

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

June 28, 2026 Thirteenth 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, 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.**

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
June 28, 2026

Farewell Letter

Dear Parishioners of St. Elizabeth,

I am writing this deeply personal letter to each one of you, the faithful community of St. Elizabeth, to say a heartfelt goodbye as my journey among you comes to its sunset.

My Retirement: At the conclusion of my six-year term as your pastor, and upon reaching the milestone age of 70, I have discerned that it is time to retire from active ministry. Archbishop Salvatore Cordileone has kindly and graciously granted me permission to step down. This retirement will officially take effect on July 1, 2026.

Looking Back: Six years ago, when I first arrived at St. Elizabeth, I came with an open heart, eager to see how God would weave our lives together. Since that summer day, this vibrant parish and the Portola neighborhood of San Francisco have become an intimate, irreplaceable part of my life. Together, we have shared seasons of grace, navigated challenges, and built a sanctuary of faith and community.

My Feelings: Joy, Sadness, and Gratitude:

My uppermost feelings at this poignant time of transition are threefold: joy, sadness, and gratitude.

Joy: Because of the profound way you have become my family. You have enriched my priesthood and helped me grow as a human being.

Sadness: Because it is deeply painful to part from a family I love so dearly.

Gratitude: For the kindness, support, and love you have unconditionally showered upon me, which have sustained me in my ministry.

The Lessons Learned From You: You have taught me, in so many beautiful ways, the true essence of leadership and servanthood. You have shown me what it means to be gentle and kind, humble and patient. Through you, I have learned to listen more deeply, to value human relationships as precious and beautiful, and to work tirelessly for unity and peace. You have allowed me to bring comfort and strength to your hardships, and you have challenged me to reflect, however inadequately, the face of Jesus in my words and actions.

You Have Nourished Me: Together, we have celebrated our profound love for God and one another. In our regular Masses, the joyous water of baptisms, the

solemnity of funerals, the beauty of weddings, and the warmth of our parish social events, you have let me into your lives. In doing so, you have nourished my mind, heart, and soul. I thank you for helping me grow into the person I am today. For my many failures, shortcomings, and limitations during my pastorate, I humbly ask for your forgiveness.

Your Collaboration on Parish Projects: When it comes to stewardship and taking care of our parish's physical facilities, your support has been nothing short of amazing. Your extraordinary generosity, shared vision, and hard work have kept our parish beautiful, welcoming, and strong. Your dedication to the material and spiritual upkeep of St. Elizabeth has been a clear, radiant sign of your love for this parish, and a tremendous affirmation of my own ministry. I thank you from the bottom of my heart for such seamless collaboration.

Welcoming the Incoming Clergy: As I depart, a new chapter begins for St. Elizabeth. I ask you to extend the same warmth, hospitality, and open-hearted collaboration to the new clergy, Father Vito Perrone and his companions, appointed by Archbishop Salvatore Cordileone to lead and serve this wonderful parish. Let us welcome them with joy and prayers.

My Future Path: Come July 1, 2026, I shall begin my retirement and relocate to Naperville, Illinois. While I am moving across the miles to "pitch my tent" in a new place, please know that the distance is only geographical.

You Are in My Heart: I shall carry you always in my heart. The simple, beautiful reason is that you and I have walked together on this earth, sharing our lives, our faith, and our humanity. We have been touched by love and transformed by grace. These blessings are more precious than gold, and they can never be eroded by time or distance.

A Poem of Farewell: Allow me to borrow the exquisite words of Rabindranath Tagore, the Nobel Poet Laureate, to express the depth of my sentiments at this hour:
"I have got my leave. Bid me farewell, my brothers [and sisters]! I bow to you all and take my departure. Here I give back the keys of my door—and I give up all claims to my house. I only ask for last kind words from you. We were neighbors for long, but I received more than I could give. Now the day has dawned and the lamp that lit my dark corner is out. A summons has come and I am ready for my journey."

Sincerely yours in Christ,

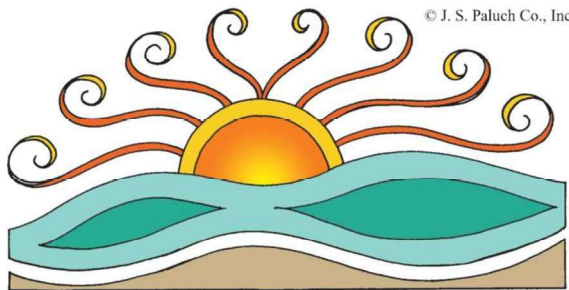
Your outgoing pastor and always your friend,

Fr. Charles Puthota, Ph.D.

Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time June 28, 2026

Think of yourselves as dead to sin and living for God in Christ Jesus.

— *Romans 6:11*



THE RICHNESS OF LIFE IN CHRIST

Today we have the beautiful story of the woman promised a child, the wonderful exhortation about life in Christ, and a powerful instruction from Jesus. An embarrassment of riches? Not if we take Jesus' words about "welcome" to heart. The many challenges and blessings offered to us today by Elisha, Paul, and Jesus should be cause for rejoicing, and welcomed heartily into our lives. And, like the great treat that they are, they should be enjoyed and shared generously with others.

Today's reading from Romans was chosen very early in the liturgical life of the Church to be the sole apostolic instruction received by candidates for baptism at the Easter Vigil. This illustrates its importance as a core belief, and as a means of comprehending the story of the Resurrection. Christ's resurrection is not merely a story about something that he underwent once upon a time, but it is our story, the story of how we joined the other members of the one Body of Christ, the church. We were not only dead, but we were buried; not ultimately buried, but raised to eternal life with Christ.

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TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Elisha promises a baby son to the hospitable woman (2 Kings 4:8-11, 14-16a).

Psalm — For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord (Psalm 89).

Second Reading — We shall live in newness of life as Christ was raised from the dead (Romans 6:3-4, 8-11).

Gospel — Whoever gives but a cup of cold water to another will surely be rewarded (Matthew 10:37-42).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from the *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

Sunday Collection June 20 - 21, 2026

Weekly Need:	\$5,000.00
First Collection	\$2,903.00
Church Environment	\$ 662.00
Over/Under	\$ 1,435.00

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

June 29

† Alice Soriano

June 30

† Luisiana Padilla

† Remy Ramirez

July 1

The Budesa Family Living and Deceased

July 2

† Larry Mazzola Sr.

† Val Viray Jr.

July 3

† Keith Rea

Richard Padua (L)

July 4

† Stephanie D. Songco

Andre Richard & Cynthia

Chocian (L)

July 5

People of the Parish

† Foreino Gemignani

ON THE HORIZON AT ST. ELIZABETH

• Father Charles' Retirement

July 1, 2026

• Father Vito Perrone as Pastor

Wednesday, July 1, 2026

• Independence Day

July 4, 2026, Saturday, 250th Anniversary

• Faith Formation 2nd Collection

July 4,5, 2026

Saints and Special Observances

Sunday, 6/28

Thirteenth Sunday, Ordinary Time

Monday, 6/29

St. Peter, St. Paul

Tuesday, 6/30

The First Martyrs of the Holy Roman Church

Wednesday, 7/1

St. Junipero Serra

Friday, 7/3

St. Thomas



Please Donate
 Sunday Collection
 Your generosity would
 mean so much to us and
 to those we serve.
 Click on the QR Code

**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.
 Forms can also be picked up at the parish office or
 at the Church. Registration fees are \$50.00 per
 child.

Pray for our dear Departed



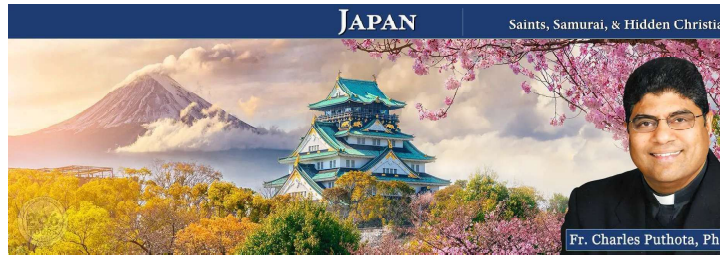
Angelita Aquino

“Eternal Rest Grant unto Them, O Lord...”



We Congratulate
 Tessa Lee Gunther
 Who was baptized at
 St. Elizabeth Church on June 20, 2026

JOIN THE PILGRIMIGE



**Japan: Saints, Samurai, & Hidden Christians –
 14 Days**

Spiritual Director:

Fr. Charles Puthota, Ph.D.

May 10-23, 2027

[https://www.206tours.com/cms/frputhota/japan/
 800.206.TOUR\(8687\)](https://www.206tours.com/cms/frputhota/japan/800.206.TOUR(8687))



Farewell Father Charles Puthota
 We wish you a happy retirement.
 Thank you for your years of service
 at St. Elizabeth Church