

March 3, 2023

Good Morning!

First Friday Adoration 9:15-3:00

Lenten Dinner - Hosted by Knights of Columbus (Dinner will be Soup, Salad and Macaroni & Cheese)  
5:30, Hall

Stations of the Cross 7:00, Church

The school has been running a fundraiser for religious items which include fun socks too! If you need something for Easter baskets today is the day - please feel free to buy! Fundraiser ends today. [Home | St. Joseph Catholic Church and School Fundraiser \(inksoft.com\)](http://inksoft.com)

1. Today's Readings: [Friday of the First Week of Lent | USCCB](#)

2. The RE Corner with Jan Heithaus: St. Katharine Drexel was born in Philadelphia on November 26<sup>th</sup>, 1858, the daughter of a prominent banker and a mother who died shortly after her birth. Her father remarried and it was from them that Katherine and her two sisters learned the lessons of love of God and neighbor, especially the poor. Katherine gave her fortune and her life to serve the poor and oppressed, particularly African American and Native American people. She helped finance many missions among them. In 1891, she founded a missionary community, the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament. The Eucharist was the center of and sustenance for her life; she saw it as the source of unity among races. She died in 1955 at age 96 and was beatified in 1988 and canonized in 2000 by Pope John Paul II. Our article today is a letter she wrote to Bishop James O'Conner.

Additionally, the Diocese of Charleston sent out a news release yesterday regarding St. Katharine. It is attached for your review.

3. Quotes of the Day: St. Katharine Drexel

~"Holiness consists in one thing: To do God's will, as He wills it, because He wills it."

~"The patient and humble endurance of the cross, whatever nature it may be, is the highest work we have to do."

~"It is a lesson we all need - to let alone the things that do not concern us. He has other ways for others to follow Him; all do not go by the same path. It is for each of us to learn the path by which He requires us to follow Him and to follow Him in that path."

***St. Katharine Drexel, Pray for Us!***

***St. Joseph, Pray for Us!***

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## All is Passing Away

*Saint Katherine Drexel was an American heiress who gave up her considerable family wealth to found a missionary order serving Native Americans and African Americans in poverty. In a letter to a Bishop friend, young Katherine tells how she became detached from the things of this world.*

Like the little girl who wept when she found her doll was stuffed with sawdust and her drum was hollow, I too have made a horrifying discovery and my discovery like hers is true. I have ripped both the doll and the drum open and the fact lies plainly and in all its glaring reality before me: All, all, all (there is no exception) is passing away and will pass away.

European travel brings vividly before the mind how cities have risen and fallen, and risen and fallen, and the same of empires and kingdoms and nations. And the billions and billions who lived their common everyday life in these nations and kingdoms and empires and cities, where are they? The ashes of the kings and mighty of this earth are mingled with the dust of the meanest slave.

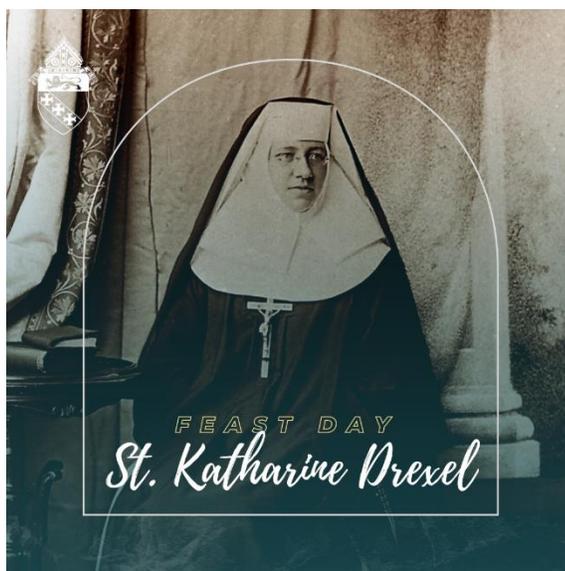
The handsome sculptured sepulchers, the exquisitely finished Etruscan vases, the tombs of Egyptian mummies are exposed in museums; the dust of the great which the sepulchers and vases were intended to preserve are scattered to the winds, unless perhaps with the exception of the mummy, whose face grins from without his winding-sheet upon every idle eye who chooses to gaze within the gilded case once so reverently respected...

How long will the sun and moon and stars continue to give forth light? Who can tell? Of one thing, we are sure. In God's own time- then shall come the Son of Man in great power and majesty to render to each according to his works.

The reward and punishment for these will not pass away, nor does the Day- Eternity- then open before us. An eternity of happiness infinite, or an eternity of misery infinite... There is no half and half, either one or the other.

---St. Katherine Drexel, *Letter to Bishop James O'Connor*

Source: A Year with the Saints, by Paul Thigpen



Diocese of Charleston remembers St. Katharine Drexel on her feast day

CHARLESTON – Tomorrow, the Diocese of Charleston celebrates the feast day of St. Katharine Drexel. Born in 1858, Drexel is the founder of the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament – an order of missionary nuns dedicated to the welfare of Black and Native Americans.

Upon her father's passing in 1885, St. Katherine inherited a vast fortune from the family estate. Believing that all people should have access to education, she founded schools for African and Native Americans across the East and West Coasts.

At the time of her death in 1955, the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament, or Oblate Sisters, had established 51 convents, 49 elementary schools, 12 high schools, and most notably Xavier University in New Orleans, Louisiana.

St. Katherine Drexel was beatified in October 2000 by St. John Paul II. As the second American-born saint, she is remembered as the patron of philanthropists and racial justice.

The Diocese of Charleston honors St. Katharine Drexel's legacy today by continuing mission work at the Drexel House, located on Wentworth Street in the heart of downtown Charleston. The location was once the site of the historically Black Catholic Church, St. Peter, and is now a center and residence for young Catholic missionaries and students known as the Diocesan Missionary Team (DMT). The site also once served as a convent for St. Katherine Drexel's Oblate Sisters and as a formation house for men considering the priesthood.

Currently, the DMT works with youth across the state in their walk of faith by hosting retreats and evangelizing. St. Katharine Drexel's legacy of faith and action continues to reach out across South Carolina today.

"Our mission is to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ and teach about his truth" stated Christian Badilla, a current DMT member. "I love seeing the fruits of God's love come out. That's the best part of my work."

For more information on DMT, please visit: <https://bit.ly/3ZkyCiw>.