

# Together on the Journey

Introducing ...

## Together on the Journey

The first of the St. Katharine Drexel quarterly parish newsletter. In this and future editions, we plan to feature and highlight various committees and ministries. To provide our parishioners a better look at what is happening in our parish. We chose the title *Together on the Journey*—because we are all on a *journey*. And although each of us have our own path in life—we come together in many ways. To praise God, to serve the needs of others, to grow in our spiritual life and to build our community. It is our hope that as we share information about the parish and school it will help us grow as a community.

## The Season of Lent to Eastertide

A *journey* is one of the most persistent metaphors for the life of faith. With good reason. Faith involves moving from one place to another. Sometimes the *journey* is physical (think of Abraham, Moses, or St. Paul and the other apostles, for starters) and sometimes, such as during Lent, it is a *journey* of faith. Either way, the *journey* can take us from comfortable certainties, into the great unknown. At St. Katharine Drexel Parish, the *journey* of Lent was a wonderful opportunity for families to grow closer to God—and each other! Through daily and weekend Masses, receiving the Eucharist, partaking in the Sacrament of Reconciliation, Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction, as well as joining our school children as they presented the Living Stations in Mission Hall or the Shadow Way of the Cross in the school gym, the season of Lent was an important stretch along the *journey* of faith, one that often takes us to some wonderful new places.

As we enter **Eastertide**, a period of 50 days that spans from Easter Sunday to Pentecost Sunday, we invite you and all your family and friends to join us, there is always an open invitation to come to St. Katharine Drexel Parish.

On behalf of **Fr. Will Arnold** and **Fr. Onildo Orellana**, and all the **SKDP staff**, we wish all our families a blessed *journey* through Eastertide.



### Inside this issue

|                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| Confirmation News.....   | 2 |
| Human Concerns .....     | 3 |
| Adoration .....          | 3 |
| Building & Grounds ..... | 3 |
| Bulletin Changes .....   | 4 |
| Stained Glass            |   |
| Window Spotlight.....    | 4 |

## Alleluia! It's Easter!

Thank you to all who helped provide a beautiful and meaningful Easter celebration. Whether it was participating at one or more of the Holy Week Masses, or if it was helping in other ways—such as singing in the choir, lecturing, serving mass or decorating the church. Whatever you did, it helped us praise God and express gratitude to Jesus Christ—for all He has done for us! We couldn't have done it without you.  
**Thank You!**





## The Journey of Confirmation 2022



Congratulations to the confirmation candidates who received the Sacrament of Confirmation. This year's confirmation Mass was held on Wednesday, March 30th. Bishop James Schuerman presided with **Fr. Will** and **Fr. Onildo** concelebrating. Assisting were our Parish Deacons, **Ed Cody** and **Randy Wells**, along with Deacon James Leggett. The Confirmation Mass was reverent, dignified, and beautiful, a celebration as each candidate's Baptism is completed or "sealed" by the Holy Spirit.



As each candidate processed to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, they were accompanied by their sponsor, who placed their hand on the shoulder of the candi-

date as a sign of that they will be with them in their *journey* while living out their baptismal promises. The bishop anointed each confirmation candidate using oil of Chrism by making the sign of the cross on their forehead while saying their confirmation name and the words "Be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit." "Amen." "Peace be with you." This is a very sacred, moving moment for the candidates, the sponsors, and the families of the newly confirmed, but also for **John Pryme**, our **Director of Youth Ministry** here at SKDP. John was all smiles after the ceremony, stating, "It never gets old. I've been doing this five years now, and every year I am so proud of them." When asked what thoughts come to mind now after this confirmation class has fulfilled their faith formation with him, John stated, "It's just really cool to see the growth in these kids. They come to all the classes, they do service work, they spend time together at retreats, they learn to pray in silence and with each

other, and then put that all into words when they write their confirmation letters to the bishop. They all grow, but they all grow differently. I get charged by their growth and it keeps it alive for me. These kids fill my cup. I get back because of what they give me." Well done, John. You just described what our *journey* together is.



Confirmants **Bella Oestreicher** and **Carmen Kehrmeyer** are all smiles!

## Human Concerns—Highlights

### Baby Bottle Drive

Two of our community's outstanding social justice organizations paired up again this January when the **Knights of Columbus** hosted their annual baby bottle drive to support the **Pregnancy Support Center of Dodge County** (PSCDC). For the first two Sundays of January, members of the KOC handed out plastic baby bottles to parishioners attending the weekend Masses. The intent is to have everyone fill the bottles, not with milk or formula, but with cash and coins to benefit the Pregnancy Support Center. The funds are used to help mothers with diapers, formula, and other essentials required to care for babies. When parishioners returned with their baby bottles filled with their donations, the Knights were there to

collect the bottles and be sure the donations went on to the PSCDC. The human concerns committee thanks the Knights of Columbus Council #1837 and all of the parishioner members who helped the Knights raise **\$5,397.00** for the PSCDC.

The human concerns committee also recognizes the outstanding efforts of the Pregnancy Support Center in promoting respect and dignity for the life of unborn and newborn babies. The volunteers who helped make the support center a reality for our community and continue the mission of the PSCDC are promoting the Gospel of Life in Beaver Dam and Dodge County. Many of the volunteers are also members of the Dodge County Catholic community and of our parish.

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*"And we know that all things work together for good, for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose." Romans 8:28*

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### Operation Rice Bowl



During Lent of 2022, Operation Rice Bowl (ORB) again made an appearance in our parish community. If you are not familiar with ORB, CRS Rice Bowl is the Lenten program of Catholic Relief Services, the official relief and development agency of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. Through CRS Rice Bowl, faith communities in dioceses throughout the United States put their faith into action through prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Lenten alms donated through CRS Rice Bowl sup-

port the work of CRS in more than 100 different countries each year. Twenty-five percent of donations to CRS Rice Bowl stay in the local diocese, supporting hunger and poverty alleviation efforts. Since its inception in 1975, CRS Rice Bowl has raised nearly \$300 million.

CRS Rice Bowl is a staple on the table of Catholic families across the country during Lent. This simple cardboard box is a tool for collecting Lenten alms—and comes with a Lenten calendar that guides families through the 40 days of Lent with activities, reflections and stories. This year's stories introduced us to our neighbors in Guatemala, Bangladesh, and Rwanda; countries where Catholic

Relief Services uses funds that are collected by ORB to help families grow food, to help them with sources of clean water, and to establish small businesses to sustain their lives.

**Jim Hanks** is our parish ambassador to Catholic Relief Services. He has done a great job in bringing Operation Rice Bowl and other CRS programs to St. Katharine Drexel Parish.



*"The Eucharist is never ending sacrifice. It is the sacrament of love."*

*St. Katharine Drexel*

### Eucharistic Adoration

The start of this year's Lenten season was also the start of Friday Adoration at St. Katharine Drexel. Over the past four Fridays, there have been 60–70 adorers coming to spend an hour or more with Jesus. Our school children have also participated; with older students spending more time than the younger.

The hours of adoration are from 9:00 AM until Benediction around 8:00 PM.

During those hours the Rosary is prayed at 10:00 AM; Confessions are offered between 12 and 1:00 PM as well as 5:30 to 6:30—after which there is a Bilingual Rosary.

**For more information or to signup online go to:**  
[www.stkatharinedrexelbd.org/adoration](http://www.stkatharinedrexelbd.org/adoration)



## Bulletin Revisions

On the weekend of April 24th, you'll notice a few changes with the Sunday bulletin including:

- ◇ Reduced page count from 12 to 8
- ◇ Bulletins written in English or Spanish versus both languages in one bulletin

The objective of our parish bulletin is to provide information about the church and school in an easy to read format.

We hope the changes help us achieve that objective!

## Building and Grounds:

There are many things that make the daily operations of St. Katharine Drexel Parish unique, in particular are those that pertain to our buildings and grounds. Our parish property is really quite extensive and consists of many areas; the rectory, church, school, parish center, landscape and garden spaces, parking lots, and cemeteries. Coupled with all the different properties, is the mixing of the old and the new. **Nathan Eggers**, head of maintenance and custodial services here at SKDP, keeps a keen eye watching over our building systems and structures, servicing the grounds, providing custodial services, maintaining compliance with building codes, fire codes, safety and environment regulations, and security and fire alarm systems in all our buildings.

We are graciously blessed with a knowledgeable Buildings and Grounds committee. This group of parishioners is dedicated to meeting monthly to review and discuss repairs or updates our buildings and grounds may be in need of, and then coming up with a plan that is cost-effective to our parish budget and focuses on the safety, responsiveness, and quality workmanship that our visitors, parishioners, students, and staff all require. We believe in preserving our environment for future generations and take much pride in the space that we have.



*“Looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.” Hebrews 12:2*

## Stained Glass Window—Spotlight

~ Our St. Anne Window ~

In this inspiring image, the Blessed Virgin Mary, the future Mother of God, is shown as a young girl, with her mother St. Anne.

Prayer to St. Anne:

*Glorious St. Anne, filled with compassion for those who invoke thee, and with love for those who suffer, heavily laden with the weight of my troubles, I cast myself at thy feet and humbly beg of thee to take the present affair, which I recommend to thee under thy special protection.*

*Vouchsafe to recommend it to thy Daughter, the Blessed Virgin Mary, and lay it before the throne of Jesus, so that He may bring it to a happy issue. Cease not to intercede for me until my request is granted. Above all, obtain for me the grace of one day beholding my God face to face, and with thee and Mary and all the saints, praising and blessing Him to all eternity.*

