

# ***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)

***December 7, 2025 Second Sunday of Advent***



## **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>Laurie 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  
December 7, 2025

Dear Parishioners of St. Elizabeth,

**Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, a Holy Day of Obligation, Monday, December 8. Masses at 8:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.:** We love, esteem, and honor Mary our mother. We ponder over the mystery of Mary’s glory as connected with Advent. Because Jesus was coming into the world, his mother Mary had to be prepared right from the moment of her conception, that is, when Mary was conceived in her mother Anne’s womb. Mary was protected from any tainting of sin because she had to give birth to the Son of God, the Savior of the world. This is the belief and conviction at the heart of the celebration of the Immaculate Conception. William Wordsworth celebrates it in his poem “The Virgin”: “Mother! whose virgin bosom was uncrosted / With the least shade of thought to sin allied; /Woman! above all women glorified, / Our tainted nature's solitary boast...”

**Advent:** The word “advent” itself means “coming” or “arrival.” It is obviously about the coming of Jesus. Remember the words of Jesus before his ascension into heaven: “I’ll be with you always.” Jesus is with us always. Only we do not see and recognize him. We do not hear and touch him. We can imagine him saying: “You have eyes, but you don’t see; have ears, but don’t hear.” There are many things in life that prevent us from being in touch with Jesus. Our preoccupations and anxieties may leave us with no time or space for Jesus in our lives. That is why the concept of “coming” is very helpful. It has the sense of dynamism built into it. It has the meaning that it is happening in our lives now, in our present situations and circumstances. It’s not about the past or the future so much as it is about how Jesus is coming into our lives now, encountering us, calling us, sending us, fulfilling us, and blessing us. As we go about our daily, ordinary lives, how can we prepare ourselves in our minds and hearts for his coming? Or as we face difficult situations such as disease, death in the family, failure, rejection, depression, panic, and all sorts of sad experiences, how can we let Jesus come into our lives today so that he can make a difference and lift us up with his grace and love?

**Advent Quotes:** “Each of us is an innkeeper who decides if there is room for Jesus.” --- Neal A. Maxwell. “Hope sees the invisible, feels the intangible, achieves the impossible.” “Advent: Arrival, Start, Beginning, Dawn, Initiation, Introduction.” “Advent: Close your eyes and open your mind.” “Advent: the time to listen for footsteps - -- you can’t hear footsteps when you’re running yourself.” --- Bill McKibben.

**Word of God, Second Sunday of Advent, Year A:**  
John the Baptist stands at the center of today’s liturgy, crying out in the desert: *“Prepare the way of the Lord!”* His

voice is urgent because God’s grace is always breaking into our lives, longing to make all things new. Advent is not passive waiting; it is active readiness. Isaiah’s vision of a renewed creation—where justice flourishes and peace reigns—begins with hearts turned back to God. John calls us to repentance not as punishment but as healing. To “prepare the way” means smoothing the rough places in our relationships, clearing the clutter of distractions, and renewing our commitment to prayer. It means letting Christ reorder our priorities so that our lives bear good fruit. As we light the second candle, the flame of peace grows. Let us welcome Christ’s coming by opening our hearts to conversion, reconciliation, and the hope that only he can give.

**Thanksgiving Day Mass Collection:** Thank you for your generous donation of \$2,261. I have sent this amount to Missionaries of Charity (Mother Teresa Sisters), who run “Gift of Love,” a hospice care house in Pacifica for men experiencing homelessness and without any resources or family.

**Simbang Gabi Masses at 8:30 a.m. from Dec. 16 through Dec. 24:** As usual, our parish will observe the Simbang Gabi related ceremonies and prayers at the daily Masses at 8:30 a.m. nine days before Christmas. I would like to encourage everyone, including the Filipino community, to come together for this beautiful devotional preparation for nine days before Christmas. Please contact Gloria Trinidad, May Devera, and Beth Pasco. Please do let them know how you might like to participate, support, and sponsor Simbang Gabi 2025.

**Fiesta de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe:** Friday, December 12 is the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patron Saint of the Americas. Please do join the morning Mass at 8:30 a.m. There will be a light Mexican-style breakfast after the Mass. !Que Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe nos mantenga siempre en su amor! May Our Lady of Guadalupe always keep us in her love!

**Christmas Mass Schedule:** Christmas Eve, Wednesday, December 24 at 4:30 p.m. Christmas Day, Thursday, December 25 at 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

**Christmas / Advent Confessions:** Saturday, December 20 at 10:30 a.m.

**An Advent Wisdom Story:** A traveler entered a dark chapel seeking rest. Seeing only one small candle burning, he sighed. An old monk whispered, “That single flame is enough. Stay with it.” As the traveler sat, the darkness felt lighter. **Lesson:** Advent begins with one small light—welcome it, and hope will quietly grow.

**Advent Humor:** 1. A parishioner said, “I’m trying to wait patiently this Advent.” His friend replied, “How’s it going?” He sighed, “I’m already impatient for my patience to show up!” 2. A child asked, “Why do we have Advent before Christmas?” The teacher smiled, “To practice waiting.” The child groaned, “Can’t we just practice opening presents instead?”

**Wishing you the blessings of the Advent Season,**  
Your Friend and Pastor,  
Father Charles Puthota

Second Sunday of Advent  
December 7, 2025

The earth shall be filled with knowledge of the LORD,  
as water covers the sea.  
— *Isaiah 11:9*



PREPARE THE WAY

Saint John the Baptist appears on the scene today as Advent enters its second week. The mysterious consumer of locusts and wild honey, John echoes the words of the prophet Isaiah as he calls for repentance in the face of the nearness of the kingdom of heaven. The rhythms of the Christian life are often confounding. Each year we meet the Baptist and hear his calls for repentance. Each year we see him pointing to the one who is coming after him, the Lord Jesus. Yet each year the words and actions of John the Baptist echo anew in our hearts, because we have fallen into old sinful traps again and again. Advent gives us the opportunity once again to turn away from our sinful ways and embrace the gospel way of life. John the Baptist invites us to prepare the way for the Lord, in whom we place our hope.  
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TODAY’S READINGS

**First Reading** — He shall bring justice for the afflicted; the earth shall overflow with the knowledge of the LORD (Isaiah 11:1-10).

**Psalms** — Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever (Psalm 72).

**Second Reading** — Glorify God by living in harmony with one another, welcoming each other as Christ welcomed you (Romans 15:4-9).

**Gospel** — Produce good fruit worthy of your baptism; repent, for the reign of God is near (Matthew 3:1-12).

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<u>Sunday Collection</u> <u>November 29 – 30</u>	
<b>Weekly Need:</b>	<b>\$ 5,000.00</b>
<b>First Collection</b>	<b>\$ 1,895.07</b>
<b>Parish Ministries</b>	<b>\$ 409.00</b>
<b>Over/Under</b>	<b>\$ 2,695.93</b>
<b>Online Giving for November</b>	<b>\$ 1,238.00</b>
<b>Thanksgiving Mother Teresa Sisters</b>	<b>\$ 2,261.00</b>

<b>Mass Intentions</b> † Denotes deceased – (L) Living	
<b><u>Monday</u></b> 8:30 am 6:00 pm	<b><u>December 8</u></b> Maria Conception Ruiz (L) † Jesus B Castillo
<b><u>Tuesday</u></b> 8:30 am	<b><u>December 9</u></b> † Teresita Padua
<b><u>Wednesday</u></b> 8:30 am	<b><u>December 10</u></b> † Virginia Walden † Frank and † Antoinette Carter † Marilou Cabrera Castro
<b><u>Thursday</u></b> 8:30 am	<b><u>December 11</u></b> † Francisca and † Marcel Padua
<b><u>Friday</u></b> 8:30 am	<b><u>December 12</u></b> † Mary Reoblado
<b><u>Saturday</u></b> 8:30 am 4:30 pm	<b><u>December 13</u></b> † Armando Santiago Leopoldo Torres and Family (L)
<b><u>Sunday</u></b> 8:30 am 10:30 am	<b><u>December 14</u></b> People of the Parish Maltese Society † Jesus B Castillo

<b><u>ON THE HORIZON AT ST. ELIZABETH</u></b>	
<b><u>●2nd Sunday of Advent</u></b> Sunday, December 7, 2025.	
<b><u>●Immaculate Conception</u></b> December 8, 2025 is a Holy Day of obligation. Masses are at 8:30am and 6pm.	
<b><u>●Simbang Gabi</u></b> December 16 – 24, 2025 at the 8:30a.m. mass.	
<b><u>●Advent/Christmas Confession</u></b> Saturday, December 20 at 10:30a.m.	
<b><u>●2026 Calendars</u></b> Available in the Church and the parish office.Limit 2.	

<b><u>SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES</u></b>	
Sunday, 12/07	2nd Sunday of Advent
Monday, 12/08	The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Tuesday, 12/09	St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatatzin
Wednesday, 12/10	Our Lady of Loreto
Thursday, 12/11	St. Damasus 1
Friday, 12/12	Our Lady of Guadalupe
Saturday, 12/13	St. Lucy



## 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.**



### Donating Poinsettias:

If you are able to donate poinsettias, you are most welcome to do so. Please bring them sooner than later to church during the morning mass timings 8:00a.m. to 9:00am or leave them in the office during office hours, Monday – Thursday 8:30a.m.-12:30p.m.



Father Charles Puthota  
with our sacristans,  
Phil McCarthy, Richard John  
and David Gemignani



Fr. Charles Puthota  
And the Choir

## Pray for our Dear Departed



Mary Rita Choy

*"Eternal Rest Grant unto Them, O Lord . . ."*