

The Catholic Community of | *La Comunidad Católica de* SAINT KATHARINE DREXEL PARISH

Beaver Dam, WI

Dear Family:

St. Katharine Drexel Parish is happy to hear of your decision to have your child baptized! Your child's baptism is only the beginning of a new life in which you will grow closer to one another in the family and closer to God. We look forward to welcoming your child into the Catholic Church.

The time before baptism provides you with an opportunity for reflection on the responsibilities that accompany the baptism of your child. In this sacrament, you are committing yourselves to the serious task of forming your child in the faith of the Church. It is good to reflect on your own faith life at this time. Through your efforts to develop values consistent with the Church's teachings, your active involvement in the life of the parish community, and the formal religious education you provide for your child, you will give your child the foundation upon which the faith can flourish.

Because this is so important, first time parents must attend a special preparation session before the baptism of your child. We ask, if possible, both parents to attend the session; and we encourage the godparents to attend as well. Our Baptism Preparation Sessions in English are on the second Sunday of each month between the 8:00am and 10:00am Mass. We schedule between Masses so your family has a chance to get to Mass before or after class. We will meet in the Saint Cecilia's Room of our Church. It's a little room to the right of the gathering space. You are welcome to bring your child or children with you. Please plan ahead and tell us which class you will be attending within a week of the scheduled class. Our office is at extension 311.

With a second child, if it has been less than ten years, you do not have to attend a baptismal class. We will just need a completed application turned in to the parish center, and a verified Godparent Eligibility Form before we can set a date for your child's baptism. Then, you can contact the Pastor or Deacon to schedule. In some circumstances, we may want to set an appointment to meet you (new parishioner, catch up on sacraments, etc). It's our way of reaching out to meet your needs and to welcome another member into our parish family!

Attached to this letter are the respective forms for ALL parish baptisms. Each family should complete an application and submit a Godparent Eligibility Form. The Godparent Form comes with a great explanation of the important role of Godparents. When choosing Godparents, please go over the page for the role of Godparents and discuss that with your respective Godparents. They will then take that form to their respective parish and have it completed by the parish staff. We also will need a copy of your child's birth certificate and a \$5.00 materials fee which can be brought to the parish center at your earliest convenience.

If you require a class in Spanish, please contact our Spanish Associate Priest at 887-2082 and bring the completed paperwork to his office at the Parish Center. Preparation classes in Spanish are scheduled according to the availability of the presenter and family.

We look forward to meeting you and sharing in your preparation for your child's baptism. If you have any questions, please call the Parish Center at the number below.

Sincerely in Christ,

Kristin Adsit
Director of Evangelization

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Church
511 S. Spring St.
Beaver Dam, WI
53916

Parish Center (Office)
408 S. Spring St.
920-887-2082
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www.stkatharinedrexeld.org

School
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920-885-5558
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