausejo Maltese Society

ON THE HORIZON AT ST. ELIZABETH

●**Columbus Day**
Monday, October 13th, office closed.
●**AAA 1.4% Luncheon**
Sunday, noon ~ October 26th. Invitations have been mailed. Please RSVP – deadline has been extended to Tuesday October 14th.
●**Daylight Savings Time Ends**
Sunday, November 2nd, remember to fall back!

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday, 10/12	28 th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday, 10/13	Columbus Day
Tuesday, 10/14	St. Callistus I
Wednesday, 10/15	St. Teresa of Jesus
Thursday, 10/16	St. Hedwig; St. Margaret Mary Alacoque
Friday, 10/17	St. Ignatius of Antioch
Saturday/ 10/18	St. Luke

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.**

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



**The parish office will be closed
Monday, October 13th.**

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.



Blessing of the Animals ~ Sunday, October 5, 2025 after the 10:30 am Mass.