

# ST. ELIZABETH CHURCH

Established 1912 / Present Church dedicated 1962

Mailing Address: 449 Holyoke Street, S.F. CA 94134

## Baptism of the Lord

January 9, 2022



Rev. Charles Puthota, Ph.D., *Pastor*

### 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)

### Parish Staff

**Sandra Mehrwein** Secretary  
**Patricia Spiteri** Pastoral Coordinator  
**Fred Spence** Maintenance  
**Lily Codd** Faith Formation  
650-771-3176  
[lilycodd2015@gmail.com](mailto:lilycodd2015@gmail.com)

### Parish Office Hours

Monday through Thursday  
8:00 am to 12:00 pm (unless otherwise posted)

### Closed Friday

449 Holyoke Street (Parish Office)  
415-468-0820 Fax 415-468-1457

Website: [www.stelizabetsf.org](http://www.stelizabetsf.org)

Email: [stelizabethchurchsf@gmail.com](mailto:stelizabethchurchsf@gmail.com)

### Liturgy Schedule

Saturday 4:30 pm  
Sunday 9:30 am  
Monday through Saturday  
Divine office: 8:00 am  
Mass: 8:30 am  
Holy Day 8:30 am & 6:00 pm

### Confession Schedule

After the 8:30 am Daily Mass  
4:15 pm before the 4:30 pm Mass  
9:15 am before the 9:30 am Sunday Mass

**Baptism Preparation Classes** Call the Parish Office for more information.

### Sacrament of Marriage

Call the Parish Office at least six months before the desired date.

**Benediction and Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena:** Wednesdays after the 8:30 Mass.

**Legion of Mary Meeting** 5:00 pm Monday in the Rectory.

**Second Saturday** after the 4:30 pm Mass: Sto Nino Prayer and Benediction in Mary's Chapel.

**1000 Hail Mary's** Third Saturday after the 8:30 am Mass until 3:30 pm: A Day of Prayer and Adoration.

**Light of God Prayer** 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of the month after the 8:30 am Mass.

**Per the Archdiocese of San Francisco:**

**Congregants are to wear masks during Mass indoors. Social distancing reduced to 3 ft between households.**

## From the Pastor's Desktop

**A Message from  
Father Charles Puthota  
January 09, 2022**



Dear Parishioners of St. Elizabeth,

**Baptism of the Lord:** This Sunday January 09 is Baptism of the Lord. With this Feast, the Christmas season comes to an end and Ordinary Time begins. Jesus was baptized, like we were all baptized too. Jesus did not need to be baptized because he was sinless, and yet in a way to identify with our human nature, he insisted on being baptized. It was a moment of revelation of the Trinity. The Father spoke: "You are my beloved son; with you I am well pleased." The Holy Spirit descended on him. Jesus begins his public ministry with this revelation and affirmation to preach the Kingdom of God and to heal and uplift, to wage a battle with evil and sin in the world. As we journey with Christ into his public ministry of the Kingdom of God, we might want to think about our own baptism. Baptism is not just an event; it is a way of life. It is a state of grace and new life. We live the life of Baptism throughout our lives. We were anointed at our baptism, freed from sin and empowered to be "priest, prophet, and king." We also promised to renounce sin and embrace faith community called the Church. The light of Christ was given to us from the paschal candle, inviting us to be enlightened and to radiate the light of Christ to others. A white garment was given to us as a sign of purity and dignity of new life. We are supposed to keep this garment, our soul, unstained until we are called to enter the everlasting life in heaven. Our baptism was filled with the power of God and the discipleship of Jesus. How are we doing in these areas? Do we continue to live a life of baptismal grace given to us years ago? At the celebration of Jesus' baptism, we might do well meditating on our own baptism and what we are called to be and do.

**The Moveable Feasts:** Around this time in the Liturgical Year, the Church follows an ancient custom of announcing the dates of movable Feasts for the coming year. This proclamation has been used in connection with the blessing and distribution of calendars. We are reminded of these movable Feasts in the new year as a way of looking forward to celebrating these divine mysteries. In the new year 2022, Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, March 02. After five Sundays of Lent, Palm Sunday falls on April 10. Easter is on April 17. After six Sundays of Easter, the Ascension of the Lord is on May 29. Pentecost Sunday is on June 05. Holy Trinity is on June 12. The Body and Blood of Christ is on June 19. Christ the King is on November 20. The First Sunday of Advent is on November 27.

**New Year 2022:** We are still luxuriating in the freshness and beauty of the New Year, soaked in the warm glow of Christmas. What is the meaning of the "New Year"? There is nothing out there that is new. Time flows continuously like a river. It's we who have divided time as days, weeks, months, and years. But seconds and minutes and hours keep ticking away inexorably.

These divisions and calculations of time are of human making. Time in itself is nothing new. What is really new is what we bring to time. What new thing that we will bring into this chunk of time called the New Year 2022? If we do not bring a fresh outlook and a desire to start anew and a concern to change ourselves for the better, then there would really be no difference between the last day of 2021 and the first day of 2022. The New Year is a reminder that God is giving us more time to catch up with things deeply human and deeply divine. It is more time for us to get it right. It is another opportunity for us to try again and rearrange our lives --- and to become the persons according to God's plan and purpose.

**Recommending "Stories of a Generation with Pope Francis":** This is a documentary you can watch on Netflix. It features interviews with Pope Francis serving as a basis for heart-warming conversations with people on different continents. The titles of each of the four episodes are: Love, Dream, Struggle, and Work. Each episode lasts about 45 minutes. Pope Francis is as usual charming, insightful, and inspirational. He communicates soulfully. I highly recommend this program. If you have watched it, please do let me know so we could have a quick chat about what you liked and what touched you in this documentary program. Enjoy!

**The Synod on Synodality:** I have placed some relevant materials on our parish website. Please do visit for information about the synod. It is a two-year process of listening and dialogue beginning with a solemn opening in Rome on October 9 and 10, 2021. The synodal process will conclude in 2023. Pope Francis invites 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 journey 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, to open Herself to mission.

**Short Humor:** 1. Why can't you explain puns to kleptomaniacs? They always take things literally. 2. A man tells his doctor, "Doc, help me. I'm addicted to Twitter!" The doctor replies, "Sorry, I don't follow you..." 3. What kind of exercise do lazy people do? Diddy-squats. 4. What did the Buddhist say to the hot dog vendor? Make me one with everything. 5. What did the pirate say when he turned 80? Aye matey.

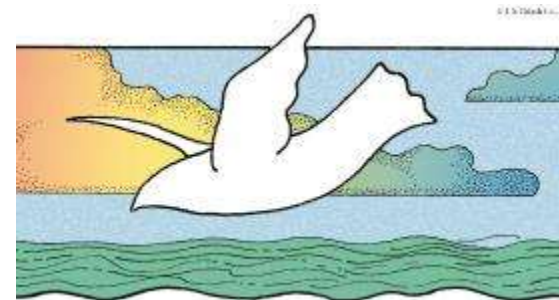
**Wishing you the joys, hopes, and blessings as we venture slowly into the New Year 2022!**

Your Friend and Pastor,

Fr. Charles Puthota

## **The Baptism of the Lord January 9, 2022**

He saved us through the bath of rebirth  
and renewal by the Holy Spirit.  
— Titus 3:5



### **BAPTISMAL DEATH AND RESURRECTION**

As we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord, we also honor our own baptism as our initiation into the Christian life and community. In the Gospel, the baptism of Jesus, with his immersion and then emergence from the water, points to his later submission to God at his death, and his emergence from the grave at his resurrection. This pattern of death and resurrection is our path too, as followers of Jesus. Throughout life, often in small ways, we learn to surrender our limited and self-centered agendas. This surrender often feels like death. The sacrament of Baptism ritually enacts this pattern to remind us of Jesus' death and resurrection, so that we too might embrace the deaths and resurrections of our own lives. As Jesus emerged from the water, he encountered his Father and the Holy Spirit. Like Jesus, we can know we are God's beloved, empowered by the Spirit.

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### **TODAY'S READINGS**

**First Reading** — Isaiah speaks of the Servant whom the Lord upholds; he shall bring forth justice to the nations

(Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7) or *Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11.*

**Psalm** — The Lord will bless his people with peace (Psalm 29) or *Psalm 104.*

**Second Reading** — Jesus was anointed by God with the Holy Spirit; he went out healing and doing good

(Acts 10:34-38) or *Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7.*

**Gospel** — A voice comes from heaven proclaiming Jesus as the beloved Son, with whom God is well pleased

(Luke 3:15-16, 21-22).

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.

## **MASS INTENTIONS**

<b>Monday</b> 8:30 am	<b>January 10</b> † Patrick Bernard Gallagher † Theresa Spiteri
<b>Tuesday</b> 8:30 am	<b>January 11</b> † Alice Rafter Brown † Franco Rebagliati
<b>Wednesday</b> 8:30 am	<b>January 12</b> † Manolito Amorado † Portia Manacap
<b>Thursday</b> 8:30 am	<b>January 13</b> Layla Claire Spiteri (L) † Augustine Sanchez
<b>Friday</b> 8:30 am	<b>January 14</b> † Norma Quilantang
<b>Saturday</b> 8:30 am 4:30 pm	<b>January 15</b> Alma Topasna (L) † Josephine Zaragoza
<b>Sunday</b> 9:30 am	<b>January 16</b> † Timoteo D. Nacor Sr. † Marietta B. Nacor People of the Parish Maltese Society Santa Nino

†Denotes deceased – (L) Living

*Masses were scheduled pre-Covid. All Sunday intentions will be celebrated at the 9:30 am Mass.*

### **Sunday Collection December 26 ,2021**

<b>Weekly Need:</b>	<b>\$ 6,000.00</b>
<b>First Collection</b>	<b>\$ 4,606.00</b>
<b>Faith Formation</b>	<b>\$ 320.00</b>
<b>Over/Under</b>	<b>\$ 1,074.00</b>

**New Year's Day Collection \$ 1,324.00**

*If you make your offertory donation by check, without using parishioner envelopes, it would be most helpful if you placed your parishioner/envelope # in the "memo" section of the check. This helps us input your donation to the offertory data system.*

*We will not be responsible for donations not credited due to missing envelope numbers (or not having a Sunday collection envelope.)*



**JOIN Fr. Charles Puthota, Ph.D. ON A  
PILGRIMAGE TO  
JORDAN AND THE HOLY LAND**



**OCTOBER 5 – 17, 2022**

**\$4,639.00 from San Francisco, CA  
PER PERSON BASED ON DOUBLE OCCUPANCY)**

**PRE-TOUR JORDAN Oct 5 - 9, 2022**

**\$790.00 (PER PERSON BASED ON DOUBLE  
OCCUPANCY)**

**[www.pilgrimages.com/frputhota](http://www.pilgrimages.com/frputhota)**

**For more information, please contact Jon or  
Rinda: 1-800-206 TOUR (8687)**



**End of Year Statements**

We are preparing to close the books on 2021. Please contact the parish office in writing or email if you are in need of a year-end statement of your donations. We are able to provide statements to parishioners who have donated using **SUNDAY ENVELOPES**. Please note that any donations received after December 31<sup>st</sup> will be credited to 2022.

**We will not be responsible for donations not credited due to missing envelope numbers, (or not having a Sunday collection envelope.)**

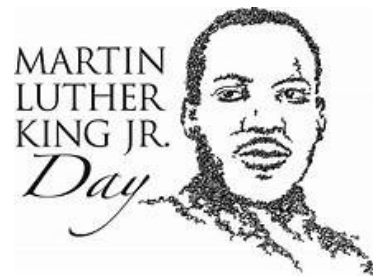
Statements will be mailed by 1/31/2022

**Walk for Life West Coast 2022:** Join fellow Catholics and Pro-Lifers from all over California and beyond as we stand up for the littlest among us at the 18th Annual Walk for Life West Coast in San Francisco on January 22, 2022. There will be Mass at 9:30 am celebrated by Archbishop Salvatore Cordileone at St. Mary's Cathedral. The rally begins at 12:30 pm in San Francisco's Civic Center Plaza, and the Walk, down the city's Market Street, begins at 1:30 pm. For more information about the Walk, visit [www.walkforlifewc.com](http://www.walkforlifewc.com) or call 415-658-1793



**Participate in Pope Francis's Synod  
at Your Parish this Winter**

Pope Francis invites the whole Church to participate in the preparatory process for the upcoming Synod of Bishops on Synodality. This unprecedented opportunity will facilitate discussion and reflection to help shape the Church's understanding of herself and her mission of evangelization and forming disciples. The Archdiocese of San Francisco will kick-off the local synodal process this month by asking every Catholic to participate in the Disciple Maker Index survey. The process will continue in February and March with engagement sessions offered throughout the Archdiocese. The Disciple Maker Index survey is a nationally recognized survey administered at parishes around the United States and Canada since 2013 by The Catholic Leadership Institute. The results from this survey will provide baseline feedback from which content for engagement sessions will be developed. More details are available through the Archdiocesan website at [www.sfarch.org/synod](http://www.sfarch.org/synod)



**The parish office will be closed on  
Monday January 17 in observance of the  
Martin Luther King Jr. holiday.**