

# Fr. Charles Puthota's Blog

July 18, 2021

From the Pastor's Desktop



Dear Parishioners of St. Elizabeth,

**Faith Formation Registration is On:** Please do encourage your children and grandchildren in your families to join our parish Faith Formation (formerly "CCD") program. Please contact the parish office at 415-468-0820 or Lily Codd at 650-771-3176. Also, it is the best way to make sure of the sacraments as the children in Faith Formation are prepared for First Reconciliation, First Communion, and Confirmation.

**Sacraments of Baptisms, Weddings, Anointing of the Sick/Dying, Reconciliation:** If you are in need of any of these sacraments, please do let me or the parish office know. Please also check the parish bulletin for the schedules.

**Divine Office--Morning Prayer at 8:00 a.m. :** Monday through Saturday at 8:00 a.m. we have this prayer of the Church. If it's possible and convenient for you, please do join. If you are retired, it might be easier for you to try this form of prayer. The prayer book will be provided. I'd like to congratulate and thank about 12 to 15 parishioners who have made a commitment to this prayer each day. Their daily participation in this form of prayer before the 8:30 a.m. Mass is truly commendable and an inspiration.

**Over 50 Club:** Meets each Thursday. Once a month, there is lunch. Each Thursday Bingo is played and desserts are served. Annual membership is highly reasonable. There are 12 new members who have joined this year. Anyone who would like to join this group, please contact Emma Magarrell at 415-410-7678. The more, the merrier! After all the isolation during the long Covid months, it's time to get together and celebrate friendships. If you know of anyone who might be interested in joining this organization, please do encourage them. If any other groups would like to meet regularly for our parish organizational meetings, please would you talk to me?

**Word of God:** In the gospel this Sunday, Jesus says to his apostles: "Come away by yourselves to a deserted place and rest a while." Also, we read, "When he disembarked and saw the vast crowd, his heart was moved with pity for them, for they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things." Jesus is inviting us to come away to be with him so that we can find our rest for our hearts and souls. We need to recover, recuperate, and refresh, all the more because of all that we have been through on account of the pandemic. Is it possible that we are troubled by many things and anxious, and even distressed? Jesus also says elsewhere in the gospels that he will give us rest, to those of us who are weary and are burdened. We are like sheep without a shepherd. In the responsorial psalm, which is the most quoted psalm 23, we see that "the Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want." Jesus is the good shepherd who leads us to green pastures and restful waters. Let's eat and drink at his banquet and be filled with the bread of life that Jesus is for us individually and for the whole world. Let's also think about how we can be instruments of Jesus' peace and rest for one another. What can I say and do that might bring solace and comfort to others?

**A Story to Think About:** The spiritual master became a legend in his lifetime. It was said that God once sought his advice: *"I want to play a game of hide-and-seek with humankind. I've asked my angels what the best place is to hide in. Some say the depth of the ocean. Others say the top of the highest mountain. Others still the far side of the moon or a distant star. What do you suggest?"* Said the Master, *"Hide in the human heart. That is the last place they will think of!"*

**Brief Positive Quotes:** "Soul full of sunshine." "Be wild for a while." "Things will get better. So don't give up, okay?" "Make it happen." "When things change inside you, things change around you." "Know your worth." "Search for soul in everything." "Things will work out." "Be the reason someone believes in the goodness of people." "The best is yet to come." "It's ok to not be ok right now." "You matter." "Be good, do good." "Be afraid & do it anyway." "Mindset is everything." "Follow your heart." "This will all make perfect sense one day." "Get lost in what you love." "Good things take time." "Stay hopeful." "You are your home." "You are stronger than you think." "What's stopping you?" "We are all works in progress." "Turn the pain into power." "Stay strong." "Sometimes you have to be your own hero." "A lot can happen in a year." "Say yes to new adventures." "Protect your peace." "It's the little things." "Stay focused." "Escape the ordinary." "Be still." "Eventually everything connects." "I'm doing this for me." "There is beauty in simplicity." "A bit of madness is key." "Everything that you are is enough." "You are beautiful." "No rain, no flowers." "What is coming is better than what is gone."

**Religious Jokes:** 1. Liquid, Fragile or Perishable? When a woman decided to send the old family Bible to her brother in another state, the postal worker asked her if there was anything breakable in the package. "Only the Ten Commandments," she replied.

2. Creation: An atheist scientist came to God and said, "We've figured out how to make a man without you." God said, "OK, let me see you do it." So the atheist bent down to the ground and scooped up a handful. But God stopped him and said, "Oh, no you don't. Get your own dirt!"

**Hope your summer is going well. Enjoy the season! Hope you are able to do something new and different this summer---to refresh the mind and the heart.**

Your Friend & Pastor,

Fr. Charles Puthota