

# Saint Katharine Drexel Parish

1922 SW 20th Avenue / Cape Coral, Florida 33991  
Telephone: (239) 283-9501 / Website: [www.drexelcc.org](http://www.drexelcc.org)  
Email: [office@drexelcc.org](mailto:office@drexelcc.org)



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THE  
*IMMACULATE  
CONCEPTION*

2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT

© Diocese

## SKD PARISH STAFF

**Pastor**—Father Ricky Varner (varner@drexelcc.org)  
**Administrative Assistant**—Alba Gibbons (office@drexelcc.org)  
**Business Manager**—Frank Newcomb (frank@drexelcc.org)  
**DRE**—Rose Marie Talbot-Babey (rose@drexelcc.org)  
**Director of Music**—John Hudak (hudak@drexelcc.org)  
**Director of Youth**—Aileen Vasquez (aileen@drexelcc.org)  
**Maintenance**—Ernie Sierocinski (ernie@drexelcc.org)  
**Housekeeping**—Gilma Avalos (gilma@drexelcc.org)

### FINANCE COUNCIL

Victor Balaj, Peter Barrett, Sr., Steven Cozza, Tom Feig, Kathleen Houghton, Steve Ketteler, Mark Pennington, Steve Shaw, and Phaedra Weiler.

### JEREMIAH TEAM

Father Ricky Varner, Timothy Altieri, Peter Barrett, Ken Caserio, Renee Marazon, Anne McCormick, Michelle Plakosh.

**HOMEBOUND PARISHIONERS:** If you'd like a priest to visit you with the sacraments, please call the parish office.

**PARISHIONERS IN HOSPITAL:** If you are in a local hospital and would like a visit from a priest, please call the parish office.

## SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION

**BAPTISM:** Please obtain a baptism registration form either at the weekend Masses, or visit our website. After reading the requirements and completing the form, return it to Religious Education. For more information please email [rose@drexelcc.org](mailto:rose@drexelcc.org). Baptisms are scheduled after consultation with a priest.

**MARRIAGE:** Please contact the parish office at least nine (9) months prior to the desired date of the ceremony.

**SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION:** Call Faith Formation at (239) 283-0525.

**SACRAMENT OF THE SICK:** Are you going for a surgery? Do you need The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick? Please see the priest after any Mass or call the parish office.

**NEW PARISHIONERS:** Registration forms are in the church, parish office and on the parish website.

**JOIN OUR PARISH FLOCKNOTE:** To sign up and receive our email or events and parish information, please go to [drexelcc.flocknote.com](http://drexelcc.flocknote.com).

## PARISH VISION

Saint Katharine Drexel is a welcoming, Christ-centered family, Nourished through the Sacraments, And chosen, anointed and sent by the Holy Spirit To grow in holiness and build the Kingdom of God.

## PARISH MISSION

We, the family of Saint Katharine Drexel, Baptized in Christ, anointed by the Holy Spirit, and nourished through the sacraments and God's word, Strive to become intentional disciples of Christ, Who are committed to prayer, learning, and service, to build the Kingdom of God.



**SKD PARISH CALENDAR—MINISTRY EVENTS****MONDAY, DECEMBER 9:****Parish Office Closed**

- 5:00 pm Children Choir (Church)  
 6:00 pm Alpha Core Team (Library)  
 6:30 pm AA Meeting (FFE)  
 7:30 pm Bell Choir (Church)

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10:**

- 7:00 pm Adult Choir (Church)  
 7:00 pm Trafalgar Woods Mtg (FFW)

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11:**

- 8:00 am TOPS (Hall)  
 11:00 am Bible Class (FFW)  
 6:00 pm Youth Group—HS (FFE)  
 7:00 pm TOPS (FFW)

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12:**

- 10:00 am Medjugorje Mtg (Hall)  
 11:30 am Pro-Life Mtg ( Library)  
 7:00 pm Bible Class (FFW)  
 7:00 pm TMIY (FFE)

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13:**

- 10:00 am Legion of Mary (FFW)  
 12:00 N Rosary for Life (Chapel)  
 6:30 pm Youth Group (FFE)

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14:**

- 9:30 am K of C Breakfast with Santa (Hall)  
 8:00 am Cursillo Day of Prayer (FFE)  
 8:00 am Secular Franciscan (FFW)

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15 :**

- 9:30 am Religious Ed Classes (FFB)  
 4:00 pm Simbang Gabi (Church and Hall)

**MASS SCHEDULE**

Monday-Friday—9:00 am

Saturday—9:00 am

Vigil—4:00 pm

Sunday—8:30 am, 10:30 am and 12:30 pm

**CONFESSIONS**

Wednesdays—After 9:00 am Mass

Saturdays—After 9:00 am Mass  
 and 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm

First Fridays of the Month—After 9:00 am Mass  
 and 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm

**FAITH FORMATION**

(239) 283-0525 or email [rose@drexelcc.org](mailto:rose@drexelcc.org)

**OFFICE HOURS**

Monday to Friday—8:30 am to 4:30 pm

Tuesday—9:30 am to 4:30 pm

**Prayers for Eternal Life**

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,  
 And let perpetual light shine upon them.*

*Please pray for the souls of:*



*Marty Mesch  
 Priscilla Kilyako  
 Marie Jeanne Martin*

**Maintenance Fund**

*Scan to donate*



Give Online

***Thank you for your Generosity!***

Your gift to the Catholic Faith Appeal will continue to make a difference in the lives of others!

**Stewardship December 1, 2024**

**Offertory: \$14,324.73**

**Online Giving: \$7,566.87**

**Maintenance Fund to Date: \$43,485.91**

**Catholic Faith Appeal 2024**

**Our Parish Goal: \$241,000.00**

**Pledged to Date: \$265,189.00**

**Payments to Date: \$250,747.20**

Visit parish website: [www.drexelcc.org](http://www.drexelcc.org)  
 and click on the Online Giving link!

## What is Spiritual Direction?

Spiritual direction is “help given by one Christian to another which enables that person to pay attention to God’s personal communication to him or her, to respond to this personally communicating God, to grow in intimacy with this God, and to live out the consequences of the relationship.” (William A. Barry and William J. Connolly, *The Practice of Spiritual Direction*)

**Spiritual direction focuses on religious experience.** It is concerned with a person’s actual experience of a relationship with God.

**Spiritual direction is about a relationship.** The religious experience is not isolated, nor does it consist of extraordinary events. It is what happens in an ongoing relationship between the person and God. Most often this is a relationship that is experienced in prayer.

**Spiritual direction is a relationship that is going somewhere.** God is leading the person to deeper faith and more generous service. The spiritual director asks not just “what is happening?” but “what is moving forward?”

**The real spiritual director is God.** God touches the human heart directly. The human spiritual director does not “direct” in the sense of giving advice and solving problems. Rather, the director helps a person respond to God’s invitation to a deeper relationship. Learn more by contacting:  
*Rose Marie Talbot-Babey, M.A.A.T., C.S.D. (239) 283-0525 or rose@drexelcc.org*

## Saint Katharine Drexel Church

Is equipped with a Hearing Loop Assistive Listening System.

Please switch your hearing aid or cochlear implant to **T** (Telephone).



**Saint Katharine Drexel parish has a Formed subscription. To set up your FREE account visit [www.Formed.org/signup](http://www.Formed.org/signup) and select SKD parish.**

**FORMED brings beautiful and faithful Catholic content to parishes, families, and individuals. There is something for everyone here: award-winning studies and parish programs, inspiring audio content, movies, e-books, and family-friendly kid’s programming.**

## MASS INTENTIONS

### Monday, December 9: The Immaculate Conception of The Blessed Virgin Mary

9:00 am † Jim Chapp

6:30 pm † Maria Lazzizzera

### Tuesday, December 10: Our Lady of Loreto

9:00 am † Vincent Tomminelli

### Wednesday, December 11: St. Damasus I, Pope

9:00 am Mary Catharine Stack

6:30 pm Clementina Ciminati

### Thursday, December 12: Our Lady of Guadalupe

9:00 am † Raul and Carlos Pedraja

### Friday, December 13: Saint Lucy Virgin and Martyr

9:00 am † Bill Quartuccio

### Saturday, December 14: Saint John of the Cross, Priest Doctor of the Church

9:00 am † Vincenzo and Maria Ciaramella

4:00 pm SKD Parishioners

### Sunday, December 15: Third Sunday of Advent

8:30 am † Sue Wagener

10:30 am † Zoraida Delgado

12:30 pm † Ricky Arzate

## **Week of: November December 8, 2024**

### SKD Church Sanctuary Lamp

is lit this week in Memory of

**Ricky Arzate**

By Lily, Victoria, and Alia Moreno

\*\*\*\*\*

### Adoration Chapel Sanctuary Lamp

is lit this week in Memory of

**Helen and Blaine Varner**

By Eileen and Bennett Orlowski



The red Sanctuary Lamp by the tabernacle burns to remind us of the sacramental presence of Jesus Christ.

**Saint Katharine Drexel, pray for us.**

## ADVENT CALENDAR

**[ADVENT GIVING TREE - Return all Gifts by Wednesday, December 11 to the parish hall.]**

**Monday, December 9** – Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

**[Holy day of Obligation]**

9:00 am Mass and Confessions afterwards

6:30 pm Mass and Confessions afterwards

**Wednesdays, December 11 and 18** –

9:00 am Mass and Confessions afterwards

6:00 pm Confessions

6:30 pm Mass

**December 19 and 20** –

9:00 am Mass and Confessions afterwards

6:00 pm to 8:00 pm Confessions



**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

*Breakfast with Santa*

**December 14th**  
at 9:30 am to 12:00 Noon

**Snowman pancakes**

*Merry Christmas*

Free will offering

**Saint Katharine Drexel Parish – Phone: (239) 283-9501**

**Monday, December 9—Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**  
**[Holy day of Obligation]**

9:00 am—Mass and Confessions afterwards  
 6:30 pm—Mass and Confessions afterwards



**ADVENT INDIVIDUAL CONFESSIONS:**

**Wednesdays—December 11 and 18**

After 9:00 am Mass in Adoration Chapel  
 6:00 pm Confessions before 6:30 pm Mass

**Fridays—December 20**

After 9:00 am Mass in Adoration Chapel  
 6:00 pm Family Holy Hour with Confessions

**Saturdays**

After 9:00 am Mass and 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm  
**December 19 and December 20**

After 9:00 am Mass in Adoration Chapel  
 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm in Adoration Chapel



**December 24—Christmas Eve**  
**[1/2 Hour Sacred Music before each Mass]**

3:00 pm to 4:00 pm—Confessions  
 4:00 pm—Children's Mass  
 6:00 pm—Mass  
 12 Midnight—Mass

**December 25—Christmas Day**  
**[1/2 Hour Sacred Music before each Mass]**

8:30 am—Mass  
 10:30 am—Mass  
 12:30 pm—Mass



**December 31—Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God**  
 4:00 pm—Vigil Mass

**January 1—Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God**  
 9:00 am—Mass

**HAPPY NEW YEAR 2025!**





**Thanks to everyone who participated in the Feed My Starving Children Feeding Tree.**



Please drop off any remaining donations in our donation globe outside in the narthex.

Your Feeding Tree donations will fund 16,562 meals of our goal of over 180,000 meals.

Mark your calendar for **February 16-18, 2025** for our eighth annual MobilePack.

If anyone is interested in helping our core team plan and/or staff the event, please contact Barth Wolf at (920)621-6097 or [bjwolf816@gmail.com](mailto:bjwolf816@gmail.com). We can use your help and would love to have you join us!

## My 30+ years of Research on The Shroud of Turin

**Dec 12th @ 6pm**

at Our Lady of Light. Come and listen to one of the greatest Catholic Thinkers alive today. Register @

[www.FaithAndAle.com](http://www.FaithAndAle.com)

AND WE APPRECIATE YOUR DONATION OF \$10



**Russ Breault**

Founder of Shroud Encounter, Author,  
Speaker & International Expert

### MONTH 3 – Developing Baby -- “I can suck my thumb!” Spiritual Adoption Program

Your spiritually adopted baby is quite active in the womb now - - although his mother won't feel him for another couple of months. If his mother's womb had a window, you could watch your spiritually adopted baby squint, swallow and move his tongue. He can make a tight fist if you touch his palm. He is breathing amniotic fluid which continues until birth, although he obtains the oxygen his body needs through the umbilical cord. The baby you are praying for weighs one ounce. Early this month – at just 9 weeks – he began to suck his thumb.



**Psalm 139:14-16** - *"I praise you, because I am wonderfully made; wonderful are your works! My very self you know. My bones are not hidden from you. When I was being made in secret, fashioned in the depths of the earth. Your eyes saw me unformed; in your book all are written down; my days were shaped, before one came to be."*

### HOLY HOUR



Every Tuesday  
with the parish staff  
8:30 am Adoration  
in the SKD Chapel  
9:00 am Mass

**HAVE NO ANXIETY AT ALL  
BUT IN EVERYTHING,  
BY PRAYER AND PETITION,  
WITH THANKSGIVING,  
MAKE YOUR REQUESTS  
KNOWN TO GOD.**

*Philippians 4:6*

## SIMBANG GABI 2024

The Filipino-American Association of Southwest Florida (FAASWF), a 501c(3) Corporation, cordially invites you to attend the **SIMBANG GABI** on **December 15, 2024**, Sunday, starting with a *Mass* at 4 pm at the Saint Katharine Drexel Catholic Church at 1922 SW 20th Ave, Cape Coral, FL 33991. The Mass will be followed by a *Potluck Reception* at the Parish Hall.

This **SIMBANG GABI** is a long-treasured Philippine Christmas tradition that was originally a series of 'dawn masses' for nine consecutive days before Christmas Day. Here in Cape Coral, we modified this tradition into only one day focused on the original objective of the celebration. For information, you may contact: Jeanne Isberto (239)747-4568

# HELP MAKE A CHANGE!



## DIAPER DRIVE

The 3rd Sunday of Every Month

### Anniversary Blessings Saint Katharine Drexel Parish *Offers Blessings and Congratulations to it's Couples Celebrating their Anniversary*

*Americo and Yvonne Rosato*  
65 Years  
December 12, 2024



*Kent and Tonda Monnin*  
10 Years  
December 2, 2024

Would you like to include your Anniversary in our bulletin? Please send your information to [bulletin@drexelcc.org](mailto:bulletin@drexelcc.org).

### "Rosary for Life"

"The power of the Rosary is beyond description," said Venerable Fulton Sheen. It's a potent, saint-making prayer. A spiritual weapon so powerful it has defeated armies and changed world history. It can resolve personal problems, rescue souls from eternal death, and conquer despair.

But so few of us make the most of its graces. Now is the perfect time to unlock the power of the Rosary and grow in holiness.

Please join us to pray the "Rosary for Life" on **December 13, at 12:00 Noon** in the Saint Katharine Drexel Chapel.



### Pope Francis prayer Intention for December 2024 - For pilgrims of hope

*We pray that this Jubilee Year strengthen our faith, helping us to recognize the Risen Christ in our daily lives, and that it may transform us into pilgrims of Christian hope.*

#### Abuse Reporting

An allegation of sexual abuse of a minor by anyone should be reported immediately to: **Florida Department of Children and Families Child Abuse Hotline: 1-800-96abuse (800-962-2873)** or visit <https://reportabuse.dcf.state.fl.us>.

**If the alleged abuser is a diocesan employer/clergy/volunteer,**  
also notify Victim Assistance Coordinator – Susan Benton at (941) 416-6114





# Saint Katharine Drexel Parish Pilgrimage to **MEDJUGORJE**

## October 13 - 21, 2025

**\$3,099 per person**  
from Fort Myers (RSW)

*\*All pricing based on double occupancy.  
Pricing available from any airport: [www.206tours.com/airports](http://www.206tours.com/airports)*



**Spiritual Director:**  
**Father Ricky Varner**

**Group Leader:**  
**Jeff Nicholson,**  
SKD Parishioner



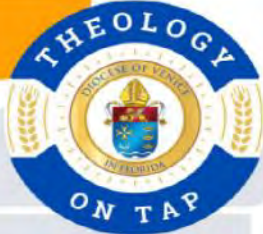
**INFORMATION SESSIONS in the Parish Hall:**  
**Thursday, December 12, 2024 @ 10:00 am**  
**Wednesday, January 8, 2025 @ 6:30 pm**



[natasha@206tours.com](mailto:natasha@206tours.com)  
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FAITH & FUN!**

**DEC  
19  
THUR**



**Bishop Frank J. Dewane**

**7PM-  
9PM**

**Most Reverend  
Bishop  
Frank J.  
Dewane:  
Q & A**

[dioceseofvenice.org](http://dioceseofvenice.org)



## Humble Beginnings

As the birth of our Lord approaches, I reflect on the idea of why we celebrate Christmas. In the American culture, is it because of the gifts? Is it because of the flashy sales? No. It is about the humble beginnings of Christianity. Mary and Joseph were not rich, so when the Archangel Gabriel appeared to Mary and told her that she was to be the mother of God, it must have come as quite a shock. I would definitely freak out if I were in her position. Yet her answer to the angel was a very humble yes. Her faith and belief that God would provide, helped her to her fiat (her yes).

I was curious as to why Luke's account of the Annunciation was chosen for the Gospel on the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. I found that the Marian apparitions to a peasant in Mexico City, Juan Diego, could draw comparisons to the Annunciation. Juan Diego listened to Mary's request for a church to be built in her honor. Juan Diego went to the Archbishop who at first didn't believe him. Juan's faith persevered, and he met with Mary on different occasions until his uncle fell ill, so he went to take care of him, just like how Mary went to Elizabeth. Mary appeared to Juan Diego on his journey to tell him that his uncle was healed. She then performed a miracle to help convince the Archbishop to build a small chapel where the apparitions were. Just like the miracle of Jesus's birth initiated the building of Christianity.

With Christmas so close, Our Lady of Guadalupe calls us to reflect on the humble beginnings of the Church and how we should reflect on our own faith to be able to answer the call from God and say yes. *By Ben Hooper*

## Pray for Our Military

ENS Nicholas Brasacchio USN  
SPC Joe Cecil USA  
A1C Matthew J. Clarke USAF  
Lt. Col. Zachary Robert Clarke USAF  
Maj Michael J. Clifford ARNG  
SFC Steven J Cole USA  
1LT Brent Cox, III, USA  
Maj Hayes M. Cozza USMC  
Capt. Santino E. Cozza USAF  
AM3 Jayden Curr USN  
A1C Hunter Daly, USAF  
ENS Tyler Dunnagan USN  
PVT Zachary Dunnagan USA  
Sgt Evan Fancher USMC  
AB Hannah Fenske USAF  
Maj Shaun Floersch USAF  
Lt. Col. James Hannigan USA  
SN Hannah Hayes USCG  
1st Lt. H. Matthew Hernandez USMC  
Capt. Jesse Hudson USA  
Capt. David J. Jacobs USAF  
SSgt. Richard K. Jones USAF  
Capt Armand Kalugdan USA  
PVT Kole Kalisch USA  
SSgt Kole J. Koontz USAF  
Lt Col Joseph M. LaPointe USA  
SGT James Losh USA  
MSgt. Brian Lynn USMC  
SSgt Jonathan Mamott USAF  
SGT Michael Mercer, Jr. USA  
Capt. Andrew J. Mix, USA  
LCpl Mark Moreno, USMC  
RCT Anthony J. Muriel USA  
SFC Juan Carlos Ortiz-Lopez USA  
LT. David Orłowski USN  
PV2 Joseph Patton USA  
SPC Kobey Payne USA  
GySgt Paul L. Perez USMC  
SGT Alexander Private, USA  
TSgt Taylor M. Purvis USAF  
Lt Col Tim Ravas, USAF  
Lt Col Christopher Richardella USMC  
Capt Patrick Riley USA  
CPL Gabriel J. Roesler USMC  
PFC Robert Theodore Rosso USMC  
SPC Iliana I. Ruiz USA  
LT. Dean N. Rye USN  
AB Kelsey Santini USAF  
CPL Anthony Saracino, Jr. USMC  
SGT Nicholas Sbarra USA  
PFC Steven Stotler USA  
SGT Aaron J Seminara USMC  
ENS Seaman Jeremy Sheppard USN  
PV2 Alexzander Smith USA  
1SG Maverick Sutton USA  
SN Andrew Tank USN  
CPT Christopher Turley USA  
SGT Madison Valdivia USA  
TSgt Erika Velasco USAF  
LT. Robert C. Volski USN  
CPT Garrett Wadsworth USA  
SPC William A. Wallace USANG  
AB Zachary Wheeler USAF  
ENS Alex Wowk USN

Email to [bulletin@drexelcc.org](mailto:bulletin@drexelcc.org)



# A Walk with Jesus for Grieving Parents

ONE DAY RETREAT  
**Saturday, January 18, 2025**  
 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM  
 Saint Maximilian Kolbe Church  
 1441 Spear Street, Port Charlotte, Florida



This Catholic retreat, led by Deacon Henry de Mena, M.A., a grief counselor with over 20 years experience, offers a safe place to seek peace and comfort.

\$20 Registration Fee Includes Lunch & Materials

REGISTER ONLINE:  
<https://dioceseofvenice.regfox.com/2025-grieving-parents-1-day-retreat>

or scan QR Code:



Office of Family Life • James Gontis, [gontis@dioceseofvenice.org](mailto:gontis@dioceseofvenice.org)

# Venetian Ball '25

Saturday, March 22, 2025

Parish Life Center  
 St. Leo the Great Catholic Church  
 Bonita Springs, Florida

Delight in an elegant evening of cocktails, stories of perseverance and hope, dinner, auction, and dancing.

Proceeds will benefit programming in Lee, Hendry and Glades Counties.

6 p.m. Cocktails - 7 p.m. Dinner  
 Tickets are \$250 per person



For information please contact  
 call 239.342.1620,  
 email [venetianball@ccdov.org](mailto:venetianball@ccdov.org)  
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