

# ST. ELIZABETH CHURCH

Established 1912 / Present Church dedicated 1962

Mailing Address: 449 Holyoke Street, S.F. CA 94134 Phone: 415-468-0820

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February 8, 2026 The Fifth 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  
Office: 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	Admin Assistant
Sandra Mehrwein	Secretary
Fred Spence	Maintenance
Laurrie Digneo	Faith Formation

### 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

Call the Parish Office for 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 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  
February 8, 2026

Dear Parishioners of St. Elizabeth,

**Word of God: 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A:** On this Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time, the readings remind us that faith is never meant to be hidden or passive. In the Gospel, Jesus declares, "You are the salt of the earth" and "You are the light of the world." These words are not compliments but a clear mission for every disciple. Salt is effective only when it is used. It preserves, gives flavor, and resists decay. In the same way, Christian faith must shape the world around us. When faith becomes merely private, routine, or comfortable, it loses its power. Jesus' warning is loving, not harsh, because he knows how easily disciples can blend in and forget why they were chosen. Light, too, exists to shine. A lamp hidden under a basket serves no purpose. Jesus calls us to lives that make God's goodness visible, not for our own praise, but so that others may "give glory to your Father in heaven."

The prophet Isaiah makes this concrete: true worship is expressed through justice, generosity, and care for the poor. When such mercy is lived, light breaks forth like the dawn. St. Paul reminds us that this mission depends not on our strength or eloquence, but on God's power. Our light shines because Christ lives within us. Nourished by the Eucharist, may we leave ready to be salt and light in our daily lives.

**Tuesday, February 10, Feast of St. Scholastica:** St. Scholastica, sister of St. Benedict and founder of the Benedictine nuns, lived in sixth-century Italy. Known for her deep prayer life and devotion to God, she exemplified holiness in the quiet strength of community and contemplation. May her example inspire us to seek God earnestly and nurture faith-filled lives rooted in love and devotion.

**Wednesday, February 11, Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes:** On the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, we recall Mary's 1858 apparitions to St. Bernadette Soubirous in Lourdes, France. A humble fourteen-year-old, Bernadette encountered Mary eighteen times at Massabielle, where she identified herself as the Immaculate Conception. Lourdes soon became a place of pilgrimage, healing, and grace. The feast invites us to prayer, penance, humility, and trust, and to seek Mary's intercession for healing, conversion, and renewed faith in our daily lives.

**Saturday, February 14: Happy Valentine's Day:** Let God's amazing and awesome love shine brightly in our love for one another. "Love is just love, it can never be explained." "I have fallen in love many times, always with you." "A hundred hearts would be too few to carry all my love for you." "You don't need someone to complete you, you only need someone to accept you completely."

"Sometimes it is not about being together...it's about being there for each other." "There is only 1 thing 2 do. 3 words 4 you: I love you." "Anyone can catch your eye, but it takes someone special to catch your heart." "If you live to be a hundred, I want to live to be hundred minus one day, so I never have to live without you." "The greatest thing you'll ever learn is just to love and be loved in return." "My love for you is deeper than the oceans and higher than the mountains."

**AAA 2026 Launch on March 1:** The amount to raise for 2026 is \$34,588. You'll receive my letter. Please give what you can in support of the Archdiocesan ministries. Please consider donating 1.5% of the total amount, which is \$500.

**Lenten Retreat:** On Saturday, February 28, 2026. Theme: The Second Vatican Council. Please put it on your calendar. Do join us at the 8:30 a.m. Mass that day and for the sessions in Cantwell Hall followed by lunch. It would indeed be helpful for us to come together and get to know each other and reflect on certain spiritual themes as preparation for the season of Lent.

**Ash Wednesday:** Ash Wednesday is on February 18. Masses will be at 8:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. We could start the anticipation of this holy, penitential season by thinking about our plans for prayer and penance. We could actually think about the three aspects of our existence: Body, Mind, and Spirit. What is it that the Lord is calling us to be? What are the things we could do to nourish and protect the health of our body, mind, and spirit?

**A Story to Ponder: The Great Flooding:** A man sat on his roof during a flood, praying for help. A boat came by, but he said, "No, God will save me." A second boat came, and he said the same. A helicopter arrived, and he still refused. Eventually, he drowned and asked God in heaven, "Why didn't You save me?" God looked at him and said, "I sent you two boats and a helicopter! What more were you looking for?"

**Valentine's Day Humor:** 1. Q. Did Adam and Eve ever have a date? A. No, they had an apple! 2. Did you hear about the bed bugs who fell in love? They're getting married in the spring! 3. How did the telephone propose to its girlfriend? He gave her a ring. 4. You are like dandruff because I just cannot get you out of my head no matter how hard I try. 5. "What did the stamp say to the envelope on Valentine's Day?" "I'm stuck on you!" 6. "I thought I won the argument with my wife as to how to arrange the dining room furniture. But when I got home the tables were turned." 7. I once fell in love with someone who only knew 4 vowels. They didn't know I existed." 8. What did the calculator say to the pencil?" "You can count on me." 9. "What did the light bulb say to the other light bulb?" "You light my world up." 10. "How can you get arrested on Valentine's Day?" "For stealing someone's heart."

Your Friend and Pastor,

Father Charles Puthota

## Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time February 8, 2026

Light shines through the darkness  
for the upright.  
— Psalm 112



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### THIS LITTLE LIGHT OF MINE

As children we sang the lively song *This Little Light of Mine*. The words, of course, are based on today's Gospel, in which we are called as disciples to be salt and light for the world. Children are uninhibited about sharing their faith. It's only when we grow older that we prefer to hide our light under a bushel basket because our culture tends not to emphasize discipleship. The message in this week's readings is clear: in order to give glory to God through our discipleship, we must show the light of Christ in our words and deeds. Not an easy thing for inhibited adults. Often we may think of salt and light in terms of what we do for others, but it can be just as important not to do something, such as getting angry with the stranger on the road, or telling an offensive joke.

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### TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** — If you share your food with the hungry, provide housing for the homeless, then light shall break forth upon you (Isaiah 58:7-10).

**Psalm** — The just man is a light in the darkness to the upright (Psalm 112).

**Second Reading** — My message to you, says Paul, was not clever words of wisdom but the proclamation of Christ crucified (1 Corinthians 2:1-5).

**Gospel** — You are the salt of the earth, the light of the world. In your good deeds your light shines before others, leading them to glorify God (Matthew 5:13-16).

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 January 31 – February 1, 2026

Weekly Need:	\$ 5,000.00
First Collection	\$ 2,722.00
Faith Formation	\$ 705.00
Over/Under	\$ 1,573.00

## 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

### February 9

† Josephine Winant

† Aurora T. Mallari

### February 10

† Giuseppe Moretto

### February 11

† Earl Joseph McCarthy

### February 12

† Paul, † Theresa and

† Joseph Vella

† Filomena and

† Emanuel Scerri

### February 13

† Ponchito Aguiluz

### February 14

† Cuu Vo

† Valen Mangonon

† Rosario Mallari

### February 15

People of the Parish

Maltese Society

† Renzo Fontana

Richard and Marycon

Padua (L)

### ON THE HORIZON AT ST. ELIZABETH

- **Parish Office will be closed:**  
Monday, February 16, 2026 President's Day  
Monday, April 6, 2026
- **Archdiocesan Annual Appeal 2026**  
Launches on March 1<sup>st</sup>
- **Ash Wednesday**  
February 18, 2026
- **Parish Lenten Retreat**  
Saturday, February 28, 2026
- **Maltese Society Champagne Bingo**  
Sunday, March 8, 2026,  
Tickets/RSVP by February 27<sup>th</sup>
- **Daylight Savings**  
Sunday, March 8, 2026
- **Easter**  
Sunday, April 5, 2026

### SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday, 2/8

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Tuesday, 2/10

St. Scholastica

Wednesday, 2/11

Our Lady of Lourdes

Saturday, 2/14

Sts. Cyril and Methodius

## HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE 2026

### ASH WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2026

8:30 am and 6:00 pm

### PALM SUNDAY VIGIL, SATURDAY MARCH 28, 2026

Confessions: 4:00 pm Mass 4:30 pm

### PALM SUNDAY, MARCH 29 2026

Masses: 8:30 am and 10:30 am

### HOLY THURSDAY, APRIL 2 2026

No Morning Mass Morning Prayer at 8:30 am

6:30 pm – Mass of the Lord's Supper

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 9 pm

### GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 3 2026

No Morning Mass Morning Prayer at 8:30 am

12:00 – 12:45 pm Stations of the Cross

12:45 – 1:30 pm Reflections on the Cross

1:30 – 3:00 pm Good Friday Liturgy

### HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 4 2026

No Morning Mass Morning Prayer at 8:30 am

Confessions: 9:00 – 10:00 am

### EASTER VIGIL, SATURDAY APRIL 4 2026

Mass: 8:00 pm

### EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 5 2026

Masses: 8:30 and 10:30 am



Fr. Charles Puthota  
Archbishop of Cagayan de Oro  
Most Rev. Jose Cabantan

## St. Elizabeth Church Lenten Retreat

Saturday, February 28, 2026 9am-1pm

### **“The Second Vatican Council: Some Reflections”**

Registration Forms in the Church lobby or Rectory  
Deadline to RSVP – February 18, 2026



Malaybalay City, Mindanao, Phillipines  
Fr. Charles Puthota and indigenous people

