

# **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](http://www.stelizabetsf.org) Email: [stelizabethchurchsf@gmail.com](mailto:stelizabethchurchsf@gmail.com)*

*December 28, 2025 The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph*



## **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  
Office: 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 Admin Assistant  
Fred Spence Maintenance  
Laurrie Digneo Faith Formation

### **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).**

### **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**

Call the Parish Office for information.

### **Sacrament of Marriage**

Call the Parish Office six months before the desired date.

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



## **From the Pastor's Desktop**

A Message from  
Father Charles Puthota  
December 28, 2025

Dear St. Elizabeth Parishioners,

### **Sunday, December 28, Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph:**

“Love God and love one another.” This is the great commandment lived wholeheartedly by the Holy Family. The family is truly a *school of love*, where the earliest lessons of trust, sacrifice, and compassion shape the whole course of life. In Jesus, Mary, and Joseph we see a family that loved God deeply and loved one another faithfully, and from that love flowed a wider love for the world—a love that heals, serves, and transforms. Their family life was not free from uncertainty. Joseph had to trust God’s prompting and welcome Mary into his home amid confusion. Mary had to accept a mysterious vocation through the overshadowing of the Holy Spirit. Much was unclear, and yet they walked forward guided by God’s light. They faced danger and vulnerability, fleeing to a foreign land to protect the Child from death. With Jesus at the center of their home, God’s blessing filled their lives. Still, they knew anxiety and sorrow, even searching in anguish when Jesus was lost in Jerusalem. Yet, in all things, they said yes to God’s will—generously, joyfully, and completely. Poor in possessions but rich in love, the Holy Family remains a radiant model for every family called to live in love, trust, simplicity, and obedience.

**New Year 2026:** As we are ready to welcome the brand new year 2026, let’s place this whole new gift of time in God’s hands. May the good Lord guide and protect us. May he make our lives shine. May he transform us into his channels of grace and love. Let bygones be bygones. Let’s start anew and afresh to share our lives. We cannot allow pessimism or cynicism to taint the quality of life in the New Year. Let hope spring eternal in our hearts, motivating us to grapple with this new chunk of time with optimism and joy. If God is for us, who can be against us? Thanks to all that has been in 2025! Yes to all that shall be in 2026! As Moses says: “The Lord bless you and keep you! The Lord let his face shine upon you, and be gracious to you! The Lord look upon you kindly and give you peace!” (Numbers 6: 24-26).

### **Thursday, January 1, Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God: A Holy Day of Obligation. Mass at 9:00 a.m.:**

We begin a whole new year with the feast of Mary, the Mother of God. Let’s entrust this year in the hands of the loving Mother. Elizabeth declares at the Visitation: “Most blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And how does this happen to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me?” (Luke 1:42- 43). May this “mother of our Lord”

look upon us always with the eyes of a loving and protecting mother. Let the new beginnings this year, perhaps with some new resolutions, be based on love that Mary the Mother of God began by becoming the Mother of the Son of God. Mary inaugurated a whole new beginning by bringing Jesus into the world and letting the Kingdom of God be manifested in Jesus like never before. Let the new year for us be a new, fresh start for what we could be and for what we could do for God and family and the world. Through the affection of Mary, the Mother of God, may we come closer to Christ our Lord and do whatever he tells us to do this new year of 2026.

**Thank You:** The Advent Season, the Simbang Gabi Masses and Reception for nine days before Christmas and Christmas day itself went very well, thanks to the volunteers at our parish who gave so much of themselves joyfully. Especially the “Morning Worshippers” were most generously invested in the success of all our spiritual and social celebrations connected with this holy season. My heartfelt thanks to each and every one of them for making a success of these celebrations. I’m not only grateful but also proud of your active participation in the life of the parish. You help build up the family of God in our own parish and help further God’s Kingdom. Maraming salamat po! Muchas gracias!

**Think About It:** “Your future depends on a lot of things, but mostly on you.”

**New Year Humor:** 1. “A New Year’s resolution is something that goes in one year and out the other.” 2. Biggest joke of the century: “Computers and mobile were invented to save our time.” 3. “Tell me a joke” --- “I don’t think you’d understand a joke in my language. They are not so funny, anyway.” 4. “Life is short. Smile while you still have teeth.” 5. “I started thinking about the dangers of drinking on New Year’s Eve. After that, I decided to stop thinking.” 6. “If people could read my mind, I’d get punched in the face a lot.” 7. “Of course, women don’t work as hard as men. They get it right the first time.” 8. “Hope you are not too exhausted from your yearly visit to the gym on New Year’s Day.” 9. “I don’t need a New Year’s resolution. You don’t need that nonsense when you’re perfect.” 10. “I don’t know what’s so special about the New Year’s Eve. I drop the ball at least once a day.”

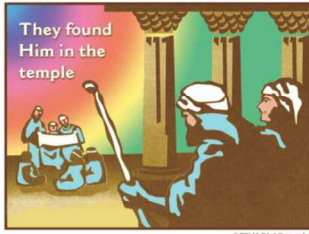
**An Irish Blessing for the New Year:** “May God give you, for every storm, a rainbow; for every tear, a smile; for every care, a promise; a blessing in each trial; for every problem life sends, a faithful friend to share; for every sigh, a sweet song; and an answer for each prayer. Amen.”

**Wishing you a Happy New Year!** Feliz año nuevo! Maligayang Bagong Taon! Felice anno nuovo! Is-sena it-tajba! Athbhliain faoi mhaise daoibh! Urte berri on! Feliz Ano Novo! Bonne année!

Your Friend and Pastor, Father Charles Puthota

**The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph  
December 28, 2025**

Beloved, we are God's children now;  
what we shall be has not yet been revealed.  
— 1 John 3:2a



**HOME IS WHERE THE FAMILY IS**

The idea, dream, and reality of family is so strong and durable that we use it to describe all that is best about human gatherings. We speak of the family of nations, of our church and parish families. The greatest compliment we can pay a friend or gracious host is to say that we feel at home with them, we feel part of the family.

Families are the first crucibles in which love is tested and tempered. Jesus himself was one of three people who lived in the shadow of each other. This family, like our own, did not always "get it right," but they always tried to. These three "amateurs" were on holiday, and one of them got lost. Two were worried sick and took great measures to find the third, a boy after all, who was seeking the meaning of his calling. He found his vocation—to do his Father's work—but he also returned home with his parents.  
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**TODAY'S READINGS**

**First Reading** — Hannah conceived, and at the end of her term bore a son whom she called Samuel (*Sirach* 3:2-6, 12-14).

**Psalm** — Blessed are they who dwell in your house, O Lord *Psalm* 128.

**Second Reading** — See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God *Colossians* 3:12-21 [12-17].

**Gospel** — Behold, the angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, 'Rise, take the child and his mother, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.' (Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23)

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**

**December 20 – 21, 2025**

<b>Weekly Need:</b>	<b>\$ 5,000.00</b>
<b>First Collection</b>	<b>\$ 2,297.00</b>
<b>Church Environment</b>	<b>\$ 540.00</b>
<b>Over/Under</b>	<b>\$ 2,163.00</b>

**Mass Intentions**

† Denotes deceased – (L) Living

**Monday**

8:30 am

**December 29**

† Jose Padilla  
Lolita Canlas (L)

**Tuesday**

8:30 am

**December 30**

† Pepito Camba  
Nenita Bowman (L)

**Wednesday**

8:30 am

**December 31**

† Marilyn Paris  
Eden Pinlac (L)

**Thursday**

9:00 am

**January 1**

† Rinaldo Schenone  
Myrna and Eugene  
Carolino Family (L)

**Friday**

8:30 am

**January 2**

† Wilma Hall  
† Maureen Maring

**Saturday**

8:30 am

**January 3**

4:30 pm

Kenly Mendez (L)  
† Josephine Zaragoza  
† Richard Fambrini

**Sunday**

8:30 am

**January 4**

10:30 am

People of the Parish  
† Jane Cunningham  
† Jesus (Jesse) Quinonez

**ON THE HORIZON AT ST. ELIZABETH**

**•New Year's Day**

Thursday, January 1, 2026, a Holy Day of Obligation. Mass is at 9 a.m.

**•Parish Office will be closed:**

**January 1, 2026 New Year's Day**  
**January 19, 2026 Martin Luther King Jr Day**

**SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES**

Sunday, 12/28	The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
Monday, 12/29	St. Thomas Becket,
Wednesday, 12/31	St. Sylvester I, Pope
Thursday, 1/1	New Year's Day
Saturday, 1/3	The Most Holy Name of Jesus



## 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](mailto: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.**

### Pray for our Dear Departed



Sylvia Portillo  
And  
Rosario Offril

*"Eternal Rest Grant unto Them, O Lord . . ."*



Fr. Charles Puthota,  
Rich Garbarino, former Mayor of South San Francisco, and  
Ed Casazza, former parishioner of St. Elizabeth

### END OF YEAR STATEMENTS

As the calendar year comes to an end for 2025, please contact the parish office in writing or email if you need a year-end statement of your donations.

We can provide statements to parishioners who are registered and have donated using Sunday Envelopes.

Please note any donations received after December 31, 2025 will be credited for 2026.

### **WELCOME TO ST. ELIZABETH PARISH COMMUNITY**

We extend our hands and hearts to you here celebrating with us, whether long-time or newly arrived in our parish. We thank God that you are with us. If you are not registered or have changes to your registration, please fill in the form and submit it to the office. Check here to receive Sunday envelopes \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_