

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 19, 2025 Twenty-Ninth 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

Suzanne Brachna	Administrative Assistant
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



From the Pastor’s Desktop

A Message from
Father Charles Puthota
October 19, 2025

Dear St. Elizabeth Parishioners

World Mission Sunday this Sunday, October 19: This is an annual celebration in the Catholic Church dedicated to renewing the Church’s commitment to mission, particularly in places where Christ is little known, where the Church is young, or where communities face persecution or hardship. The theme for 2025, as chosen by Pope Francis (who passed away on April 21, 2025), is “**Missionaries of Hope Among All Peoples.**” In his message, the Pope emphasized that hope lies at the heart of Christian mission. He called all baptized persons to become “messengers and builders of hope,” especially in a world where many experience despair, isolation, poverty, or injustice.

On this day, Catholics across the globe unite in prayer, reflection, and a special collection (Holy Father’s **Universal Solidarity Fund**) to support missionary efforts. The funds raised go entirely to support over 1,100 mission territories in parts of Asia, Africa, the Pacific Islands, Latin America, and Europe — helping to build churches, train clergy and catechists, support pastoral formation, and provide essential services in communities in need. In 2025’s Jubilee Year context, the celebration is an invitation for every believer and community to share in Christ’s mission, especially through closeness, solidarity, and concrete acts of generosity and hope.

Five Concrete Things to Do in Light of World Mission Sunday: 1. **Pray daily for missionaries** — especially those serving in difficult or dangerous places. 2. **Support the Pontifical Mission Societies** through the annual collection or monthly giving, helping build churches, schools, and clinics in mission territories. 3. **Learn about global missions** by reading stories of missionaries and reflecting on how the Gospel is lived in diverse cultures. 4. **Witness to faith locally** — by kindness, forgiveness, and integrity in daily life, becoming “missionaries of hope” in workplaces and families. 5. **Encourage vocations** to priesthood, religious life, and lay mission service, reminding others that all baptized are called to share Christ’s love.

Word of God: 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C: Theme: **Persistent Prayer:** The readings remind us of the power and necessity of persistent prayer. In the first reading, Moses keeps his hands raised in prayer as Israel battles Amalek. When his hands grow weary, Aaron and Hur support him — showing that prayer is not a solitary act but a community effort sustained by faith and love. In the Gospel, Jesus tells the parable of the persistent widow who refuses to give up until the unjust judge grants her justice. Through her perseverance, Jesus teaches us that faith must be tenacious and prayer must be constant. God is not like the unjust judge; he listens with compassion and mercy. Yet Jesus asks a sobering question: “When the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?”

Our persistence in prayer reveals the depth of our trust in God’s goodness, even when answers are delayed.

In our busy, anxious world, we are invited to pray with faith and perseverance — for justice, for peace, for healing, and for conversion. Let us support one another, as Moses was supported, and never lose heart, knowing that prayer changes us and draws us ever closer to the heart of God who always hears his people.

From the *Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church*: Why must the Church proclaim the Gospel to the whole world? The Church must do so because Christ has given the command: “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit” (*Matthew* 28:19). This missionary mandate of the Lord has its origin in the eternal love of God who has sent his Son and the Holy Spirit because “he desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth” (*1 Timothy* 2:4).

Feast of Saint John Paul II, Wednesday, October 22: Saint John Paul II (1920–2005), born Karol Józef Wojtyła in Wadowice, Poland, was one of the most influential popes of the 20th century. Ordained a priest in 1946, he became Archbishop of Kraków and was appointed cardinal in 1967. Elected pope in 1978, he was the first non-Italian pope in over 450 years. His papacy emphasized human dignity, the sanctity of life, and the universal call to holiness. He played a crucial role in the fall of communism in Eastern Europe, especially in his native Poland. John Paul II tirelessly traveled the world, visiting 129 countries to bring Christ’s message of hope. He wrote extensively on faith, reason, and the family, inspiring millions. Despite suffering from Parkinson’s disease, he remained steadfast in prayer and witness. Canonized in 2014, he is remembered as a missionary pope, philosopher, and saint of courage and compassion.

Pope Leo XIV’s First Apostolic Exhortation: It is entitled *Dilexi Te* (“I Have Loved You”), signed October 4, 2025 by the Holy Father and published on October 9, places the poor at the center of the Gospel. It takes up draft work begun under Pope Francis and completed by Pope Leo builds upon the theme of divine love to call Christians to solidarity, justice, and service. It warns that one cannot serve God and money, urging the Church to cast off self-interest and be a “church for the poor.”

A Wisdom Story: A monk asked his master, “What must I do to find peace?” The master pointed to a river and said, “See how it flows? It doesn’t fight the rocks; it flows around them.” The monk understood: peace is not the absence of obstacles, but the grace to flow through them.

Religious Humor: 1. The Ten Commandments were given to us in tablet form, and by following their direction, we could save a lot of other tablets from being used. 2. An African-American preacher began his sermon by saying, “Brethren and sisters, here you is coming to pray for rain. I’d like to ask you just one question --- where is yo’ umbrellas?”

Your Friend and Pastor, Father Charles Puthota

Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time
October 19,2025

I lift up my eyes toward the mountains;
whence shall help come to me?
My help is from the LORD,
who made heaven and earth.
— *Psalm* 121:1-2



PERSISTENCE

Today’s readings are about persistence, passionate persistence. Exodus tells of a battle won despite weariness because Moses, with help from Aaron and Hur, held his hands raised. Timothy asks that same persistence of his community and us. Luke tells of a court case won by a widow, despite the dishonesty of the judge, because she will not leave him alone. The psalm reminds us that God is everywhere, guarding us from harm day and night, coming and going, now and forever. The readings are about persistence, the relentless, unwavering pursuit of what must not be lost. The readings are about God’s passionate persistence in pursuing us, seeking to win our hearts.

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TODAY’S READINGS

First Reading — As long as Moses kept his hands raised up, Israel had the better of the fight (Exodus 17:8-13).

Psalm — Our help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth (Psalm 121).

Second Reading — Remain faithful to what you have learned and believed (2 Timothy 3:14 — 4:2).

Gospel — Will not God secure the rights of his chosen ones who call out to him day and night? (Luke 18:1-8).

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.

Sunday Collection
October 11 ~ 12

Weekly Need: \$ 5,000.00
First Collection \$ 2,836.07
Over/Under \$ 2,163.93

Parish Maintenance \$ 762.00

Mass Intentions
† Denotes deceased – (L) Living

Monday 8:30 am	October 20 † Castula Padilla Peace and Unity in our Nation
Tuesday 8:30 am	October 21 † Jesus B. Castillo
Wednesday 8:30 am	October 22 † Tomas Sifuentes † Guadalupe Gomez
Thursday 8:30 am	October 23 † Delfin S. Mendoza † Heidy Stolte
Friday 8:30 am	October 24 † Aurora T.Mallari Sister Olga Cristobal (L)
Saturday 8:30 am 4:30 pm	October 25 Faye Crow (L) † Martha Puthota † Marcos V. Valledor
Sunday 8:30 am 10:30 am	October 26 People of the Parish † Reynaldo G. Gayaban † Wilter A. Nacor

ON THE HORIZON AT ST. ELIZABETH

●**AAA 1.4% Luncheon**
Sunday, noon ~ October 26th. Invitation only.
●**Daylight Savings Time Ends**
Sunday, November 2nd, remember to fall back!
●**Advent Retreat**
Saturday, December 6th, information to follow

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday, 10/19	29 th Sunday in Ordinary Time.
Monday, 10/20	World Mission Sunday
Wednesday, 10/22	St. Paul of the Cross
Thursday, 10/23	St. John Paul II
Friday, 10/24	St. John of Capistrano
	St. Anthony Mary Claret



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



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.

WELCOME TO ST. ELIZABETH PARISH COMMUNITY

We extend our hands and hearts to you here celebrating with us, whether long-time or newly arrived in our parish. We thank God that you are with us. If you are not registered or have changes to your registration, please fill in the form and submit it to the office.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

Zip: _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____