

# ***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](http://www.stelizabetsf.org) **Email:** [stelizabethchurchsf@gmail.com](mailto:stelizabethchurchsf@gmail.com)

***November 16, 2025 Thirty-Third 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**

|                        |                             |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>Suzanne Brachna</b> | Administrative Assistant    |
| <b>Fred Spence</b>     | Maintenance                 |
| <b>Laurrie Digneo</b>  | 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  
November 16, 2025

Dear St. Elizabeth Parishioners,

**Word of God: 33<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C:** As we approach the end of the liturgical year, today’s readings turn our attention to the end times—not to fill us with fear, but with hope and perseverance. The prophet Malachi warns of a coming day that will burn away evil but bring healing and light to those who revere God’s name. The end, then, is not destruction for the faithful, but purification and renewal. St. Paul reminds the Thessalonians to remain steadfast in daily responsibilities. Some believers, expecting the Lord’s imminent return, had grown idle. Paul insists that authentic faith is not escapism but engagement: to work, to serve, to build God’s kingdom in the present moment. Holiness is found not in speculation about the future, but in fidelity today.

In the Gospel, Jesus foretells the destruction of the Temple and the trials his followers will face. Yet he reassures them: “Not a hair of your head will be destroyed. By your perseverance you will secure your lives.” The Christian response to turmoil and uncertainty is not panic, but trust in God’s providence. Our world, too, trembles with wars, disasters, and moral confusion. Christ calls us to stand firm, to witness with courage and compassion, confident that God’s justice and mercy will triumph. The final word is not fear but hope: “The sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its rays.” Persevering in faith, we await that glorious dawn.

**The World Day of the Poor, 33<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time:** The World Day of the Poor was established by Pope Francis in 2016 at the conclusion of the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy. It is celebrated annually on the 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time. The pope instituted it to urge Christians to encounter, listen to, and serve the poor in practical and heartfelt ways. He called it a day “to encourage believers to react against a culture of indifference and waste.” The World Day of the Poor reminds the Church that the face of Christ is reflected in the suffering and needy, and true discipleship demands solidarity and compassionate action.

**Advent Retreat:** Saturday, December 6, is parish Advent retreat. Please see sign-up forms in the church or in the parish office.

**Simbang Gabi, for 9 Days before Christmas:** December 16 through 24 at the 8:30 a.m. Mass. Please be in touch with the organizers of Simbang Gabi: Gloria Trinidad, May Devera, and Beth Pasco. Please do contact them for your active participation and sponsorship.

**Thanksgiving Day Mass and Collection:** Thursday November 27, Thanksgiving Day, Mass will be at 9:00 a.m. The collection we will take up at that Mass this year will go to Gift of Love, a hospice house for homeless and poor men with no families or resources, run by Missionaries of Charity, (Mother Teresa sisters).

**Mary’s Titles in the Vatican’s 2025 Document *Mater Populi Fidelis*:** The Vatican’s new doctrinal note *Mater Populi Fidelis* ( Nov. 4, 2025) offers guidance on the proper understanding of Mary’s titles. The document discourages calling Mary “Co-Redemptrix,” explaining that Christ alone is Redeemer of humanity. It also limits the use of “Mediatrix of All Graces” if it implies equality with Christ’s mediation. Titles such as “Mediatrix” and “Advocate” are acceptable when understood as expressions of Mary’s maternal intercession within the one mediation of Christ. The Church encourages renewed use of titles emphasizing her faith and motherhood: *Mother of the Faithful People of God, Mother of Believers, Spiritual Mother, and Mother of the Church.* Mary remains the model disciple—humble “Handmaid of the Lord”—whose example strengthens the Church’s faith and unity.

**Tuesday, November 18, Feast of the Dedication of the Basilicas of Saints Peter and Paul:** This feast honors the two great pillars of our faith. Peter, the rock upon whom Christ built His Church, and Paul, the fearless apostle to the nations, remind us that the Church stands firm on faith and mission. These basilicas in Rome are not only monuments of stone but symbols of living faith built on Christ Himself. As we honor Peter’s steadfastness and Paul’s zeal, we are reminded to renew our own commitment to be strong witnesses, proclaiming the Gospel with courage and love in our world today.

**Friday Feast of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary November 21:** This feast, recalling the traditional view that Mary, as a young girl, was dedicated to God in the temple, symbolizes her total openness to God’s will and her lifelong readiness to serve. Chosen to be the Mother of the Savior, Mary’s early consecration prepared her for her “yes” at the Annunciation. Her example invites us to offer ourselves completely to God, trusting His plan with humble faith. In Mary’s purity, obedience, and devotion, we find the model of true discipleship and the perfect response to God’s love and calling.

**Feast of St. Cecelia, Saturday November 22, 2025:** Saint Cecilia, virgin and martyr, is the patroness of sacred music. Though forced into marriage, she remained faithful to Christ and sang to God even as she faced death. Her courage and joy in suffering reveal a heart completely attuned to divine love. Saint Cecilia reminds us that every life can become a song of praise when lived for God. Like her, we can also raise our voices and hearts to glorify the Lord in our words and deeds.

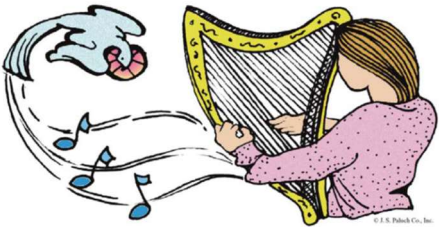
**Pearly Gates Humor:** 1. What the lifelong atheist said when he reached the Pearly Gates. I'll be damned! 2. A man walks up to the pearly gates. Saint Peter asks, "How did you get here?" The man answers, “Flu.” 3. A guy ends up at the pearly gates and St Peter welcomes him by congratulating him for being the first man to live to 350 years of age. The guy is confused, I think you have got the wrong guy, I never lived that long. St Peter replies, Yeah it's you, we worked it out from your IT contracting time sheets.

Your Friend and Pastor,

Father Charles Puthota

Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time  
November 16, 2025

Sing praise to the LORD with the harp,  
with the harp and melodious song.  
— *Psalm 98:5*



LIFE IS HARD, BUT HAVE NO FEAR

Today’s readings take a fearless look at reality and reach a conclusion that we all know: life is hard. The prophet Malachi preaches fire and brimstone, warning us that evildoers will perish in flames. Saint Paul offers his own warning to the Thessalonians: keep busy, but never become a busybody. He reminds Christians that the apostles themselves worked in “toil and drudgery” as a model for how we ought to contribute to our community. The Gospel returns to the apocalyptic tone of Malachi, describing the utter chaos of the end-times. We will know the end is near when violence, catastrophe, and hatred dominate the earth. But we must not fear! God’s saving plan brings peace to our hearts. Malachi speaks of the sun’s “healing rays,” and Jesus himself promises to protect every hair on our heads.

Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

TODAY’S READINGS

**First Reading** — For those who fear the name of the Lord, the sun of justice will arise (Malachi 3:19-20a).

**Psalm** — The Lord comes to rule the earth with justice (Psalm 98).

**Second Reading** — Those who are living in idleness are urged to earn their own living (2 Thessalonians 3:7-12).

**Gospel** — Jesus foretells the destruction of Jerusalem, the persecution of his followers (Luke 21:5-19).

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

November 8 – 9

|                    |             |
|--------------------|-------------|
| Weekly Need:       | \$ 5,000.00 |
| First Collection   | \$ 2,372.00 |
| Parish Maintenance | \$ 748.00   |
| Over/Under         | \$ 1,880.00 |

Mass Intentions

† Denotes deceased – (L) Living

Monday

8:30 am

Tuesday

8:30 am

Wednesday

8:30 am

Thursday

8:30 am

Friday

8:30 am

Saturday

8:30 am

4:30 pm

Sunday

8:30 am

10:30 am

November 17

† Balbina and † Joe Nebril

November 18

† Efren J Songco

November 19

Linh and Kit Gee (L)

† Danilo Morales

November 20

† Salvina Hili

November 21

Deceased members of  
Mary Mother Most Pure of  
Legion of Mary

November 22

† Marlyn Paris

† Arthur Ghiglieri

November 23

People of the Parish

† Giuseppina Rinaldi

ON THE HORIZON AT ST. ELIZABETH

●Thanksgiving

Thursday, November 27<sup>th</sup> Mass at 9:00 am  
Collection will go to Mother Teresa Sisters.  
Parish Office Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday

●Advent Retreat

Saturday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, sign-up forms are  
available in the church and parish office.

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

|                 |                                          |
|-----------------|------------------------------------------|
| Sunday, 11/16   | 33 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time |
| Monday, 11/17   | St. Elizabeth of Hungary                 |
| Tuesday, 11/18  | St. Rose Philippine Duchesne             |
| Saturday, 11/22 | St. Cecilia                              |



© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

## 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](mailto: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.**

## **Vallombrosa Retreat Center Menlo Park**

Vallombrosa Retreat Center  
250 Oak Grove Ave., Menlo Park  
Main Line: 650-325-5614

Group Reservations/Booking Contact:  
Jaynie Fedele | [jaynie@vallombrosa.org](mailto:jaynie@vallombrosa.org)

**Vallombrosa is open  
and is accepting bookings.**

**Private Retreats:** Vallombrosa Center currently offers private retreats for those who want private rooms for alone time, with spiritual direction available. Guests can enjoy the walking trails, shrines and gardens. There are both day retreats and overnight (no food or coffee service available in either case) – learn more and book above.



### **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: \_\_\_\_\_