

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 26, 2025 Thirtieth 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
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).

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 26, 2025

Dear St. Elizabeth Parishioners

Feast of All Saints, Saturday, November 01, Not a Holy Day of Obligation this Year: The Feast of All Saints, celebrated on November 1, honors all the saints – known and unknown – who now share in the glory of God’s presence. It is a joyful reminder that holiness is not reserved for a few extraordinary people but is the universal call of every Christian. The saints are not distant figures from the past; they are our companions and intercessors, showing us that with God’s grace, we too can live lives of faith, love, and courage. This feast began in the early Church to commemorate the many martyrs who had no specific day of remembrance. Over time, it grew to include all who have lived holy lives, whether canonized or not. The Book of Revelation describes a great multitude “from every nation” standing before the Lamb – a powerful vision of the communion of saints.

All Saints’ Day invites us to look beyond earthly struggles and to fix our gaze on our eternal destiny. It challenges us to imitate the saints’ virtues in our daily lives – kindness, mercy, justice, humility, and prayer. As we honor them, we renew our hope that one day we, too, may join them in the everlasting joy of heaven, praising God forever.

Word of God: 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C: In the Gospel, Jesus’ parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector contrasts the proud Pharisee and the penitent Tax Collector. The Pharisee, convinced of his own merit, prays to himself, detailing his good works and despising the sinner. The Tax Collector, standing at a distance, simply cries, "O God, be merciful to me a sinner." Only the latter went home justified, because "whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and the one who humbles himself will be exalted." This truth is echoed in the First Reading from Sirach: "The prayer of the lowly pierces the clouds." God is a just judge who "hears the cry of the oppressed" and "is not deaf to the wail of the orphan." God’s justice is not a cold accounting, but a bias toward those who recognize their need for Him.

Finally, St. Paul, in the Second Reading, writes to Timothy about his imminent death, saying, "I have competed well; I have finished the race; I have kept the faith." Paul speaks with confidence, yet his is a boast of **God's** strength working through him, not a proud claim of self-righteousness. He knows the "crown of righteousness" is a gift from the "just judge." Our call today is to abandon the Pharisee's pride and embrace the Tax Collector's humble honesty. It is in acknowledging our sinfulness that we open ourselves to the boundless mercy that alone makes us right with God.

Feast of Saints Simon and Jude, Apostles, Tuesday October 28: Saints Simon and Jude are two apostles about whom the

Gospels tell us very little, yet their lives speak a profound truth. The Gospel reminds us that before choosing his Twelve Apostles – including Simon the Zealot and Jude, son of James – Jesus spent the entire night in prayer. The Church is not founded on human ingenuity, but on Christ's prayerful, deliberate choice of ordinary men. As the Letter to the Ephesians reminds us: we are members of God's household, *built upon the foundation of the Apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the capstone*. Simon and Jude may seem like minor figures, but their martyrdom reminds us that all apostles share in the same, singular mission. Their legacy is not celebrity, but fidelity to the Lord's call, even unto death. Let us be built upon their foundation, witnessing to the Gospel with courage and simple faith.

From the Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church: In what way is the Church holy? The Church is holy insofar as the Most Holy God is her author. Christ has given himself for her to sanctify her and make her a source of sanctification. The Holy Spirit gives her life with charity. In the Church one finds the fullness of the means of salvation. Holiness is the vocation of each of her members and the purpose of all her activities. The Church counts among her members the Virgin Mary and numerous Saints who are her models and intercessors. The holiness of the Church is the fountain of sanctification for her children who here on earth recognize themselves as sinners ever in need of conversion and purification.

A Wisdom Story: A young monk asked his master, “How can I find peace?” The master handed him a cup of tea and poured until it overflowed. “Stop!” cried the monk. “It’s full!” The master smiled, “Like this cup, your mind is too full – of judgments, fears, and plans. Empty it, and peace will pour in naturally.” The monk bowed in silence, realizing that wisdom begins not with knowing more, but with letting go.

Quotable Quotes for All Saints: 1. “The saints are not superheroes but people who love God and others in ordinary ways.” – Pope Francis. 2. “Do not be afraid to be the saints of the new millennium.” – St. John Paul II. 3. “Holiness is not the luxury of the few; it is a simple duty for you and for me.” – St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta. 4. “Be who you are and be that well, so that you may bring honor to the Master whose handiwork you are.” – St. Francis de Sales. 5. “Be who God meant you to be, and you will set the world on fire.” – St. Catherine of Siena.

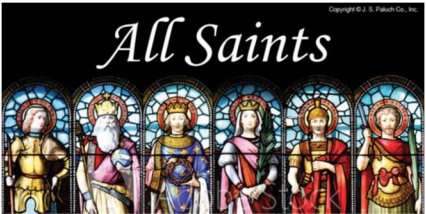
Saints Humor: 1. St. Peter asked a weary nun, “Did you live a joyful life?” She smiled, “I taught teenagers for forty years and still prayed daily.” Peter dropped his clipboard: “Go straight to the front of the line – God’s been saving a halo just for you!” 2. A saint rushed up, saying, “Peter, I lost my halo!” Peter sighed, “Check with St. Anthony.” A few minutes later, Anthony arrived holding it, smiling, “Found it – again.” Peter muttered, “I should’ve known. Between lost keys and lost halos, you’re heaven’s busiest saint.”

Your Friend and Pastor,

Father Charles Puthota

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time
October 26, 2025
SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

The prayer of the lowly pierces the clouds; it does not rest until it reaches its goal, nor will it withdraw till the Most High responds.
— Sirach 35:17-18a



TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION
Saturday’s Solemnity of All Saints and Sunday’s Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed fit well at the beginning of November. The liturgical readings of this final month in the Church year are keyed to the end of time and the fulfillment of Jesus’ saving acts. Nowhere is this more fully celebrated than in Mexico, where November 2 is the “Day of the Dead.” Missionaries moved an ancient Aztec festival from midsummer to November, linking the festival to Christian themes. Today, it is a time for remembering the dead and celebrating the continuity of life, principally by festive picnics in cemeteries. There are special foods and games, and people socialize with other families and tell favorite stories about their dear ones. The sweetness of life is honored by sugary desserts and treats. Flowers, music, lights, and feasting assure that the day is not at all morbid. Traditionally, the day begins with Mass, a procession to the cemetery, and a morning feast. Most families have a special dinner with the *pan de muerto*, or “bread of the dead.” A toy skeleton is baked into the loaf, and the one who bites into it is considered lucky indeed. The dead are not feared, but deeply loved, and this joyful family feast points both to age-old customs and Resurrection faith.
—James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

TODAY’S READINGS
First Reading — The Lord is not deaf to the wail of the orphan, nor to the widow when she pours out her complaint (Sirach 35:12-14, 16-18).
Psalm — The Lord hears the cry of the poor (Psalm 34).
Second Reading — The Lord will rescue me from every threat (2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18).
Gospel — All who exalt themselves will be humbled; all who humble themselves will be exalted (Luke 18:9-14).

Sunday Collection October 18 ~ 19	
Weekly Need:	\$ 5,000.00
First Collection	\$ 2,157.00
Over/Under	\$ 2,843.00
World Mission	\$ 2,311.00

Mass Intentions † Denotes deceased – (L) Living	
<u>Monday</u> 8:30 am	<u>October 27</u> † Albert J Songco
<u>Tuesday</u> 8:30 am	<u>October 28</u> † Francisca Monsanto † Manolito Amorado & † Teresita Amorado † Amelia Swenson
<u>Wednesday</u> 8:30 am	<u>October 29</u> † Rolando Aung & † Francis Aung Carmela Padilla (L)
<u>Thursday</u> 8:30 am	<u>October 30</u> † Eduardo Amorado & † Antonia Amorado Carmelita Florez (L)
<u>Friday</u> 8:30 am	<u>October 31</u> † Earl & Mary McCarthy † Elisa V Chan
<u>Saturday</u> 8:30 am 4:30 pm	<u>November 1</u> † Jesus B Castillo † Tessie Joe & Sayor Schembr
<u>Sunday</u> 8:30 am 10:30 am	<u>November 2</u> People of the Parish † All Souls of the Parish

ON THE HORIZON AT ST. ELIZABETH	
● <u>All Saints Day</u> Saturday, November 1st, Not A Holy Day of obiligation.	
● <u>All Souls Day</u> Sunday, November 2 nd , Please fill out an All Souls envelope.	
● <u>Advent Retreat</u> Saturday, December 6 th	

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES	
Sunday, 10/26	30th Sunday in Ordinary Time.
Tuesday, 10/28	SS. Simon and Jude, Apostles
Saturday, 11/1	All Saints



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.**



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.

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

**We congratulate
Theodore Guadalupe Lopez,
who was baptized at St.
Elizabeth Church on October
18, 2025.**



Month of All Souls November

Traditionally, November is the month when we especially remember the souls who have entered eternal life. As we prepare for these remembrances there is a specific way of preparation besides our own prayers and remembrances. You may write the dearly departed names on one of the All Souls envelopes. These envelopes will be placed on the altar for remembrances during the month of November.

**ALL SOULS ENVELOPES ARE
AVAILABLE IN THE CHURCH**