

August 20, 2017

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time



"Teaching is a beautiful job, as it allows you to see the growth day by day of people entrusted to your care. It is a little like being parents, at least spiritually. It is a great responsibility. Teaching is a serious commitment, that only a mature and balanced person can undertake. A commitment of this type may bring apprehension, but remember that no teacher is ever alone; his or her work is shared with other colleagues and with all the education community to which they belong.

[When reflecting on the commandment to love your neighbor,] "we can ask ourselves: who is a teacher's neighbor? The neighbors are your students! It is with them that a teacher passes the day. The students seek guidance, orientation, answers — and first of all, good questions!"

—Pope Francis

CORPUS CHRISTI CATHOLIC CHURCH

6300 McKenna Drive, Mobile, Alabama 36608

Email: Church@CorpusChristiParish.com • Website: 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

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Thursday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

PASTORAL STAFF

Very Reverend James F. Zoghby, V.F.
Reverend John S. Boudreaux
Deacon Arthur W. Robbins
Mrs. Kristy F. Martin, School Principal
Mrs. Diane M. Stoyka, Parish Catechetical Leader
Mrs. Judi B. Ankiewicz, R.C.I.A. Coordinator
Mr. Peter J. Stoyka, Youth Ministry Director
Mr. Thomas C. McKee, 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 PreK3 through 8.

To register, or to obtain further information or to arrange for a personal tour of our school, please call the school office, 342-5474, ext. 1, or send an email to kmartin@CorpusChristiParish.com.



To Teach as Jesus Taught

Today!

Sunday School Registration & Parent Meeting
Sunday, Aug. 20, at 10:05 a.m. in the Adult Ed. Room
 (located on the 1st Floor in the Community Center)

Important Note: 2nd Graders and 9th Graders will need to bring a copy of their baptismal certificate.

This will be a brief informational meeting, after which all will go to the classrooms to meet the teachers.

Student Registration Forms and **Volunteer Forms** are also available online at

www.CorpusChristiParish.com/Church:

Click the "**Sunday School (CCD)**" tab in the left column on the church homepage.

Info: Diane Stoyka, dianestoyka@yahoo.com.

CORPUS CHRISTI CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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

Tomorrow!

Opening Day of School
 Monday, Aug. 21. Noon dismissal.



Openings available in some classes.

Contact the School Office at 342-5474, ext. 1, or visit

www.CorpusChristiParish.com/School.



Jazz Brunch

in the Banquet Hall

With Jazz Musicians Performing Live!

2nd Sunday of the Month

(Every month except June, July, August)

Buffet Served from 12 Noon to 1:30 p.m.

\$10.25 for Adults • \$4.25 for Children (Age 12 & under)

Resumes September 10!

"See you in September"

SCRIP is for sale in the atrium after the 9:00 a.m. Mass every Sunday. *SCRIP* gift cards provided by our parish school include grocery stores, department stores, restaurants, gas stations and many more retailers. Cards are available in \$5, \$10, \$15, \$20, and larger amounts. For more detailed information, please contact our *SCRIP* office at 342-5474, ext. 1204 or SCRIP@CorpusChristiParish.com.

Tuesday Night Bible Study

Meetings are at 7 p.m. on Tuesdays in the Parish House.

The Bible Timeline, a Catholic study with a series of 24 videos.

Info: Dave Burchette, 251-367-6660 or davebur1955@gmail.com.

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.

Wed Evening Info: Walter Bracewell, 599-1650 or walter.bracewell@gmail.com

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Next K of C Meeting: **4th Monday**, Aug. 28, 7 p.m., Parish House.

Info: Chad Pugh, Grand Knight, 251-232-0648 or pughce34@yahoo.com.

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Poor Box, Food, Clothing donations and "In-Need" Drop Box at the SVDP table in the vestibule. Join the Society of St. Vincent de Paul by attending a meeting on **the 3rd Mon.** of the month, 6:30 p.m., the **Parish House**. To seek help, call 243-4061; leave name & phone no.

Widowed Persons' Support Group

For information call parishioner Glen Porter at 666-8977.

Wednesday Night Dinner

Resumes August 23

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

\$9.25 for Adults • \$4.25 for Children (Age 12 & under)

Aug. 23: Boston Butt, Pulled Pork on a Bun, Fried Fish, Baked Beans, Deviled Egg Potato Salad, Hand-Cut Cole Slaw, Pea Salad, Fruit Cobbler, Fresh Fruit. Iced Tea, Lemonade, Coffee.

Kids Meal (on request): Chicken Tenders & Fries.

Must RSVP no later than TUESDAY EVENING

Return an RSVP Card, or call 342-1852 or email

WedNightDinner@CorpusChristiParish.com

In the Banquet Hall

Resumes August 22

☀ Breakfast

Monday through Friday, 7:00 to 9:30 a.m.

Fresh Hot Beignets on Tuesdays!

🕒 Lunch

Monday through Friday, 11:15 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Please support the advertisers on the back of the bulletin

Their ads enable us to have our bulletins printed by Diocesan Publications at no cost to the parish. Ads are purchased from Diocesan Publications. For information about placing an ad, contact them at 1-800-292-9111 or www.diocesan.com.

Children's**1st Reconciliation & 1st Eucharist Dates****Mon., Sept. 25, 2017:** 1st Reconciliation Parent Meeting, 6:30 p.m.**Mon., Dec. 4, 2017:** 1st Reconciliation Service, 7:00 p.m.**Mon., Feb. 19, 2018:** First Eucharist Parent Meeting, 6:30 p.m.**Sun., Feb. 25, 2018:** 1st Eucharist Enrollment Mass, 9 a.m., followed by 1st Eucharist Mini Retreat, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.**Sat., April 14, 2018:** First Eucharist Practice, 10:00 a.m.**Sun., April 15, 2018:** First Eucharist Mass, 1:00 p.m.**Info:** Diane Stoyka, DianeStoyka@yahoo.com or 342-5474, ext. 7.**High School Confirmation Schedules****H.S. Senior Class of 2019:** Sun., Sept. 17, 2017, Spirit Day with sponsors, at Corpus Christi, 2:00 to 6:30 p.m., Lesson 8.

Sun., Jan. Date TBA, 2018, Confirmation Luncheon, 12:00 to 2 p.m.

Sun., Jan. Date TBA, 2018 Confirmation Practice, 2:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Tues., Jan. Date TBA, 2018, Confirmation, 6:00 p.m.

H.S. Senior Class of 2020: Sun., Nov. 12, 2017, Spirit Day, at Corpus Christi, 2:00 to 6:30 p.m., Lesson 6.

Sat., Jan. 27, 2018, Confirmation Retreat, at Visitation Monastery, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Lessons 2/3/4.

H.S. Senior Class of 2021: Sun., Oct. 15, 2017, Spirit Day & Welcome Mass, at Corpus Christi, 2:00 to 6:30 p.m., Lesson 1.

Sun., Feb. 18, 2018, Spirit Day, at Corpus Christi, 2:00 to 6:30 p.m., Lessons 5 & 7.

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.**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** (Monday, Sept. 11, at 12:10 p.m.) for police officers, fire fighters, first responders and other safety personnel.**The Red Mass** (Friday, Sept. 29, at Noon) for our Judicial System, judges, attorneys and elected officials. Sponsored by the St. Thomas More Society. If you would like to join the St. Thomas More Society, or participate more fully in the annual Red Mass Celebration, contact Greg McAtee at 251-661-9399.**The White Mass** (TBA) for physicians, nurses and all health care professionals.**Welcome New Parishioners****Steve (Dr. O) & Perri Ostendorf****Flowers**

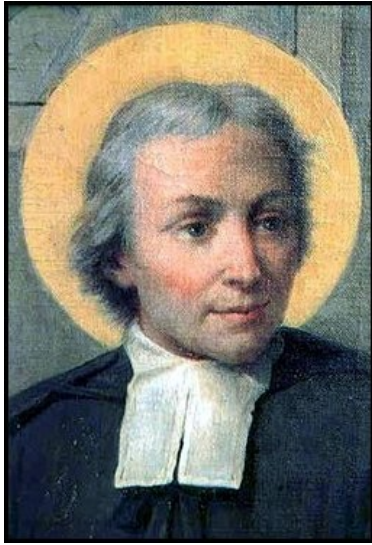
The flowers before the pulpit this weekend have been placed in memory of

Sue Marchon the 9th anniversary of her death.

Given by the March Family.

**Good internet websites
for the latest in Catholic news:****CRUX:** www.CruxNow.com**Catholic News Service:** www.catholicnews.com**Vatican Radio:** <http://en.radiovaticana.va/>**Our Church Bulletins are also Online:**Visit DiscoverMass.com or CorpusChristiParish.com/Church**Around the Archdiocese: The Fall Quarterly Meeting of****the Mobile Deanery Archdiocesan Council (ACCW)** will be held on Wed., Sept. 6, at 9:15 a.m. at Corpus Christi Church. Mass at 11:15 a.m., and lunch will follow the Mass. The cost of lunch is \$13 per person. Please make your reservations by Thursday, Aug. 31, with Carlee Russell (533-4771, carlee.russell@icloud.com or Shirley Alexander at 662-6537 or Shirley.alexander1@gmail.com. All Catholic ladies are welcome. Info: Fannie Burden, President, 666-4960 **Providence Hospital Senior Center**, 35. N. Cody Rd. (Boys & Girls Club), Hot Lunches, (Cost is donation only), Open Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Meet friends, play games, receive info on health & wellness. No fees. Info: Peggy Gomez, Providence Hospital Community Coordinator, 544-4480. **Providence Hospital Fundraisers**, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.): Nikki Leah's (children's clothing) Aug. 31 & Sept. 1, Hosp. Lobby. \$5 Masquerade Jewelry Sept. 18-19, DePaul Ctr.**FIRST COLLECTION TODAY:** Tithing Offerings.**SECOND COLLECTION TODAY:** The Church in Latin America.**MISSIONARY CO-OP ONLINE & COLLECTION FINAL:** \$5,593.49
CHURCH IN LATIN AMERICA ONLINE & COLLECTION: \$1,600.00
AUG. 6TH BUILDING FUND ONLINE & COLLECTION: \$3,383.50
AUG. 6TH TITHING ONLINE & COLLECTION: \$33,046.50**Thank You and God Bless You***Receive a detail listing of your contributions
by mail, email or fax at any time:*Call 342-1852 or email Church@CorpusChristiParish.com. God bless all for tithing, contributions, bequests, remembrances in wills in support of God's work here at Corpus Christi Parish. To make a donation of stock, ask your financial manager, or call Selena Hemphill at Morgan Stanley at 470-1084 or 800-624-7814.**To set up Online Giving:** Please go towww.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 800-348-2886, ext 4, or the parish office, 342-1852.**Offering Envelopes**

If you wish to use Offering Envelopes, just notify the parish office (342-1852). An initial set will be sent to you right away, and then, every two months, you will receive a two-month's supply of envelopes.



St. John Baptist de la Salle

1651-1719

Education Reformer
Founder of the Christian Brothers

St. John Baptist de la Salle is credited for many innovations in education – things that we take for granted today:

- The idea of universal education – education for everyone, not just for the wealthy elite.
- John insisted that teachers presented their lessons in the vernacular – the language of their students (French). Up until then, lessons (primarily for the rich elite) were presented in Latin. As democracy spread throughout the world, so did the use of the vernacular in education.
- John’s teachers taught the children in age-level groups, like the grade levels we have today. Before, students were generally taught one-on-one by a tutor.
- John’s schools also helped their students to learn a trade so they could support themselves and a family after they completed their education.
- John is also credited with opening the first training college for teachers in the history of education.
- His schools included 30 minutes of Christian instruction each day and 90 minutes on Sunday.
- John promoted extensive use of the blackboard!

John was born into a wealthy family in Rheims, France in 1651. He was only eleven when he decided to become a priest. He received the best education and with his family connections, everyone believed that he

would become an important person in the Church, perhaps even a bishop. He was ordained to the priesthood at the age of 27, and was assigned to the cathedral in Rheims.

One day, he met Arian Nyel, a man from another part of France who had opened four schools for poor boys. In those days, only wealthy children could afford an education. Mr. Nyel convinced John that he must establish schools for poor boys in Rheims. Though the work was extremely distasteful to him at first, he became more involved in working with the deprived youths.

When he became convinced that this was his divinely appointed mission, John threw himself wholeheartedly into the work, left home and family, abandoned his position at the cathedral, gave away his fortune (\$500,000) and reduced himself to the level of the poor to whom he devoted his entire life.

Soon he formed a religious community called the “Brothers of the Christian School.” The Order is now called “The Christian Brothers.” The community was the first religious order established to educate the poor and was the first order that didn’t include ordained priests but only religious brothers. To ensure that his order confined itself solely to the work of teaching, he laid down the rule that no brother would become a priest and that no priest could join the order. This rule is still observed today. The community grew and achieved great success in educating boys of poor families.

Yet, even in his success, John did not escape experiencing many trials. His wealthy family opposed his work. And his enterprise met with opposition from Church authorities who resisted his new form of religious life: a community of lay brothers conducting free schools. In 1702, he was deposed for a time as head of the Christian brothers by Cardinal de Noailles.

John was also opposed by the “Jansenists,” clergy whose moral rigidity and pessimism about the human condition he resisted vehemently all his life. The Jansenists taught that only the very pious could hope to get to heaven, that most people in the Church were not worthy of the sacraments and were not in a state of grace and therefore should not go to Communion. But John taught: “We take communion not because we are holy, but in order to become so. Union with Jesus in communion makes us able to share in his holiness.”

The educational establishment resented his insistence on education for all, including those who could not pay. In those days, France had only two classes of people: the very poor and the very rich. Education was for the rich and noble, and primarily for males, and quite beyond the dreams of the great mass of people. As a result, John's schools were raided by authorities and shut down; law-suits were brought against him, and for a time he was forbidden to open schools in the Paris area.

In spite of many difficulties the schools spread and flourished. At one point, when the Christian Brothers were opposed and suppressed, their order was reduced to 20 active members. However, when the ban was lifted by Napoleon I in 1799, the community sprang back to life. During the 1800s, there was another setback: 1,285 establishments were closed by legislative decree in France. However, the Brothers had established themselves in many other countries in Europe and North and South America. Their first school in the United States was founded in 1846. Currently, about 6,000 Brothers and 75,000 lay and religious colleagues serve as teachers and counselors to 900,000 students in over 1,000 educational institutions in 84 countries.

John Baptist de la Salle died in 1719 on Good Friday, only weeks before his 68th birthday. Six years after his death, the Christian Brothers' community was officially recognized by Pope Benedict XIII, and its rule was approved. He was canonized in 1900. He was proclaimed Patron Saint of Teachers by Pope Pius XII.

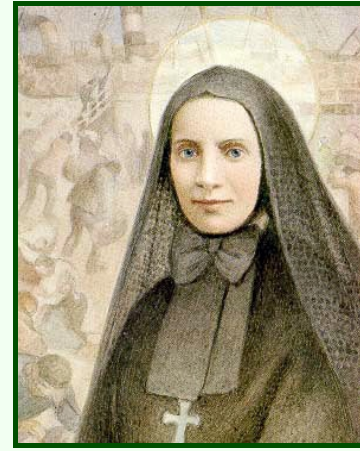
You should learn to recognize Jesus beneath the rags of the poor children you have to teach. Adore Him in their person.

It is your duty to teach an awareness of social justice to your students.

If you are a true lover of Christ you will take every possible means to instill His love in the hearts of your students whom you train to be His disciples.

Because you are called to serve in a world that prefers to be served, do not be surprised when you are not esteemed, but know that God counts on you.

—St. John Baptist de la Salle



St. Frances Xavier Cabrini

1850-1917

Patroness of Immigrants

First U.S. Citizen To Be Canonized a Saint

In childhood in Italy, Frances Cabrini desired to be a missionary, and fantasized about going to China. When she was 19, both of her parents died, and she began charitable work at the Providence Orphanage. In 1877, she made her vows there and took the religious habit.

Despite her dream to be a missionary in China, Frances, at the urging of Pope Leo XIII, went west instead of east. She traveled with six sisters to New York City to work with the thousands of Italian immigrants there.

When she arrived in New York, the house intended to be her first orphanage in the United States was not available, and the archbishop told her to return to Italy. But, instead, she became all the more determined to establish that orphanage. And she succeeded.

She eventually became a U.S. citizen, and in 35 years she founded 67 institutions, traveling all over the United States (from New York to New Orleans), South America, Europe – caring for the poor, the abandoned, the uneducated, the sick. Seeing a great need among Italian immigrants who were losing their faith, she organized schools and adult education classes.

As a child, she was always frightened of water and was unable to overcome her fear of drowning. Yet, despite those fears, she traveled across the Atlantic more than 30 times. She died of malaria in her own Columbus Hospital in Chicago on December 22, 1917 and was canonized by Pope Pius XII on July 7, 1946. Her body lies in the chapel of Cabrini Memorial High School in upper Manhattan.



St. Katharine 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, Katharine 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.

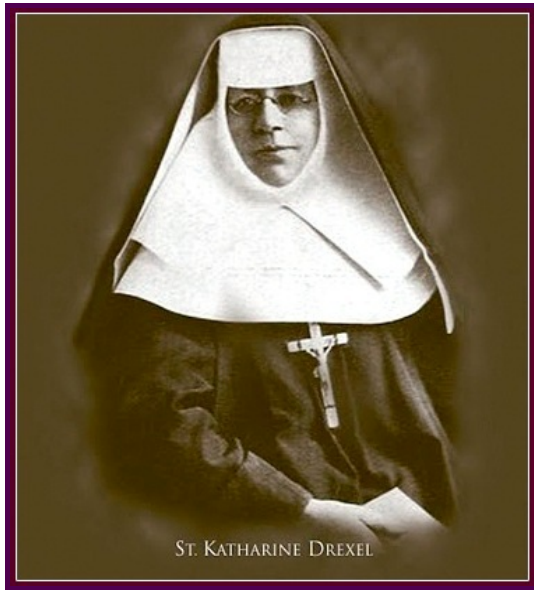
At 77, she suffered a heart attack and was forced to retire. Apparently her life was over. But now came almost 20 years of quiet, intense prayer from a small room overlooking the sanctuary. Small notebooks and slips of paper record her various prayers, ceaseless aspirations and meditations. She died 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 Katharine's own religious Order. When the Sisters were going to put her in a private room, Mother Katharine 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 Katharine 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 Katharine 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 Katharine's ward, and instructed Helen to sit there without letting Mother Katharine know she was there; and whenever she could see that Mother Katharine 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 Katharine Drexel from Helen's own personal experience when Helen, as a young student nurse in Philadelphia, was assigned to care for St. Katharine 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*