

SAINT KATHARINE DREXEL

MOUNT TABOR
GALILEE

From the cloud came a voice that said,
“This is my beloved Son,
with whom I am well pleased;
listen to him.”

MATTHEW 17:5

MARCH 8
2020

second Sunday
OF Lent

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WELCOME! SHARE OUR MISSION.

We at Saint Katharine Drexel Catholic Church pray and worship God as a community of faith through the celebration of the Eucharist and the Sacraments of the Church. Our purpose is to nourish our Christian community with Gospel values and works of charity. We dedicate our efforts to proclaim the good news through evangelization, teach the message of Christ through education and formation, and to serve the needs of all people in our community. We ask God to guide and bless our efforts through the intercession of Mary, Joseph, St. Katharine Drexel, and all the Saints.

*St. Katharine Drexel Parish warmly welcomes visitors and new members at all times. If you are not worshipping with another parish community or you are new to the area, we encourage you to fill out a registration form available at the entrance of church. Perhaps you are not Catholic and are interested in learning more about the Catholic Church; all you have to do is ask or call us. Don't put off what your heart is telling you to do. Jesus left the Church behind to continue His work here on earth and we are all called to be His disciples and to follow him **together**.*

PARISH INFORMATION

MASS SCHEDULE / HORARIO DE MISAS

Vigil Mass: Saturday at 4:00 PM

Sunday: 8:30 AM and 10:30 AM

Misa en Español: Domingo 12:15 PM

Weekdays 8:00 AM Monday - Friday

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday, 9:00 AM-4:00 PM

CONFESSIONS / CONFESIONES

Saturday / Sábado: 3:15 to 3:45 PM

First Friday/Primer Viernes: 7:15 to 7:45 AM

or by appointment

CHURCH/RECTORY LOCATION & CONTACT INFO

1920 Providence Ave.

Chester, PA 19013

Phone (610) 872-3731 Fax (610) 872-0545

info@stkatharinedrexelparish.org

stkatharinedrexelparish.org

FOOD CUPBOARD LOCATION & CONTACT INFO

226 Norris St.,

Chester, PA 19013

Phone (484) 490-5079 Fax (484) 490-5081

stkatharinedrexelpantry.org

PASTOR/PÁRROCO

Fr. Thomas P. Whittingham

fatherwhittingham@stkatharinedrexelparish.org

DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION/ DIRECTOR DE CATEQUÉSIS

Mr. José Martín

jmartin@stkatharinedrexelparish.org

DIRECTOR OF FOOD PANTRY & CLOTHING CUPBOARD

Ms. Judy King

jking@stkatharinedrexelparish.org

DEACONS / DIÁCONOS

Dcn. John J. Pileggi

deaconjohn@stkatharinedrexelparish.org

Dcn. Michael J. Finn (retired)

MASS INTENTIONS

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

MARCH 8, 2020

4:00 PM Vigil Helen & Ronald Lewis

8:30 AM Parishioners of St. Katharine Drexel

10:30 AM Edward T. McFate (14th Anniversary)

12:15 PM Gloria Ronca

Mon., Mar. 9 ST. FRANCES OF ROME

8:00 AM L. Francis McElwee

Tues., Mar. 10

8:00 AM In Thanksgiving to St. Joseph

Wed., Mar. 11

8:00 AM Shawntae Garrison

Thurs., Mar. 12

8:00 AM Guido Lavella (14th Anniversary)

Fri., Mar. 13

8:00 AM Special Intention

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

MARCH 14 AND 15, 2020

VIGIL MASS: 4:00 PM

Lector: Molly St. Clair

Ushers: Ed Larkin, Al Willis, James Ianni

8:30 AM

Lectors: Theresa Brawley, Krista Brawley

Greeter: Sandra Edwards

10:30 AM

Lector: Evola Johnson

Ushers: Rick Dennis, Gus Lugay, Dan Kennedy,

Victor Mekwunye

Greeters: Gail Brown, Janice Roberts

SAINT QUOTE OF THE WEEK

St. Frances of Rome

"A married woman must often leave God at the altar to find Him in her household affairs."



FROM OUR PASTOR



IF ONE BAD DECISION RUINED OR ALMOST RUINED YOUR LIFE, HERE'S YOUR SAINT BY MEG HUNTER-KILMER, ALETEIA.ORG

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Frances of Rome, the married saint most famous for remarking, “A married woman must, when called upon, leave her devotions to God at the altar to find him in her household affairs,” did not want to be married. More than anything in the world, she wanted to be a nun, and she told her father just that. Unfortunately for her, her father was entirely unconcerned about her desires—he insisted that she marry. In a time when fathers ruled absolutely in their homes, Frances’ path had been decided, but she didn’t have to like it.

Off she went to her spiritual director, sobbing and weeping that she would never be allowed to follow her true calling as a bride of Christ. He listened patiently to the 13-year-old’s lamentations until she had finished, then remarked calmly, “Are you crying because you want to do God’s will or because you want God to do your will?”

Frances was stunned—and chastened. Much though she wanted to be a nun, God’s will was clear in the will of her father. There was nothing she could do to change his mind so her choice was this: accept the call of God put before her in peace or in misery. Frances chose to embrace her cross and soon found herself married (at 13) to a kind and wealthy nobleman.

But her initial consent to God’s will would be sorely tried. Frances was expected to enter fully into the social life of the time and the quiet, prayerful girl was so overwhelmed by it all that she collapsed and lay on the brink of death for months. Finally, St. Alexis (who had run away to live on the street when his family tried to force him to marry) appeared to her. He told her that God was offering her a choice as to whether or not she would recover. After praying in agony, Frances responded: “God’s will is mine.” Immediately she recovered and returned to the life she hated.

Again Frances tried to embrace her cross and again it proved too heavy for her. It seems she was not meant to bear it alone—her sister-in-law, Vannoza also longed for holiness. One day Vannoza found Frances crying and asked what was wrong. That day, they determined that together they would live for Christ alone. Always serving their families before all else, they began attending Mass together, visiting the sick and imprisoned, and even praying in a secret chapel they fashioned in an abandoned

tower of their estate. With these acts of piety and charity to sustain her, Frances was finally able to be the socialite—and gladly this time.

For years, Frances and Vannoza struggled against their in-laws, eager to honor and respect them but unwilling to abandon the poor as was expected of them. When their father-in-law sold all the family’s extra grain and wine so that Frances could no longer give it away, the granary was miraculously filled for months, no matter how much she passed out to the poor, and the one cask of wine never ran dry. After this, both husband and father-in-law were completely converted and Frances and Vannoza were free to serve as they wished, sometimes begging to obtain alms for the poor, other times opening a hospital in their home.

Frances had six children, three of whom died in infancy and two of whom died of the plague as children. She was a Third Order Benedictine, founded an order of Oblates, and for decades saw her guardian angel with her at all times. Yet with all this, it’s for her simple devotion as wife and mother that she is remembered.

Frances of Rome was an introvert who learned to thrive amid people. She was a married woman who longed for a cloister. She lived in solidarity with the poor though her home was a castle. Many of us feel that our lives have gone irreparably wrong. We chose the wrong vocation or the wrong spouse or made one bad choice that ruined our lives.

The trick of the devil is to convince us that our circumstances make holiness impossible. “Maybe I could have been a saint,” we think, “if I hadn’t married him or had so many children or gotten in that car accident or had an abortion or dropped out of college or become so bitter.” But whatever brought them about, it’s by those circumstances—those crosses—that God is sanctifying us. Frances of Rome was disconsolate when her marriage was arranged, but it was through that very marriage that she became a saint.

On her feast day (March 9), let’s ask her intercession for all those who feel trapped in their lives, particularly those who feel alone and need a Vannoza to spur them on to holiness. St. Frances of Rome, pray for us!

LENT AND EASTER

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

- Thursdays at 2:15 PM at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church.
- Fridays at 12:00 Noon followed by Eucharistic Adoration until 5 P.M.
Sign-up sheets are available in the Vestibule.
- Fridays at 7:00 PM bilingual

EASTER DUTY

To be a Catholic in good standing, one must receive Holy Communion at least once a year, in Lent or Easter. To receive Holy Communion, one must be in a state of grace, and so all Catholics who have reached the age of reason are required to confess their mortal sins during Lent or Easter. This is, of course, a minimal obligation. We are encouraged to receive Holy Communion as often as we attend Mass, if we have the proper disposition and are not aware of having committed serious sin. Even if we are not guilty of a mortal sin, regular Confession is a healthy practice to increase the gift of sanctifying grace in our lives and allow the Holy Spirit to spur us on towards deeper conversion to Christ.

EASTER MASS REMEMBRANCES

The Easter Masses will be offered for all those whose names were submitted with the Easter Mass remembrance envelopes. Their names will also be published in the bulletin if we receive the envelope by March 24. Thank you for honoring your deceased loved ones by making a donation for Mass to be said in their memory.

FAST AND ABSTINENCE AND OTHER ACTS

OF PENANCE FOR LENT 2020

The Bishops of the United States prescribe, as minimal obligation, that all persons who are fourteen years of age and older are bound to abstain from eating meat on Ash Wednesday, all the Fridays of Lent, and Good Friday. Further, all persons eighteen years of age and older, up to and including their fifty-ninth birthday, are bound to fast by limiting themselves to a single full meal on Ash Wednesday and on Good Friday, while the other two meals on those days are to be light.

All the faithful are encouraged, when possible, to participate at Mass and to receive the Holy Eucharist daily, to celebrate frequently the Sacrament of Penance, to undertake spiritual reading, especially the study of the Sacred Scriptures, and to participate in parish Lenten devotions as well as Lenten education programs. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is especially recommended.

EASTER FLOWERS

Flowers play a special role in enhancing the Church during Easter season. If you would like to donate towards the Easter flowers, please place the flower offering envelope in the collection basket along with your Sunday offering.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

**GOD LOVES A CHEERFUL
GIVER!**

(2 Cor. 9:7)

2-23-2020: \$1,770

2-24-2019: \$1,952

SIGNS OF

OUR STEWARDSHIP

REGISTRATION FOR DNA

Drexel Neumann Academy has openings for Pre-K (must be four years old before September 1, 2020) as well as limited spaces available in other grades. Please call the school office at 610-872-7358 for more information and/or an application.

SKD & ARCHDIOCESAN ANNOUNCEMENTS

SPECIAL THANK YOU FROM THE PASTOR

I wanted to publicly acknowledge my gratitude and that of the whole parish for the many parish staff and volunteers who assisted us with the necessary preparations for the celebration of our parish feast day on March 3rd along with the Forty Hours Eucharistic devotions. It was a great testimony to the vibrant faith here at St. Katharine Drexel as well as our spirit of service that so many people volunteered to spend time in prayer with the Most Blessed Sacrament. Thank you and God bless you all for your generosity. May our parish be blessed because of your prayers and your service!

Gratefully yours in Christ,

~Fr. Tom

FORGIVEN: EXPLORATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION

As part of our Lenten education programs we encourage our parishioners to participate in our group discussion on the sacrament of Confession using the Forgiven series by the Augustine Institute. Participant books are available for \$6 each. This is an opportunity for a timely exploration of the reality of the sacrament of Confession, as well as the effects it should have in us, and the common objections and questions that are raised by many Catholics about this underutilized sacrament. The dates for the remaining meetings are **3/12, 3/26, 4/2 at 6:30 P.M. in the Rectory**. You can contact us in the office 610-872-3731 if you would like to participate.

REGISTRATION FORMS

Every first and third Saturday and Sunday of the month Mass cards, registration forms for the Parish, Baptism, and Catechism preparation will be available after each Mass in the Tree of Life Alcove.

THANK YOU!

Dear St. Katharine Drexel Parishioners,
Thank you so much for participating in DCPC's 2019 Baby Bottle Campaign. We are happy to report that your parish raised a total of \$337.55 with 14 bottles returned. What a blessing to know that we are not alone in the spiritual battle to save the lives of unborn babies. Your partnership allows us to continue ministering to the families of Delaware County and surrounding areas.

Thank you and God bless!

~Delaware County Pregnancy Center



CELEBRATING MARY'S YES

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25 AT 7:00 PM
SOLEMNITY OF THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD

All are invited to join the Seminarians
in praying the Rosary and listening to a presentation
on fostering vocations in the Archdiocese.

ROSARY RALLY FOR VOCATIONS
PLEASE JOIN US AT CARDINAL O'HARA H.S.
FOR MORE INFORMATION (INCLUDING OTHER
LOCATIONS) VISIT HEEDTHECALL.ORG/ROSARYRALLY
OR CONTACT THE VOCATION OFFICE AT 610.667.5778.

All men are invited to our next men's group meeting on **Saturday, March 14** at 9:00 AM in the rectory. We meet every second Saturday. Join us for prayer, fellowship, and discussion.

MEN

OF SKD

