

# From the Pastor's Desktop

## A Message from Father Charles Puthota

July 23, 2023



Dear Parishioners of St. Elizabeth,

**Parish Consultors Meeting---Legion of Mary:** On June 27, at the Parish Consultors Meeting, several groups of the parish reported their events and activities. Among them, Legion of Mary mentioned that they meet every Monday at 5:00 p.m. in the church. There are at this moment only 7 active members, and 2 of them may not be able to continue. Acies (Renewal and consecration) Mass and get-together were held in March 2023 with the Legion members from other parishes as well. I as pastor have invited them again for the next year's Acies Mass and social event. If anyone would like to join the Legion of Mary, please do contact Marybeth Pasco or the parish office. Their coming together for prayer and pastoral and charitable works are much appreciated always.

**Synod on Synodality---October 2021 to October 2024 – Theme: Communion,**

**Participation, Mission:** The Synod on Synodality is a three-year process of listening and dialogue that began with a solemn opening in Rome on October 9 and 10, 2021. The synodal process will conclude in 2024. Each individual diocese in the whole world has gone through a process of preparation for the Synod. The Synod is not an event but a process in which the whole People of God is called to walk to gather together toward what the Holy Spirit helps it to discern as being the Lord's will for his Church. Pope Francis has invited the entire Church to reflect on a theme that is decisive for its life and mission: "It is precisely this path of synodality which God expects of the Church of the third millennium. This journey, which follows in the wake of the Church's "renewal" proposed by the Second Vatican Council, is both a gift and a task: by journeying together and reflecting together on the path that has been made, the Church will be able to learn through Her experience which processes can help Her to live **communion**, to achieve **participation**, and to open Herself to **mission**." The 16<sup>th</sup> Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops will be held in two sessions. The first one from October 4 to 29, 2023. The second session will be in October 2024. Let's keep the Synod in our prayers.

**Word of God---Parables of the Kingdom of God:** The Gospel reading this 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Year is about the three parables of the Kingdom of God: the wheat and the weeds, the mustard, and the yeast. Through the good and the bad, through the smallness of things, through the hidden transforming power, God's Kingdom keeps growing slowly and steadily in us and in the world. Are we ready to be a part of his Kingdom as the authentic and dedicated disciples of Jesus Christ?

**Quotable Shakespearean Quotes:** 1. "To be, or not to be: that is the question."  
Hamlet, Act III, Scene I. 2. "All the world's a stage, and all the men and women merely  
players." As You Like It, Act II, Scene VII. 3. "A horse! a horse! my kingdom for a horse!"  
Richard III, Act V, Scene IV. 4. "We are such stuff as dreams are made on."  
The Tempest, Act IV, Scene I. 5. "The course of true love never did run smooth."  
A Midsummer Night's Dream, Act I, Scene I. 6. "If music be the food of love, play on."  
Twelfth Night, Act I, Scene I. 7. "Friends, Romans, countrymen, lend me your ears."  
Julius Caesar, Act III, Scene II. 8. "Once more unto the breach, dear friends, once more."  
Henry V, Act III, Scene I. 9. "To thine own self be true." Hamlet, Act I, Scene III. 10.  
"Parting is such sweet sorrow." Romeo and Juliet, Act II, Scene II.

**A Story to Think About:** A large truck was moving through a railway underpass when it  
got wedged in between the road and the girders overhead. All the efforts of experts to  
extricate it proved useless and traffic was stalled for miles on both sides of the underpass. A  
little boy kept trying to get the attention of the foreman but was always pushed away.  
Finally, in sheer exasperation, the foreman said, "I suppose you've come to tell us how to do  
this job?" "Yes," said the kid. "I suggest you let some air out of the tyres." To everyone's  
surprise and relief, it solved the problem immediately. *Moral: In the layman's mind there are  
many possibilities. In the expert's mind there are few.*

**Humor:** 1. Q: What's the difference between ignorance and apathy? A: I don't know and I  
don't care. 2. "Our Economics professor talks to himself. Does yours?" "Yes, but he doesn't  
realize it. He thinks we're listening." 3. Q: What do you need to make a small fortune on  
Wall Street? A: A large fortune. 4. A bank in NY City is now making it possible to buy and  
sell stock using their ATM machines. This is great---it gives muggers a chance to diversify  
their portfolios. 5. Sign in store window: "Any faulty merchandise will be cheerfully  
replaced with merchandise of equal quality." 6. "I think it's wrong," says comedian Steven  
Wright, "that only one company makes the game Monopoly." 7. Q: How many bullies does  
it take to change a light bulb? A: Four. Do you have a problem with that? 8. Sign seen in a  
veterinarian's office: The doctor is in. Sit. Stay. 9. Did you hear about the cat that gave birth  
in a Singapore street? It got fined for littering. 10. "My mother always told me I wouldn't  
amount to anything because I procrastinate," says comedian Judy Tenuta. "I told her, 'Just  
wait.' "

Your Friend and Pastor,  
Father Charles Puthota