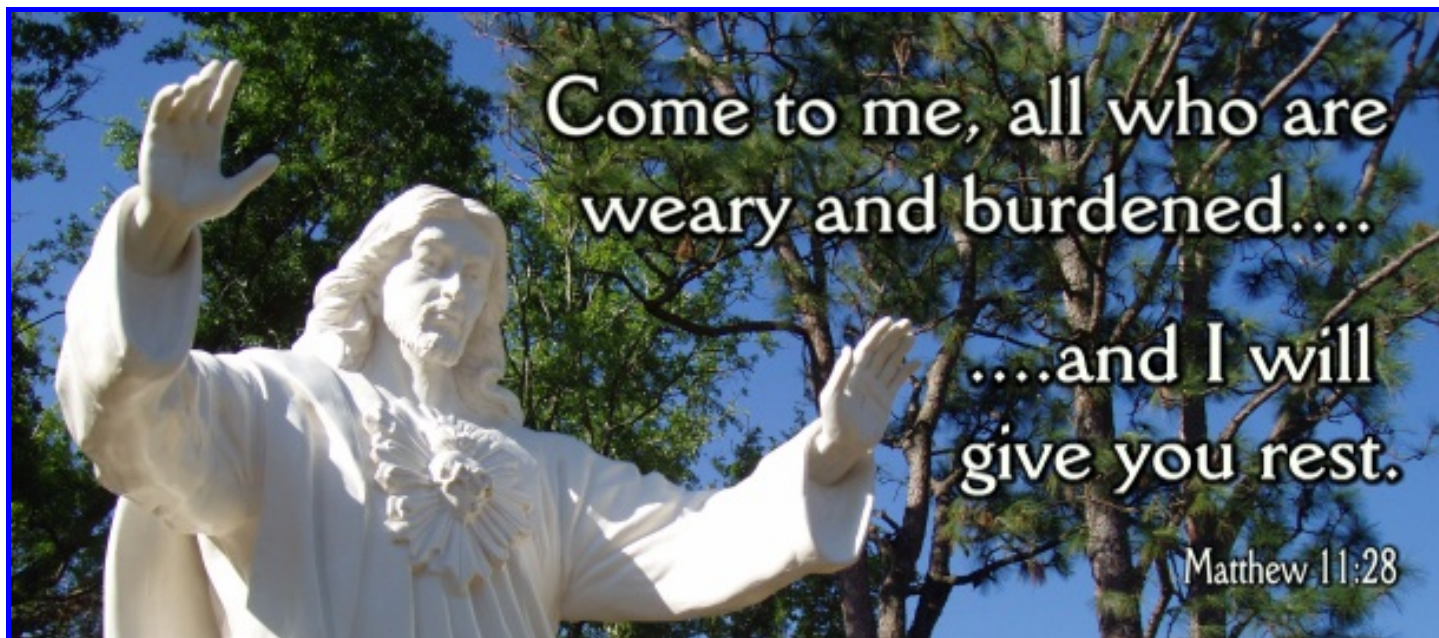


# August 30, 2015

Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time



## CORPUS CHRISTI CATHOLIC CHURCH

6300 McKenna Drive, Mobile, Alabama 36608

Email: [Church@CorpusChristiParish.com](mailto:Church@CorpusChristiParish.com) • Website: [www.CorpusChristiParish.com](http://www.CorpusChristiParish.com)

### TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Parish Office: 342-1852 • Fax 342-6313  
School Office: 342-5474, ext. 1 • Fax 380-0325  
Rel. Ed. Office: 342-5474, ext. 7 • Fax 380-0325  
Full-Day Care: 342-2424 • Fax 343-3119  
Youth Ministry: 342-1852 • Fax 342-6313

### PASTORAL STAFF

Very Rev. James F. Zoghby, V.F., Pastor  
Rev. John S. Boudreaux, Associate Pastor  
Deacon Arthur W. Robbins, Deacon  
Sr. Donna Cooper, R.S.M., Visitation Chaplain  
Mrs. Joan T. McMullen, School Principal  
Mrs. Diane M. Stoyka, Parish Catechetical Leader  
Mrs. Judi B. Ankiewicz, R.C.I.A. Coordinator  
Mrs. Colleen DeVoe, Youth Ministry Co-Director  
Mrs. Brenda Martens, Youth Ministry Co-Director  
Mr. Clinton C. Doolittle, Music Director  
Mr. David F. Walker, Gym Manager

### TO REGISTER AS A MEMBER OF THE PARISH

Please fill out a Census Form. Census Forms are available in the church vestibule and parish office.

### COMMUNITY CENTER RENTALS & SERVICES

For rental information and kitchen services, please call the parish office at 342-1852 or 342-1420.

### SUNDAY MASSES

Vigil: 5:30 p.m. Saturday  
Morning: 7:00, 9:00 and 11:00 a.m.

### WEEKDAY MASSES

6:30 a.m.: Monday through Friday  
8:15 a.m.: Monday through Saturday

### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 5:00 p.m. and by request, particularly after the 6:30 & 8:15 a.m. weekday Masses.

### BAPTISM, MARRIAGE, ANOINTING OF SICK

Please call the parish office (342-1852) or information and scheduling baptism, marriage, anointing of sick.

### ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (R.C.I.A.)

Please see published schedule for specific dates and times, or call the parish office (342-1852).

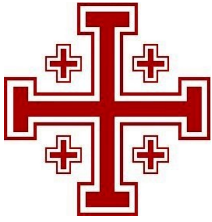
**SUNDAY SCHOOL** (C.C.D.) Grades K–12, Sundays during school year, 10:05-10:55 a.m. in school bldgs.

**SCHOOL**, SACS-accredited for Grades 3K through 8. Child Care for 6-week-old infants to 2-year olds, Monday through Friday, 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Please call the school office, 342-5474, ext. 1 for information.

## TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**LABOR DAY MASS** at 8:15 a.m. only. No 6:30 a.m. Mass.  
All offices of the parish (church, school, preschool) will be closed.

### Starting Wednesday, Sept. 9

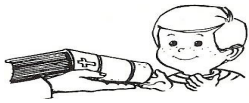


## ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (R.C.I.A.)

*Presented by Fr. James F. Zoghby*  
**For Catholic and other Adults**

who would like to learn more about and/or  
join the Catholic Church. Meetings are in the  
**Adult Ed. Room in the Community Center**  
**Wednesdays from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m.**

**Wednesday, Sept. 9: Introductory Class:** Everything you want  
to know about the Catholic Church. Bring your questions. Ask or drop  
them in our *Question Box*. **Further information:** Call 342-1852 to  
speak to the priest or email [Church@CorpusChristiParish.com](mailto:Church@CorpusChristiParish.com).



Children's Liturgy of the Word  
**Looking for volunteers** for who will  
teach for one month, Sept. to May.  
*Sign-up sheet* is in the vestibule.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

**Classes:** 10:05-10:55. Sunday School participants at 9 a.m. Mass  
are dismissed with the final blessing.

**Next Sunday, Sept. 6, No Classes:** *Labor Day* holiday.  
**Info:** [DianeStoyka@yahoo.com](mailto:DianeStoyka@yahoo.com) or 342-5474, ext. 7.

## CORPUS CHRISTI SCHOOL

*Building the Body of Christ, one student at a time.*



**First Kiddie Mail:** Monday, Aug. 31.  
**Open House:** Tuesday, Sept. 1, at 6:30 p.m.  
in the Community Center.  
**Pictures in Uniform:** Friday, Sept. 4.  
**Labor Day Holiday:** Monday, Sept. 7.

## Partners in Education

Corpus Christi Partners in Education program is made up of  
businesses and individuals, who contribute to the recognition of our  
teachers, staff members and students during the school year. It is an  
opportunity for staff, teachers and students to receive recognition for  
their outstanding performance in the classroom. This is a monthly  
recognition program that is administered by our principal, Mrs. Joan  
McMullen. If you or your business would like to become part of the  
program, contact Mrs. McMullen or Richard March (401-0466).

### **Thanks to Boy Scouts Gage Hart and Dade Baum**

They recently completed their Eagle Scout Projects on the preschool  
playground. Dade built a picket fence around a part of the playground  
for the one-year-old children to play safely. Gage poured concrete  
footing to hold up the sidewalks. He also planted shrubs between the  
school and playground for a sound barrier. We greatly appreciate all  
that these Boy Scouts, their Troop 292, and their families have done for  
our school!

## Guide Book & Directory

### Advertising Opportunity

Corpus Christi's annual Guide Book & Directory is being updated and  
will be mailed to all parishioners at no cost to the parish. It is  
subsidized by local businesses that advertise in it. **If you would like  
to find out about advertising** in this book, please contact the parish  
office at 342-1852 or at [Church@CorpusChristiParish.com](mailto:Church@CorpusChristiParish.com).

## Society of St. Vincent de Paul

**Poor Box, Food, Clothing** donations put in the designated places  
in the vestibule are distributed by our St. Vincent de Paul Society.  
**"In-Need" Drop Box** next to the food pantry box in the vestibule. Fill  
out a card, and deposit it in the locked drop box. Your info will be held  
in strict confidence and a member of our society will contact you.  
**Join the Society of St. Vincent de Paul by attending a meeting.**  
**Meetings:** 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wed., **6:30** p.m., Com. Ctr. Conf. Rm. (2<sup>nd</sup> Flr.)  
**To obtain assistance, call 432-5173 and leave name & phone no.**

## Men of St. Joseph

**Tuesdays**, 7 to 8 a.m. in the Family Room  
**Also Wednesdays**, 7-8 p.m. **in the Parish House**  
All men are welcome to meet for prayer, reading the Gospel, and discussion.  
**Info:** Damian Bell, 639-2522 or 367-4486 or [Damian@rockbwm.com](mailto:Damian@rockbwm.com).  
**Wed Evening Info:** Walter Bracewell, 599-1650 or [walter.bracewell@gmail.com](mailto:walter.bracewell@gmail.com)

## Women of Mary

**Wednesdays**, 7 to 8 p.m.  
**Room 3** (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor of the Community Center)  
All women are welcome to meet for prayer, reading the Gospel, and discussion.  
**Info:** Sr. Deborah Kennedy, R.S.M., 753-4872.

**Tuesday Night Bible Study** 7 p.m., the Parish House  
(except on 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month, meet in the school library)  
Dave Burchette, 367-6660.

**The Tuesday Night Bible Study Group will soon start a new  
series:** *The "Catholicism" series developed by Fr. (now Bishop-elect)  
Robert Barron. Please call Dave Burchette, 367-6660 if you would  
like to attend and learn more about our wonderful faith and scripture.*

## Be Prepared Apologetics Series

**Presented by Patrick J. Arensberg**  
*Director of the Archdiocesan Office of Religious Education*  
**Wednesday, Sept. 9, from 7 to 8 p.m.**  
Corpus Christi Community Center, Conference Room (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor)  
This series is open to any interested adult in the archdiocese.  
Catechists are encouraged to come with their families and friends.  
**Info:** <http://mobilefaithformation.org/be-prepared-dates>.

## Grief Support Group

Catholic Social Services — 400 Government St.  
**Tuesdays from 11 a.m. to 12 noon**  
**For more information, call 434-1550.**

## Widowed Persons' Support Group

**For information call parishioner Glen Porter at 666-8977.**



## Child Protection Policy

For volunteers who have substantial contact with children

### Archdiocesan policy requires:

1. Attendance at an initial training.
2. Annual online recertification each following year.

An Initial Training will be [here at Corpus Christi Tuesday, Sept. 22](#), 6:30 p.m. in the Adult Ed Room of the Community Center. The annual online recertification is fulfilled by following the instructions at [www.mobilearchdiocese.org/childprotection](http://www.mobilearchdiocese.org/childprotection).

**Priests Burse Club Weekend: Sept. 12-13:** Ladies will be at the doors after each Mass to sign up new members or renew memberships.

## SUPERSTAR SOCCER

All Kindergarten & 1<sup>st</sup> Grade students enrolled either in Corpus Christi School or Corpus Christi Sunday School can participate. Go to [www.ccsboosterclub.com](http://www.ccsboosterclub.com) to register. Please contact Ashley Johnson for more information at 455-5778 or [ashleynancejohnson@gmail.com](mailto:ashleynancejohnson@gmail.com).  
**Registration Deadline: Friday, Sept. 18.**

## Corpus Christi Choir is looking for a few good people

**Rehearsals begin Wednesday, Sept. 9**, 7:00 to 8:15 p.m. in Room 4 (2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the community center). If you can commit to rehearse & sing September through Christmas, let Clint Doolittle (377-8675) or any choir member know. We welcome familiar & new faces!

## Wednesday Night Dinner

5:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the Banquet Hall

\$9.00 for Adults • \$4.00 for Children (Age 12 & under)

**Sept. 2** ~Classic Meatloaf, Fried Pork Chops, Rice & Gravy, Roasted Cauliflower & Dill, Turnip Greens, Corn Bread, Garden Salad, Cheesecake. Iced Tea, Lemonade, Coffee. Kids: Chicken Tenders & Fries.

**Must RSVP no later than TUESDAY EVENING**  
Return an RSVP Card, or call 342-1852 or email  
[WedNightDinner@CorpusChristiParish.com](mailto:WedNightDinner@CorpusChristiParish.com)

## Corpus Christi High School Youth Ministry

Corpus Christi High School Youth Ministry  
Sunday, Sept. 20: 5:30 p.m. Mass  
6:30-8:00 p.m. Gathering

All high school students are invited to join us for our kick-off Mass and gathering of the new school year. We will start with 5:30 p.m. Mass, followed by pizza, upstairs in the community center. We will have a chance to hear about some of our activities planned for this year, have a few activities, and welcome everyone to a new year of CCHSYM. If you've already gone to an earlier Sunday Mass, please feel free to join us at the 6:30 p.m. Gathering; if you can't come to the 6:30 p.m. Gathering, please still join us at the 5:30 p.m. Mass.

The Corpus Christi High School Youth Ministry (CCHYSM) welcomes students of our parish and their friends to all of our events. It gives us an opportunity to get together as members of our great parish, and also to meet up with friends that may not go to the same high school as you! Through social activities, service opportunities, faith-building and prayer/retreat events, we offer something for everyone. There are no "memberships," and you can come whenever you can! Those receiving their religious education through our program, however, are to attend regularly. Remember, you can bring your friends with you — Our motto is "Bring \$1 and a friend."

Music for Mass: We need people to help with the Music Ministry (play an instrument or sing) at our monthly 5:30 p.m. Mass. All talent levels are welcome, and practice is held just prior to Mass: Meet at 4:15 p.m. in the church. A lot of our choir teens graduated last May, so please consider joining us! Instrumentalists, please let us know what instrument you are playing so we can get the music to you ahead of time in the correct key. Email [corpuschristihsyouth@yahoo.com](mailto:corpuschristihsyouth@yahoo.com).

More information regarding our meetings and events can be found on the parish website, the Corpus Christi High School Youth Ministry Facebook page (please "Like" the page), or by emailing [corpuschristihsyouth@yahoo.com](mailto:corpuschristihsyouth@yahoo.com).

## Breakfast

Monday through Friday, 7:00 to 9:30 a.m.  
In the Banquet Hall

**ALSO: Fresh Hot Beignets on Tuesdays!**

## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

**K of C Mtg:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Tues., Sept. 8, 7 p.m., at the Parish House.  
**Contact:** Grand Knight, Cosmo Comiskey, 508-0547.

## High School Confirmation Schedules

### Senior Class of 2017

Aug. 30, 2015: 4-6 p.m. Confirmation interview.

Sept. 13, 2015: 4:30-5:30 p.m. Confirmation practice.

Note date change! **Tues., Sept. 15, 2015 : 6 p.m. Confirmation Mass.**

### Senior Class of 2019

Oct. 11, 2015: 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Welcome Mass, Lesson 1.

## AA — Alanon — OA — CODA

**AA:** Sun., 7 p.m., and Wed., 7 p.m., Cougar Den.

**Alanon:** Sun., 7 p.m., and Wed., 7 p.m., Arts & Sciences Bldg.

**OA:** Sat., 9 a.m., Arts & Sciences Bldg.

**CODA:** Tues., 6:45 p.m., Arts & Sciences Bldg.

**First Friday** Adoration 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the chapel.  
Please sign up for one of the hours at the table in the chapels.

## Please support Catholic in America

Visit [www.CatholicInAmerica.com](http://www.CatholicInAmerica.com)

See the Catholic In America Program on

UTV 44 - WJTC TV

Sundays at 11 a.m.

With the support of Archbishop Rodi and priests of our archdiocese, *Catholic in America* is working to expand its viewership in the our area. It's a weekly, high quality, locally-produced half-hour television broadcast that explains the Catholic Faith, welcoming people and introducing them to the local Catholic parishes in our archdiocese.

An outstanding feature is the live Call Center: *Catholic in America* actually puts people in direct contact with a local priest. When people call in to the Call Center with questions about the Church, or if they are interested in joining the Church, the Call Center operators immediately put them in touch with a priest at a parish near them.

***Please support the advertisers  
on the back of the bulletin***

Their ads enable us to have our bulletins printed at no cost to the parish. Ads are purchased through Diocesan Publications. For info contact them at 1-800-292-9111 or [www.diocesan.com](http://www.diocesan.com).



**Pope Francis:  
The Church  
Is Catholic**

**The Annual Red, White and Blue Masses**

*Celebrated at the Cathedral*

**For God's blessing on those who serve in these professions:**

**The Blue Mass** (Friday, Sept. 11, at 12:10 p.m.) for police officers, fire fighters, first responders and other safety personnel.

**The Red Mass** (Friday, Sept. 18, at Noon) for our Judicial System, judges, attorneys and elected officials.

**The White Mass** (date & time to be announced) for physicians, nurses and all health care professionals.

***Welcome New Parishioners***

Alexis Callahan

Ri Gibson

Jim & Robbie Hayes

Connie LaCour

Bob & Barry Robichaux

Ruthann Warren and her daughter, Rachel

**FIRST COLLECTION TODAY:** Tithing Offerings.

**SECOND COLLECTION TODAY:** Corpus Christi Building Fund.

**HOME MISSIONS COLLECTION FINAL:** \$1,683.75

**AUG. 23<sup>RD</sup> BUILDING FUND ONLINE & COLLECTION:** \$1,148.26

**AUG. 23<sup>RD</sup> TITHING ONLINE & COLLECTION:** \$21,218.40

***Thank You and God Bless You***

For info, or to transfer shares of stock to Corpus Christi Church, contact your stockbroker, or call Selena Hemphill at Morgan Stanley at 470-1084 or 800-624-7814.

**Reports of Contributions**

You can always receive a report of your contributions any time by mail, email, fax. Also: You can receive a detailed report, showing each individual amount given, with date, check number or "EFT" or "Cash" or "Stock." Just notify the parish office 342-8152 or at [Church@CorpusChristiParish.com](mailto:Church@CorpusChristiParish.com) to have it mailed or emailed to you, or to have it available for pick-up at the parish office.



***To set up Online Giving:*** Please go to [www.CorpusChristiParish.com](http://www.CorpusChristiParish.com); click "Church"; then click the green Online Giving icon on the left side of the church's homepage. Follow the instructions to either make a one-time contribution or set up a recurring withdrawal from a checking, saving or credit card account to tithing or building fund, school annual fund or other special collection. **For assistance,** call 1-800-348-2886, ext 4, or the parish office, 342-1852.



***To receive Offering Envelopes:*** Please notify the parish office at 342-1852 or email the parish office at [Church@CorpusChristiParish.com](mailto:Church@CorpusChristiParish.com).

"The Church is Catholic because it is universal. It is present in all corners of the world and announces the Gospel to all men and women. The Church is not an elite group. It is not just a place for a few select people. The Church is not closed. It is called to include everyone, the entire human race. And the one Church is present in its smallest parts. So we can say: the Catholic Church is present in my parish because it is also part of the universal Church. Being in communion with all Churches and Catholic communities in the world, whether big or small, is a wonderful feeling! We are all on a mission: we all have to open our doors and go out to announce the Gospel."

"The Church is Catholic because it is the "House of Harmony" where unity and diversity merge together to become a strength. The image of a symphony can illustrate this. The Church is like a grand orchestra, full of variety: we are not all the same, and we don't need to be the same. We are all diverse and different, and each of us has his/her own qualities. That's what's so great about the Church: each of us brings something different to the Church, what God has given us, enriching others. The Church is everyone being in harmony. Let us accept one another, and accept variety. Uniformity kills life. Trying to force uniformity on everyone kills the gifts of the Holy Spirit."

**The novelist James Joyce,  
in *Finnegan's Wake*,  
defined the Catholic Church as  
"here comes everybody,"  
giving a blunt yet poetic expression  
to a Church with room for all.**

United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Media Blog



## St. Anthony Claret

“Spiritual Father of Cuba”

1807-1870

Feast Day: October 24

Anthony Claret was a Spanish missionary priest and bishop who became known as the “Spiritual Father of Cuba.” His father was a weaver, and Anthony initially followed in his father’s footsteps. However, while working in the textile mills of Barcelona, he studied in preparation for the priesthood. Anthony was ordained at the age of twenty-eight.

Poor health prevented Anthony from undergoing the formation needed to become a Jesuit or a Carthusian, so he devoted himself to giving missions and retreats throughout Spain. During his missions, he emphasized the importance of Jesus’ presence in the Eucharist and the beauty of devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Anthony and five other priests founded a religious order, the Claretians, in order to continue their ministry in Spain.

In 1849, Anthony, through the influence of Queen Isabella II, was appointed archbishop of the archdiocese of Santiago in Cuba. He responded vigorously to the spiritual and material needs of his flock. Anthony undertook an ambitious program to build tuition-free schools, hospitals, orphanages, homes for the elderly, and other similar institutions. He gave attention to special causes, such as religious instruction for Africans in slavery and stamping out forcing them into concubinage. He insisted that interracial marriages were valid marriages.

He promoted efforts to diversify the island’s agriculture. To stimulate the poor economy and improve living standards, he founded a system of parish savings banks, offering loans at interest rates so low that they would barely support the operation. Anthony also believed that the country should be made up of small family farms so that people could produce their own food.

Wealthy slave holders and plantation owners reacted violently to Anthony’s social justice endeavors, and there were fifteen attempts on the bishop’s life. One attempt on his life – by a man who slashed Anthony’s face and wrist – resulted in the death sentence for the perpetrator, but Anthony arranged for the man’s sentence to be commuted to a prison term.

Anthony was called back to Spain for a job he did not relish — being chaplain for the queen. He went on three conditions: That he would be allowed to reside away from the palace, and that he would come to the palace only to hear the queen’s confession and instruct the children, and that he would be exempt from court functions.

*Queen Isabella II once said to Anthony, “No one tells me things as clearly and frankly as you do.”*

*Later she told him, “Everybody is always asking me for favors, but you never do.*

*Isn’t there something you would like for yourself?”*

*Anthony replied, “Yes, that you let me resign.”*

*The queen made no more offers.*

In the revolution of 1868, he fled with the queen’s party to Paris, where he preached to the Spanish colony.

All his life Anthony was interested in the Catholic press. He founded the Religious Publishing House, a major Catholic publishing venture in Spain, and wrote or published 200 books and pamphlets.

At Vatican I, he won the admiration of his fellow bishops. Cardinal Gibbons of Baltimore remarked of him, “There goes a true saint.” He died in exile near the border of Spain at the age of 63.





# St. Katherine Drexel

## American Saint

1858-1955

If your father is an international banker and you ride in a private railroad car, you are not likely to be drawn into a life of voluntary poverty. But if your stepmother opens your home to the poor three days each week and your father spends half an hour each evening in prayer, it is not impossible that you devote your life to the poor and give away millions of dollars. Katharine Drexel did that.

She was born in Philadelphia in 1858. She had an excellent education and traveled widely. As a rich girl, she had a grand debut into society. But when she nursed her stepmother through a three-year terminal illness, she saw that all the Drexel money could not buy safety from pain or death, and her life took a profound turn.

As a young girl, traveling with her family in their private railroad car through the Dakotas, Katherine became concerned with the plight of the "Indians" (native Americans) and she was appalled when she read Helen Hunt's account in *A Century of Dishonor*. On a European tour, she met Pope Leo XIII and asked him to send missionaries to Wyoming for her friend Bishop James O'Connor to help the "Indians." The pope replied, "Why don't you become a missionary?" This surprised her, and she began to consider new possibilities.

Back home, she visited the Dakotas, met the Sioux leader Red Cloud and began her systematic aid to Indian missions. Then, in the south, she also became concerned for the plight of the Americans of African descent.

As the sole surviving member of her family, she inherited her entire family fortune. She could easily have married. But after much discussion with Bishop O'Connor, she decided to give her life and all of her fortune to serve others who were poor and in need. She wrote in 1889 that the feast of St. Joseph brought her the grace to give the remainder of my life to the Native and African Americans. Newspaper headlines about her decision screamed, "Gives Up Seven Million!"

No longer traveling in a private railroad car, she always took the cheapest fare, riding coach, and carrying her lunch in

a little brown paper bag.

After three and a half years of training with the Sisters of Mercy, she founded the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament. In 1894 she opened a mission school in Santa Fe. Its success quickly led to the founding of numerous other schools by her Order. By 1942 she had a system of Catholic schools for African Americans in 13 states, plus 40 mission centers and 23 rural schools, and she established 50 missions for Native Americans in 16 states. Segregationists harassed her work throughout.

Two saints met when she was advised by Mother Cabrini (who was another foundress of a religious order of Sisters). Mother Cabrini gave Katherine helpful advice about dealing with "church politics" in order to get her Order's Rule approved in Rome. Katharine received the approval in 1913. Her crowning achievement was the founding of Xavier University in New Orleans in 1915, the first university in the United States for African Americans.

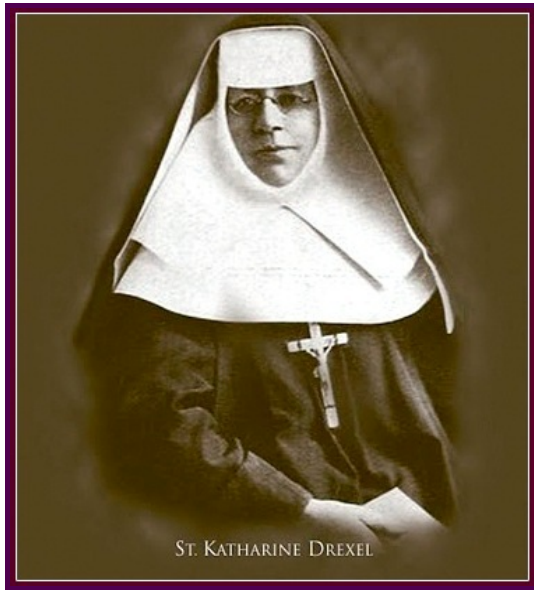
At 77, she suffered a heart attack and was forced to retire. Apparently her life was over. But now came almost 20 years of quiet, intense prayer from a small room overlooking the sanctuary. Small notebooks and slips of paper record her various prayers, ceaseless aspirations and meditations. She died at 96 and was canonized in 2000 by Pope John Paul II.

Some information from *Saint of the Day*, American Catholic

### Corpus Christi Connection!

A now deceased parishioner of Corpus Christi, Helen Gorman, was a young student nurse in Philadelphia when Mother Katharine had to be hospitalized. The hospital where she was admitted was one which was owned and operated by Mother Katherine's own religious Order. When the Sisters were going to put her in a private room, Mother Katherine objected, and she insisted that they give her the least expensive bed — a bed in one of the wards. The Sisters put her in a ward where all of the other 4 or 5 beds were empty so that she would still have a room to herself. When Mother Katherine would periodically ask, "Where are the other patients for this room?" her Sisters would say that they didn't have patients for those beds yet, but when they got more patients for those beds they would be placed in that ward. Mother Katherine also objected when the Sisters wanted to assign a private-duty nurse to care for her in the ward. She insisted that she would be treated like all of the other patients and would be taken care of by the regular nurses on duty for that floor. Helen Gorman recalled that the Sisters put a chair just outside Mother Katherine's ward, and instructed Helen to sit there without letting Mother Katherine know she was there; and whenever she could see that Mother Katherine needed assistance, Helen was to go into the room as though she was the regular-duty nurse just making her routine rounds.

We are grateful that our parishioner, Helen Gorman (who died in 2005 at the age of 91), was able to give to us at Corpus Christi in Mobile a special and inspirational account about Katherine Drexel from Helen's own personal experience when Helen, as a young student nurse in Philadelphia, was assigned to care for St. Katherine Drexel.



## Trouble All Over

In 1913, the Georgia Legislature, hoping to stop the Blessed Sacrament Sisters from teaching at a Macon school, tried to pass a law that would have prohibited white teachers from teaching black students.

In 1922 in Beaumont, Texas, a sign was posted by local Klansmen on the door of a church where the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament had opened a school. "We want an end of services here," the note read, followed by offensive statements against the Sisters and those they were serving. The note ended with, "Suppress it [your services] in one week or flogging with tar and feathers will follow." A few days later, a violent thunderstorm ripped through Beaumont, destroying the headquarters of the KKK, killing two of its members. The Sisters were never threatened again!

In 1915, when Mother Katherine purchased an abandoned university building to open Xavier Preparatory School in New Orleans, vandals smashed every window. In the late 1920s, when Mother Katherine found property in New Orleans for expanding Xavier University, she used a third party as a purchasing agent to keep the transaction from falling through. When the handsome campus was dedicated in October 1932, a priest gazed upon the expensive Indiana limestone buildings and remarked in Latin: "What a waste!" Mother Katherine never heard the remark. The woman who had spent \$656,000 for the land and new buildings watched the dedication ceremony from a third-floor window, far away from the dignitaries' platform.

From an article in *The Clarion Herald*, newspaper of the Archdiocese of New Orleans, and in *St. Anthony Messenger* magazine, published by the Franciscans.

***Mother Katharine told her Sisters:***

**"Resolve to manifest our Mission generously and with no half-hearted, timorous dread of the opinions of Church and men.**

**"You have no time to occupy your thoughts with consideration of what others will think.**

**"Your business is simply, 'What will my Father in heaven think?'"**

## St. Katharine In Louisiana

St. Katharine Drexel is a saint with particular significance to south Louisiana, especially the Diocese of Lafayette. She visited the diocese several times in the 1920s during the episcopacy of the late Bishop Jules B. Jeanmard, first Bishop of Lafayette. Together they selected sites for rural schools for African American children, places where there were no schools for them.



In colonial times, during the 1700s, when the area of Louisiana was under French or Spanish rule, government regulations required that people who were held in slavery should be baptized and given Catholic religious instruction. This was in contrast to Protestant areas where people in slavery were forbidden to receive religious instruction.

By the time Louisiana became part of the United States (with the Louisiana Purchase in 1803), the religious traditions of Catholicism were well established among African Americans in South Louisiana, and after the Civil War, many of them continued their affiliation with the Catholic Church.

Mother Katharine, in her time, with the support of Bishop Jeanmard, proceeded to establish some 40 rural schools for African American children all over South Louisiana, in areas now included in the Dioceses of Lafayette, Baton Rouge, and the Archdiocese of New Orleans.

Mother Katherine knew that all people are the beloved children of the same God, and brothers and sisters to one another. And she was determined that the best way to spread this truth was to provide schools.

From an article in the *Acadiana Catholic*