

# Fr. Charles Puthota's Blog

August 1, 2021

From the Pastor's Desktop



**Dear Parishioners of St. Elizabeth,**

**AAA 1% Circle Luncheon: Save the Date!** As a way of acknowledging and thanking you for your generosity, those who donated 1% or more (\$400 or more) toward the Archdiocesan Annual Appeal (AAA), I'm inviting you to a luncheon on Sunday, November 7, at 12 noon at the Basque Cultural Center in South San Francisco. Please save the date! The parish office (Sandy & Patti) will be in touch with you with my formal letter of invitation for you to be able to RSVP and to choose your entrée.

**Weekend Masses:** Saturday 4:30 p.m. and Sunday 9:30 a.m. Masses are attended by about 70 and 140 people respectively. Please do come join! Apart from the fact that the weekend Masses are what the Church invites us to consider as "obligation," there is always the spontaneous sense of joy and gratitude, faith and hope, which impel us to celebrate the memory of Jesus. Do bring your families with you! Let your children and grandchildren too join these Masses as we give thanks to God, get reconciled to God and one another, seek blessings, hear God's word, receive the Body of Christ---and be sent out into the world to help and heal, to comfort and console, to uplift and affirm, to encourage and inspire. To make this world a better place!

**Weekday Masses preceded by Divine Office:** About 12 to 15 people are praying every day the Divine Office at 8:00 a.m. before the 8:30 a.m. Mass. I'm so edified and inspired by this dedicated group of people. Two months ago, the group didn't know at all how to pray this prayer, with its special format and structure. Now the group has become familiar with this form of prayer. I'm so delighted that these morning prayer devotees have entered the spirit of this prayer. If anyone else would like to join on a regular basis, please do let me know. I'll buy more prayer books for your use (each costing \$41.00), if you are able to make the commitment. Also, those of you who are retired, and those who are able to fit the Mass into your daily schedule, please do join the Mass at 8:30 a.m. Monday through Saturday. You'll not regret the spiritual nourishment you get from the Word of God and the Body of Christ so that we could all become the Body of Christ, the community of beloved disciples Jesus is calling us to be.

**Gospel for Five Consecutive Sundays is about the Eucharist:** Let's contemplate the beauty and mystery of our union and communion with Jesus and with one another in the Eucharist.

**Pilgrimage to Jordan and the Holy Land in October 2022:** Please see the last page for details.

**World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly, Each Year Fourth Sunday of July:** Pope Francis has just instituted the fourth Sunday of July each year, which happens to be close to the feast of Saints Joachim and Anne, Jesus' grandparents, as the World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly. This came into effect last Sunday for the first time. The Holy Father speaks glowingly of his own Italian grandparents in Argentina and the great impact they had on his life. While being grateful for their wisdom and love, we as a society have to find ways and means of taking care of them in their senior years, all the more important when they become fragile due to age and various health issues.

**Brief Insightful Quotes:** "Make each day your masterpiece." – John Wooden. "Happiness is not by chance, but by choice." – Jim Rohn. "You do not find the happy life. You make it." – **Camilla Eyring Kimball**. "There are two ways of spreading light: to be the candle or the mirror that reflects it." – **Edith Wharton**. "Believe you can and you're halfway there." – Theodore Roosevelt. "You must be the change you wish to see in the world." – **Mahatma Gandhi**. "It is never too late to be what you might have been." – **George Eliot**. "Stay foolish to stay sane." – **Maxime Lagacé**. "Whatever you are, be a good one." – **Abraham Lincoln**. "You must do the things you think you cannot do." – **Eleanor Roosevelt**. "Wherever you go, go with all your heart." – **Confucius**.

**What is Catholicism?:** "Catholicism is a tradition that places great emphasis on tradition. It recognizes that the Bible itself is the product of tradition (or, more precisely, of many traditions). Before there were written texts the faith was handed on through proclamation, catechesis, worship, and personal example. For Catholicism, God speaks through means such as these, not only through words but through deeds as well. History in general and the history of the Church in particular are carriers of this divine revelation. Catholicism, therefore, not only reads its Sacred Scripture, but also its own corporate life and experience. As Pope John XXIII (d. 1963) once said, history itself is a teacher." (Richard McBrien)

**Catholic Jokes:** 1. Little Mary was sitting on her grandfather's knee and after looking at him intently for some time she said, "Grandpa, were you in the Ark with Noah?" "Certainly not, my dear," he replied in astonishment. "Then," asked Mary, "Why weren't you drowned?"

2. A newly ordained priest had just finished his first Nuptial Mass without making any mistakes in the ceremony. He looked down upon the bride and bridegroom with relief and satisfaction as he raised his arms for the final blessing and said, "This marriage is ended. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord."

Your Friend & Pastor,

Fr. Charles Puthota