

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

November 30, 2025 First Sunday of Advent



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
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 Administrative Assistant
Fred Spence Maintenance
Laurie Digneo Faith Formation Coordinator

Faith Formation

Classes are held every Sunday
Beginning with the 8:30 am Mass
Classes to immediately follow in Cantwell Hall
(Please note new day on Sunday).

Benediction and Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena: Wednesdays after the 8:30 am 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

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 Preparation Classes

Call the Parish Office for more information.

Sacrament of Marriage

Call the Parish Office six months before the desired date.



From the Pastor’s Desktop

A Message from
Father Charles Puthota
November 30, 2025

Dear Parishioners of St. Elizabeth,

The Season of Advent: Some Musings: As we enter the sacred season of Advent, the Church invites us once again into a time of waiting and longing for the Lord. The familiar hymn “O come, O come, Emmanuel” captures Advent’s spirit—its mixture of yearning, humility, and hope. Like generations before us who awaited the Messiah, we lift our hearts to Christ and ask Him to break the chains that bind us: sin, alienation, and all that leads us away from the path of life. Advent can be compared to the months of preparation before a wedding. During that time, a couple talks deeply and tenderly about the life they soon will share. They plan the ceremony, involve their families, organize the reception, choose music, and anticipate the joys of their new beginning. Though many details require attention, all preparations flow from love’s anticipation. They are part of getting ready for something beautiful and transformative.

In Scripture, Jesus reveals Himself as the Bridegroom who seeks His Bride—the Church. Advent mirrors the inner and outer preparations needed to welcome Him. It asks us to make room in our hearts and in our lives so that Christmas may become more than a date on the calendar. Instead, it can become a true source of blessing, grace, and joy. Just as the wedding day cannot be collapsed into the time of preparation, Christmas cannot be forced into Advent. Advent has its own sacred essence: watchfulness, attentiveness, longing, silence, prayer, penance, and the reordering of priorities. It calls us to deepen relationships, widen our hearts, and become more receptive to God’s presence.

If we embrace these dispositions with sincerity, Christmas will emerge with the fullness of a wedding feast—Christ the Bridegroom rejoicing over His people and drawing all creation into His love. Advent then becomes not a rushed prelude to Christmas but a holy preparation that enriches the celebration that follows. As we enter this season, we are invited to ask ourselves whether we are willing to live Advent fully so that we might celebrate Christmas in a worthy, joyful, and grace-filled manner. And so we pray with the ancient longing of the Church: “Come, Lord Jesus!”

Word of God, First Sunday of Advent, Year A: The First Sunday of Advent opens a new liturgical year and invites us into a season of hopeful expectation. Today’s readings call us to awaken from spiritual drowsiness and to prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ—both at the end of time and in the quiet, daily moments where grace enters our lives. Isaiah’s vision sets the tone: a future where all nations stream toward the mountain of the Lord, seeking His wisdom and peace. Swords are beaten into plowshares, and humanity learns God’s ways. This prophetic dream is not a distant fantasy; it is an invitation to begin living God’s peace

now. Advent urges us to become people who choose compassion over conflict, forgiveness over resentment, and hope over cynicism. St. Paul deepens this call with urgency: “It is the hour now for you to awake from sleep.” He challenges us to cast off the works of darkness and to “put on the Lord Jesus Christ.” Advent is not passive waiting—it is deliberate preparation. It means examining our priorities, mending relationships, cultivating prayer, and allowing Christ’s light to reshape our hearts. The season becomes a spiritual dawn, urging us to let God’s grace dispel whatever shadows linger within us.

In the Gospel, Jesus speaks plainly: “Stay awake, for you do not know on which day your Lord will come.” This is not meant to frighten us but to orient us. Christian vigilance is not anxiety; it is attentiveness to God’s presence in the present moment. By living with faith, generosity, and love, we are always ready for the Lord’s coming. As Advent begins, we ask for the grace to stay awake—to notice God’s movements, to welcome Christ anew, and to walk in His light with renewed hope and joyful expectation.

Monday, December 8, Immaculate Conception, a Holy Day of Obligation, Masses at 8:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.: We love and honor Mary, our Mother, whose glory shines especially during Advent. Because Jesus was to enter the world, Mary needed to be prepared from the first moment of her existence. Conceived in her mother Anne’s womb without the stain of sin, she was preserved by God’s grace to become the Mother of His Son. This is the mystery we celebrate in the Immaculate Conception. William Wordsworth captures it beautifully in *The Virgin*: “Mother! whose virgin bosom was uncrossed / With the least shade of thought to sin allied... / Our tainted nature’s solitary boast.”

Parish Advent Retreat: Saturday, December 6. It starts at the 8:30 a.m. Mass and ends about 1:00 p.m. in Cantwell Hall with lunch.

Parish Advent / Christmas Confessions: Saturday, December 20 at 10:30 a.m.

Simbang Gabi Masses: At the 8:30 a.m. Masses from December 16 through 24. Please contact Gloria Trinidad, Beth Pasco, and May Devera for your participation and collaboration.

Humor: 1. **Father Time:** The last time we changed from daylight saving time, a preacher friend posted, “For those who habitually show up 15 minutes late to church, allow me to remind you that tonight is the night you set your clock back 45 minutes.” 2. **Hearing:** “What’s wrong, Bubba?” asked the pastor. “I need you to pray for my hearing,” said Bubba. The pastor put his hands on Bubba’s ears and prayed. When he was done, he asked, “So how’s your hearing?” “I don’t know,” said Bubba. “It isn’t until next Tuesday.”

Your Friend and Pastor,

Father Charles Puthota

**First Sunday of Advent
November 30, 2025**

“You . . . must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come.”
— *Matthew 24:44*



BE PREPARED

Be prepared. It’s that simple. As this Advent season opens before us, the Lord Jesus summons us to stand ready for his coming. At this time of year much of our attention is focused on being prepared for the details that accompany the holiday season. We purchase gifts; we decorate our homes, inside and out; we prepare foods that we eat only during the holidays; we write and send Christmas cards; we attend holiday concerts; we prepare either to welcome family and friends into our homes or arrange for visits to their homes. We really can’t escape the details that make up the season. Perhaps this Advent is a time to attend to all those details with a different spin. As we prepare to celebrate the feast of Christmas, why not be deliberate about acknowledging the presence of the Lord as we go about these tasks? The Lord often comes to us in wonderfully surprising ways. Let us be prepared.

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TODAY’S READINGS

First Reading — All the peoples shall stream toward the LORD’s house (Isaiah 2:1-5).

Psalm — Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord (Psalm 122).

Second Reading — It is the hour to cast off the dark and clothe ourselves in the light (Romans 13:11-14).

Gospel — Stay awake! Be prepared! The Son of Man will come when you least expect (Matthew 24:37-44).

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

**Sunday Collection
November 22 – 23**

Weekly Need:	\$ 5,000.00
First Collection	\$ 2,309.00
Parish Ministries	\$ 734.00
Over/Under	\$ 1,957.00

Mass Intentions

† Denotes deceased – (L) Living

Monday
8:30 am

December 1
† Maria Rebagliati
† Aurora T. Mallari

Tuesday
8:30 am

December 2
† Earl McCarthy
† Modesto de los Reyes

Wednesday
8:30 am

December 3
† Tessie, † Joe and
† Saviour Schembri
† Bill O’Sullivan
† Victoria Mitra

Thursday
8:30 am

December 4
The Good Shepherd Guild
and their families, both
living and deceased

Friday
8:30 am

December 5
† Fernando Camba

Saturday
8:30 am
4:30 pm

December 6
† Romeo Pasco
† Tina, † Emilia, and
† Pierina Delfino
† Mary and †Manuel
Marquez

Sunday
8:30 am
10:30 am

December 7
People of the Parish
† Timoteo D Nacor Sr and
† Marietta A Nacor
† Felino Dela Cruz

ON THE HORIZON AT ST. ELIZABETH

●**1st Sunday of Advent**
Sunday, November 30, 2026.

●**Advent Retreat**
Saturday, December 6th, 2025

●**Immaculate Conception**
December 8, 2025 is a Holy Day of obligation. Masses are at 8:30am and 6pm.

●**Simbang Gabi**
December 16 – 24, 2025 at the 8:30a.m. mass.

●**Advent/Christmas Confession**
Saturday, December 20 at 10:30a.m.

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday, 11/30	1 st Sunday of Advent
Wednesday, 12/03	St. Francis Xavier
Thursday, 12/04	St. John Damascene
Friday, 12/05	First Friday
Saturday, 12/06	St. Nicholas

2026 Mass Book Is Open

Please follow the guidelines below when sending in your Mass requests.

Due to the large volume of Mass requests and in order to be fair to the needs of all our parishioners, the following is the Mass Book policy as set by Father Charles Puthota:

All Masses including the Saturday Vigil Mass and Sunday Mass (10:30 am), will be accepting two intentions per Mass. The Sunday 8:30 am Mass is designated for the People of the Parish only.

We do not accept individual Mass Intentions for holidays or holy days including the following:
Ash Wednesday, Easter, Mother's Day, Father's Day, All Saints All Souls, Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve and Christmas. The intentions will be for the entire St. Elizabeth Community.

Masses cannot be reserved by phone.

Requests must be submitted in writing or by email (preferred): stelizabethchurchsf@gmail.com

Not all dates are available for Mass Intentions, so we ask that you be prepared with alternate dates and times. **If your requested date is not available an alternate date will be chosen for you.**



We congratulate
Elliana Grace Lampa De Guzman
who was baptized at St. Elizabeth
Church on November 22, 2025.



Archbishop Salvatore Cordileone and Father Charles Puthota at the Deanery meeting Monday, November 24, 2025



St. Elizabeth Grammar School 1975 Class
Reunion.
50 years of enduring Friendships!
Congratulations!