

# **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)*

*May 17, 2026 Seventh Sunday of Easter*

*The Ascension of the Lord*



## **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, San Francisco, CA 94134  
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  
May 17, 2026

Dear Parishioners of St. Elizabeth,

**Ascension Sunday:** Jesus was sent by the Father to become human like us and to proclaim the Kingdom and to suffer and die in order to save the human race from sin, death, and evil. This redemptive mission accomplished, Jesus now goes back to the Father. He does not leave us orphans, though. He will send us the Holy Spirit, which we will celebrate next Sunday (Pentecost). He has also assured us that he will be with us always, even to the end of time. During Jesus' public ministry, he could not go to every place and every nation. Now he commissions us to go and share the good news with everyone in the world. We are the messengers. Not only are we messengers. We are witnesses. All of us who have experienced Jesus as our way, the truth, and the life, we are to go and witness to others. The witnessing will entail a burning conviction (a personal experience) of Jesus and a persuasive expression of that conviction to others. In our words and deeds, in our values and vision, we are to make Christ known to the world. This is the meaning of the feast of Ascension. This is all the more important because of the widespread secularization of the world. Jesus has passed on the baton to us. We have to carry it to others. The relay race is on. We are to do our part in taking Jesus Christ to our own family and friends, and beyond. As missionary disciples, we are called to the "New Evangelization," sharing Christ's message with those closest to us. The Ascension is not a signal to wait idly for Jesus' return, but a mandate to act. We must embody his love through mercy, justice, and service to the vulnerable. As Christ's hands and feet, we are tasked with continuing his mission until his Second Coming. Are you ready?

### **Month of May, Dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary:**

The Angelus Prayer: The Angel of the Lord declared to Mary: And she conceived of the Holy Spirit. Hail Mary..... Behold the handmaid of the Lord: Be it done unto me according to Thy word. Hail Mary..... And the Word was made Flesh: And dwelt among us. Hail Mary..... Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God, that we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ. Let us pray: Pour forth, we beseech Thee, O Lord, Thy grace into our hearts; that we, to whom the incarnation of Christ, Thy Son, was made known by the message of an angel, may by His Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of His Resurrection, through the same Christ Our Lord. Amen.

### **Faith Formation Year-End Mass and May Crowning this**

**Sunday:** This Sunday 8:30 a.m. Mass brings the Faith Formation program to a close for this school year. We shall do the promotion of students to the next year. We shall also distribute certificates to seven First Communion and four Confirmation students. Congratulations to the students and my deep gratitude to the catechists! I am delighted that the

Faith Formation students and families attending the Sunday 8:30 a.m. Mass has been a blessing to them and to the whole parish. Thank you, parents, for being actively involved in the faith journey of your children and for being part of the Eucharistic celebration week after week. Also, at the 8:30 a.m. Mass this Sunday, there will be May Crowning. May our Blessed Mother be always close to us and lead us to her Son Jesus.

**A Prayer:** Some years ago, I had printed a personal prayer of mine in a parish bulletin, which seemed to give solace and guidance to many. I was surprised it struck a chord among people. It was a prayer that became dear to my friends Nita Ricotta and Margaret Collins, who recently passed away in their late eighties. Here is the simple prayer: **"Jesus, come meet me where I'm at this juncture of my life. Speak to me to my present needs. Heal me as I carry the burdens of my illnesses. Save me from myself and my loneliness and sadness. Touch me with your grace. Make my humdrum life shine with your love."**

**A Story to Ponder:** Sinner: "Remember not my sins, oh Lord!" Lord: "What sins? I forgot them long ago. You'll have to prod my memory." Love keeps no record of wrongs.

**Record Number of New Converts to Catholicism:** The Catholic Church is witnessing a remarkable rise in new converts in 2026, with U.S. dioceses reporting an average 38% increase in people entering the Church compared to 2025. Following the Easter Vigil, several dioceses announced record-breaking numbers. The Archdiocese of Los Angeles welcomed nearly 8,600 new members, a dramatic 139% increase, while Chicago reported over 1,000 catechumens and candidates, up 52%. The Diocese of Venice, Florida, received a record 1,072 new Catholics, and Richmond reached an all-time high of 900. Duluth, Minnesota, experienced the fastest growth, increasing 145%. Analysts note a strong rise among young adults, especially men in their twenties, who seek deeper community, faith, and traditional values in an increasingly digital culture. Universities are also seeing growth, with Notre Dame welcoming its largest group of converts in over 25 years. Similar trends are emerging globally, leading many to describe this movement as a genuine Catholic revival.

**Catholic Humor:** 1. The Shortcut: A man is drowning and shouts, "Help, Lord, save me!" A voice from the heavens replies, "I will save you, but first, give up your favorite sin." The man thinks for a second and shouts, "Is there anyone else up there I can talk to?" 2. The New Priest: A nervous new priest was delivering his first sermon. Afterward, he asked the Monsignor how he did. The Monsignor said, "Not bad, but next time, remember: there are ten Commandments, not twelve. And there are twelve Apostles, not ten." 3. How do you know if a Catholic is tech-savvy? They keep their "icons" on their desktop.

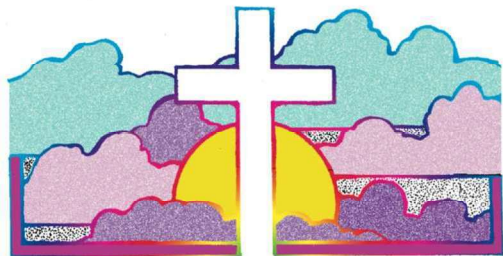
Your Friend and Pastor,

Father Charles Puthota

## Seventh Sunday of Easter May 17, 2026

“They have kept your word.”

— *John 17:6b*



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### THE CALM BEFORE THE STORM

This seventh Sunday of Easter is somewhat like the proverbial “calm before the storm.” The Lord Jesus has ascended into heaven and Pentecost has not yet occurred. Rather than immediately taking up Jesus’ command to go out to all the nations, the disciples gather in the upper room “with some women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers” (Acts 1:14). There they all devote themselves to prayer. The Gospel recounts the great prayer for the disciples that Jesus offered to his Father in heaven. If the words of Jesus while he was on earth finally began to sink in for the disciples, then gathering to pray was certainly the right choice, for the second reading lets us all know that to follow Christ means to have a share in his sufferings.

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### TODAY’S READINGS

**First Reading** — The Eleven and the women devoted themselves to prayer (Acts 1:12-14).

**Psalm** — I believe that I shall see the good things of the Lord in the land of the living (Psalm 27).

**Second Reading** — Glorify God if you suffer for the name of Christian (1 Peter 4:13-16).

**Gospel** — The Son will give eternal life to all those who are given to him by the Father (John 17:1-11a).

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

May 9 – 10, 2026

Weekly Need:	\$5,000.00
First Collection	\$2,698.00
Over/Under	\$2,302.00
Catholic Charities-CYO	\$1,088.00

## 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

### May 18

† Mary O’Sullivan

### May 19

† Mary Rita Choy  
Virginia Sanchez (L)

### May 20

The Budesca Family  
Living and Deceased  
† Aurelio Perez

### May 21

† George Tolentino

### May 22

† Armando Tanquilut

### May 23

† Antonia &  
† Alejandro Amorado  
† Keith Rea  
Señor de Ancara

### May 24

People of the Parish  
† Mike &  
† Assunta Perata  
† Oscar & † Flo Picazo

## ON THE HORIZON AT ST. ELIZABETH

### ● Parish Office Closed

Memorial Day, Monday, May 25, 2026

### ● AAA Thank you Luncheon

Save the date: Sunday, May 31<sup>st</sup>  
AAA 1.5% donor (\$500 and more)

### ● Retirement Reception for Fr. Charles

June 7, 2026 following the 10:30 am Mass  
All are Welcome.

### ● Father Charles’ Retirement

July 1, 2026

# 2026 Archdiocesan Annual Appeal Donors

Launched on March 1<sup>st</sup> completed on March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2026

All donors \$25.00 and above:

**CONGRATULATIONS, WE HAVE MET OUR GOAL!!!**

**This is the last time this list is published.**

Abranches, Sandra \*  
Ahmoo, Gina Malvar  
Aguiluz, Teresita  
Alano, Adolfo / Teresita \*  
Alipio, Marietta \*  
Alviar, Feliciano/Annabelle \*  
Arnold, Sharon \*  
Barbieri, Mr & Mrs. Mark \*  
Borg, Ron \*  
Brady, Peter/Dolores \*  
Bumanglag, Rufina  
Camingue, Mr.& Mrs. Michael  
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Ghiglieri, Norene \*  
Gloria, Mr. & Mrs. Aristeo B. \*  
Gonzalez, Philippe/Jennifer \*  
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Grasso, John  
Grima, Mr. & Mrs. John  
Guardado, Mr.&Mrs. Jose\*  
Gughemetti, Mr. & Mrs. Albert  
Holmes, Gregory / Clara \*  
Imbellino, Robert \*  
Kern, Scott / Rowena \*  
Landstorfer, John \*  
Lobo, Glenn & Geralyn \*  
Lopez, Maggie  
Madriaga, Ignacio Jr./Teresita \*  
Malvar, Amando & Marina \*

Malvar, Mr. & Mrs. Enrique  
Manalo, Mr. & Mrs. Gildo \*  
Mandani, Edilberto / Aleja  
McCarthy, Phillip \*  
Mendoza, Mr. & Mrs. Ivan  
Micallef, Emmanuel / Carmen \*  
Miller, Beatrice  
Moretto, lia \*  
Munoz, Ricardo and Patsy  
Myo Aung, Maureen P.  
Ngo, Hung / Hieu Vo \*  
O'Sullivan, Claire \*  
Olson, Andrea  
Orton, Thomas / Carmen \*  
Padua, Richard / Maria \*  
Pasco, Elizabeth \*  
Pascual, Florante  
Peneyra, Cipriano / Olimpia \*  
Perata, Mary \*  
Perez, Cipriano \*  
Pilare, Corazon \*  
Portillo, Mario \*  
Puccinelli, Mr. & Mrs. Sergio  
Pugh, Thomas / Jacalyn \*  
Puthota, Fr. Charles \*  
Quizon, Remedios

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Resurreccion, Lourdes \*  
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Romias, Editha  
Ruiz, Mr. & Mrs. Efrain \*  
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Sammuto, Anthony / Mary  
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San Pedro, Contessa \*  
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Sisters of the Good Shepherd \*  
Soares, Sharon \*  
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Vinluan, Tessie \*  
Visperas, Nona  
Walsh, Deborah \*  
Walsh, Michael \*

\*1.5 % Circle donors have an asterisk next to their name (\$500.00 and more). If contributing by check directly to St. Elizabeth, please make your check payable to the Archdiocesan Annual Appeal.

**Amount Assessed: \$34,588.00    Amount Collected: \$44,339.00**



Fr Charles Puthota, Sr. Celeste Arbuckle and  
Archbishop Cordileone  
St Pius Dinner, Faith Formation, May 7, 2026

## **FAITH FORMATION REGISTRATION IS OPEN FOR 2026-2027**

Registration forms may be requested by calling  
Laurrie Digneo at 415-672-4903 email: [sophielady7@aol.com](mailto:sophielady7@aol.com).  
Forms can also be picked up at the parish office or at the Church.  
Registration fees are \$50.00 per child.

## **Faith Formation -- Needs Teachers**

If you enjoy working with children and have a general knowledge of  
the Catholic Religion, we would love to have you be a part of our  
program. If interested, please contact Laurrie Digneo at  
415-672-4903.

## **Northern Ireland Pilgrimage 2026**

**Spiritual Director: Fr. Charles Puthota, Ph.D.**

August 21 – September 1, 2026 – 12 Days

**\$300.00 Discount Available**

**For more information: 800 -206 -8687**

<https://www.206tours.com/cms/frputhota/ireland/>