



**Mother Katharine Drexel Guild**  
**SISTERS OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT**

*newspaper & photo enclosure removed*

**"Abide in the Vine"**



*Motherhouse · Saint Elizabeth's Convent -* **CORNWELLS HEIGHTS · PA.**

August 8, 1964.

Mr. Click Relander,  
3701 Commonwealth Road,  
Yakima, Washington.

My dear Mr. Relander :

Your letter of August 2 addressed to the Secretary of the Chancery of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, was forwarded to us for reply.

I am enclosing herein a copy of our Archdiocesan paper announcing the Opening of the Process for the Beatification of Mother Katharine Drexel. The issue includes an account of some of the missionary labors of Mother Katharine.

As you request, a photograph similar to the one accompanying the printed text is enclosed herein.

You may be interested also in the copies of THE PEACE-MAKER and will note that it is just seventy-five years since Katharine Drexel entered upon her life-work.

If you unearth any letters over her signature, Mr. Relander, in your research, will you kindly communicate with us? I can well believe the records are "meagre" which date back to those days. I would be grateful, however, for a copy of any information you find. For several years prior to 1889 our Mother Foundress, while yet a lay woman, was helping many Indian missions. Ordinarily, we would have no record of such aid as the windows, nails and paint for St. Mary's, White Swan. She may have given a donation with which these items were purchased.

Would you care to receive THE PEACE-MAKER at each quarterly issue? We are desirous of having many, many prayers offered for Mother's Beatification. We can send prayer-cards to those interested in thus promoting her Cause. God reward you!

Sincerely in the Blessed Sacrament,

*Mother M. David*

Mother Mary David, Mother General





A  
Quarterly  
Message

# THE PEACE-MAKER

— To Promote the Cause of Mother Katharine Drexel



Volume One

April, May, June, 1964

Number 1

## Opening of the Beatification Cause of Mother Katharine Drexel, Beloved Philadelphia Foundress

ON FEBRUARY 28, 1964, THE CATHOLIC STANDARD AND TIMES, Official organ of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, carried this news:

ARCHBISHOP JOHN J. KROL yesterday announced the beginning of the ordinary process toward the cause of beatification of Mother Mary Katharine Drexel, foundress of the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament for Indians and Colored People, whose motherhouse is located at Cornwells Heights Pennsylvania.

Father Nicholas B. Ferrante, C.S.S.R., stationed at the Motherhouse of the Redemptorist Order in Rome, has been named postulator for the cause; Father Francis J. Litz, C.S.S.R., St. Peter's Church, Philadelphia, will be Vice-Postulator. Both Father Ferrante and Father Litz are serving in similar capacities for the cause of Blessed John N. Neumann, fourth Bishop of Philadelphia, who was declared blessed by Pope Paul VI last October 13.

The announcement by the Archbishop of Philadelphia focuses attention on the Philadelphia-born religious who died March 3, 1955, in her 96th year and the 65th of her religious life. . . . The story of Mother Katharine is the story of a great woman who devoted her life and fortune to the Indians and Negroes of the United States.

ON FEBRUARY 28, 1889, seventy-five years earlier, Bishop James O'Connor, Vicar Apostolic, of Omaha, Nebraska, one-time Rector of the Seminary of St. Charles Borromeo, Overbrook, and Pastor of St. Dominic's Church, Holmesburg, wrote to his former parishioner, Katharine Drexel, now aspiring to enter the religious life:



Katharine Drexel of Philadelphia

"I was never so quietly sure of any vocation, not even of my own, as I am about yours. If you do not establish the order in question you will allow to pass an opportunity of doing immense service to the Church, which may not occur again. . . . It is only a matter of history that every great need that arose in

the Church, called into being a new Order. . . . God, not you, will do the work. He often makes use of weak instruments. The question is not—will you be all that you should be, but—does God will that you be His instrument. . . . I regard it as settled that you are to establish a new Order, and I shall go to Philadelphia merely to arrange details. The Church has spoken to you, through me, her unworthy organ, and you must hear her." . . .

Sanctifying grace that had inspired Katharine Drexel to wish to give her worldly goods to help the missions, and to give herself as a simple religious in some existing Order, now enabled her to overcome her natural diffidence and distrust of self. On the Feast of St. Joseph, March 19, she wrote to Bishop O'Connor: "The Feast of St. Joseph brought me the grace to give the remainder of my life to the Indians and Colored—to enter fully and entirely into your views as to what is best for the salvation of the souls of these people. . . . It was only this morning that I could promise Our Lord to please Him by entering fully into your plan of founding an order. As long as I look on self, I cannot. Our Lord gives and will give me the grace always to look at Him. . . ."

On May 6, 1889, Katharine Drexel entered the Novitiate of the Sisters of Mercy in Pittsburgh, to train for the religious life and the exercise of the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy in preparation for the work of the new Order.



## Rome and Philadelphia Postulators for the Beatification Cause

Reverend Nicholas B. Ferrante, of the Motherhouse of the Redemptorist Order in Rome, has been named Postulator for the Beatification Cause of Mother Mary Katharine Drexel. The Vice-Postulator is also a Redemptorist Father, the Reverend Francis

J. Litz, of St. Peter's Church, 1019 North Fifth Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. It will be the task of Reverend Father Litz to assemble all writings and other information in preparation for the ordinary process which has just been opened in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia.



Rev. Nicholas B. Ferrante, C.S.S.R. (left) and Rev. Francis J. Litz, C.S.S.R.

Father Ferrante and Father Litz were similarly associated in advancing the cause of Bishop Neumann, Fourth Bishop of Philadelphia, whose Beatification took place on October 13, 1963, the Holy Father Pope Paul VI proclaiming the saintly prelate Blessed John N. Neumann.

It is of interest to note that the canonist who aided Mother Katharine when in Rome in 1907 for the Approval of the Rule of her Congregation, was also a Redemptorist, the Reverend Joseph M. Schwarz. In later years Mother Katharine was often heard to express her gratitude for the assistance rendered by Reverend Father Schwarz on that occasion, and attributed to his unflagging labors the success of her mission for she had the happiness of returning to Philadelphia with the approval she had sought for her Constitutions and the joy of having knelt at the feet of the Holy Father, now St. Pius Tenth and heard him say: "I bless your Constitutions."

## Remarkable Woman of God

(Guest Editorial)

The announcement that steps are being taken to promote the beatification of Mother Katharine Drexel will come as welcome news to the many persons who knew and loved this remarkable woman of God.

Everyone who knew Mother Katharine will admit that she would be the person most disinterested in such a project. Even though Divine Providence had placed her in the midst of riches, and the draw toward pomp and circumstance could have been great for Katharine Drexel, display and prominence were far from her mind. She was not the least bit interested in personal acclaim. She was interested in her community, and in her work for the missions, but what she did was known by God, and for her that was enough.

The cause of Mother Katharine, however, serves as a forceful reminder and a strong reproof to those who would belittle the work of the Church for the Indians and the American Negroes. Those who loudly protest that nothing is being done, and nothing has been done, and nothing will be done unless their own pet projects become first and foremost on any program, should look quietly and earnestly at the magnificent work of this gentle Philadelphia woman.

Almighty God permitted Mother Katharine length of years to see how the work she started had expanded and flourished. Inspiring, indeed, is the chronicle of her unceasing labors for God. Her faith never failed; her hope never faltered; her charity leaped to new heights with the exact performance of her many duties of administration. She not only planned for the missions; she went there herself, and never spared herself the personal hardships of missionary labors.

Millions of people who never knew Mother Katharine personally, but who shared in the benefits of her charity and personal service, must call her blessed. Those who knew this remarkable woman will surely ask God that one day she may enjoy the honors of the altar. In Mother Katharine's characteristic way, she would remind us that such a decision is entirely up to God, and to His Church, and we must wait the answer, which will come in due time. That was her way—and it must be ours.

Reprinted by courtesy of The Philadelphia

CATHOLIC STANDARD TIMES, issue of Feb. 28, 1964



## Reverend Mother M. Anselm's Invitation

To all the Friends of the BEATIFICATION CAUSE  
of Mother Mary Katharine Drexel:

It is a pleasure to send to you this first issue of THE PEACE-MAKER, to facilitate the gathering of the writings, and a wider distribution of the prayer-card. By reciting the prayer we shall be united in thanking God for the goodness of our Most Reverend Archbishop Krol in opening the Cause, also in begging God for its successful termination.

The title of our quarterly message was suggested by the words of the two prelates associated in the beginning of Mother Katharine's great work. A week prior to her entering the Novitiate, Bishop O'Connor sent her a greeting for the Feast of St. Catherine of Siena with the wish:

**"May your holy Patroness obtain for you the grace to be a peace-maker among the races, as she was among the nationalities."**

The Most Reverend Archbishop Patrick John Ryan, who presided at her reception on November 7, 1889, and attended the Centenary Celebration of the American Hierarchy in Baltimore the following week, addressed the august assembly in these words:

**"On Thursday last, in the quiet convent chapel of the Sisters of Mercy in Pittsburgh I could well imagine, ranged on each side of the chapel, representatives of the three different races, — on one side the Indians and Colored; on the other the white race that oppressed both. They gazed at each other with no fraternal love. And then I saw, going out from the ranks of the white race, a fair young virgin. Approaching midway between the two contending lines, she knelt before the illuminated altar and offered her great fortune, her life, her love, her hopes, her ambitions, for the Indian and Colored Peoples. She seemed the prophetess of reparation and conciliation between the races. Silently she offered her young heart to God and only sighed that He might accept the sacrifice, and that, until the grave shall receive her, all she possesses or shall possess may belong to God and to His despised and neglected ones."**

Be sure that we, the spiritual daughters of Mother Katharine, will keep you in all our prayers especially before the Blessed Sacrament. May God bless you always in all your ways.

Sincerely in the Blessed Sacrament,

*Mother M. Anselm*

Mother M. Anselm, Mother General



Reverend Mother M. Anselm at Mother Katharine Drexel Convent among the Palomar Indians, California. (left to right) Mother M. Infanta, Reverend Mother Anselm, Mother M. Jerome, Sister Marina; (second row) Sister Marie Duchesne, Sister Thaddeus Marie

## The Congregation Founded By Mother Katharine Drexel

THE SISTERS OF THE BLESSED  
SACRAMENT FOR INDIANS AND  
COLORED PEOPLE—

**Motherhouse,** Juniorate, Novitiate,  
Blessed Sacrament College,  
1663 Bristol Pike,  
Cornwells Hts., Pennsylvania 19020

**Local Houses,** as follows:

ALABAMA: St. John Baptist, Mtgy.

ARIZONA: St. Michael's, St. Michael's; Tekakwitha Indian School, Houck

CALIFORNIA: Our Lady of Fatima, Fresno; St. Agatha's, Los Angeles; Mother Katharine Drexel Convent, Pala

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA: Holy Redeemer, Tekakwitha House

GEORGIA: Our Lady of Lourdes, Atlanta; St. Peter Claver, Macon

ILLINOIS: St. Anselm's and St. Elizabeth, Chicago

INDIANA: St. Monica, Gary

LOUISIANA: Xavier University, Xavier Prep; Corpus Christi, Epiphany, Holy Ghost, St. Monica, St. Peter Claver, New Orleans; Sacred Heart, and Immaculate Heart, Lake Charles; St. Mathilda, Eunice; Our Lady of the Assumption, Carencro; Mother of Mercy, Church Point; Mother of Mercy, Rayne; Notre Dame, St. Martinville; St. Edward, New Iberia

MASSACHUSETTS: Blessed Sacrament, Boston

MISSISSIPPI: St. Therese, Gulfport; Mother of Sorrows, Biloxi

MISSOURI: St. Bridget of Erin, St. Louis

NEW JERSEY: St. Bartholomew, Camden

NEW MEXICO: St. Catherine, Santa Fe; San Jose, Laguna

NEW YORK: St. Charles, St. Joseph's, St. Mark's, New York City

OHIO: St. Ann, Cincinnati; St. Edward and St. Adalbert, Cleveland; St. Dominic, Columbus

OKLAHOMA: Immaculate Conception, Pawhuska

PENNSYLVANIA: St. Catherine, St. Ignatius, Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament, Phila.; St. Michael's Mission Center and St. Michael's Convent, Torresdale; Holy Providence House, Cornwells Heights

SOUTH DAKOTA: St. Paul's, Marty

TENNESSEE: St. Vincent's, Nashville

TEXAS: Sacred Heart, Pt. Arthur; Blessed Sacrament, Beaumont; St. Therese, Orange

VIRGINIA: St. Francis de Sales, Powhatan

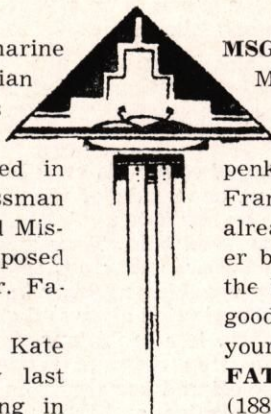




## From the Letters of Indian Missionaries to Reverend Mother M. Katharine Drexel

**BISHOP MARTY, O.S.B.** to Mother Katharine (then Miss Kate Drexel) whose first Indian school was on Rosebud Reservation, and was named "St. Francis" in memory of her father, Francis Anthony Drexel, who died in 1885, the year of these letters. "Father Lessman wishes to take the Pine Ridge and Rosebud Missions where the Sioux Indians are well disposed and settled firmly, about 10,000 in number. Father Willard starts for Rosebud this week."

**FATHER GEORGE WILLARD** to Miss Kate Drexel. "I arrived at Rosebud Agency last Wednesday evening. Thursday after trying in vain to get a team, I solved the difficulty by walking out here. Some said it was 8 miles, but if I counted the distance by the fatigue of the walk I say it was 10 miles. . . . However, I was amply repaid by the sight of the building. As far as I can judge, the house is well built; it seems to be very solid, put up in such a way as to stand secure in a strong prairie wind. . . . I cleared out a room for a temporary chapel, and built a little temporary altar and I said the first Holy Mass in St. Francis Mission today, Nov. 1, All Saints' Day. I suppose now all the Saints will take some interest in this Mission. The Sioux Indians seem well disposed. They were told I am the Vicar General, which they interpreted to be some kind of a 'Big Chief' and they have been arriving in crowds to see me; they express their thanks for a school building and they promise to send their children here to the **Black Robe School**." (From Archives, Motherhouse, Cornwells Heights, Pa.)



**MSGR. J. A. STEPHAN, BCIM Director** to Miss Kate Drexel (1886). "I feel so rejoiced about the success of our Indian Mission, like a little boy with his marbles, a new penknife and boots. It is not a year since St. Francis was started, and behold all you have already accomplished. May our heavenly Mother bless and protect you and may she give you the best of health, long life to accomplish much good and that you may see the ripened fruit of your devoted labor."

**FATHER P. HYLEBOS** to Miss Drexel (1885). Her first gift to the Indian Missions was a large beautiful statue of Our Lady. She later built St. George's Indian School for the Puyallup Indians of Washington Territory. "When the Indians saw the statue they were silent. I left them undisturbed in their meditation. If the statue was too large, I proposed sending it to the larger church in Tacoma. The Chief stood and said: 'Father, we will keep it. This big statue will speak to our hearts better than a little statue, and we can think better of our Mother in Heaven. We never before knew how to think of the Blessed Virgin Mary; now we can think that she has a Crown of Stars, and that the little Jesus has the world in His hand with His Cross to save us all. We want to pray now.'"

**FATHER PAUL PONZIGLIONE, S.J.** to Miss Kate Drexel (1886). "We reached St. Stephen's, Wyoming June 30 and began our missionary work on the first. We brought with us provisions for 20 days. The Indians visit us and beg for food. They are so poor."

## Your Intentions Will Be Faithfully Remembered

Readers are invited to specify their intentions or give the number of intentions they wish to be remembered.

**SISTERS OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT**  
**1663 Bristol Pike, Cornwells Heights, Pa. 19020**

Kindly remember my intentions as follows (specify or give the number):

(Name) .....

(Address) .....

(City and State) .....

**N.B.**—If a particular favor is granted, kindly notify the Rev. Vice-Postulator of the Mother Katharine Drexel Cause, 1019 N. 5th St., Philadelphia, Pa. 19123 or address the following:

Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament  
1663 Bristol Pike  
Cornwells Heights, Pa. 19020





A  
Quarterly  
Message

# THE PEACE-MAKER

— To Promote the Cause of Mother Katharine Drexel



Volume One

July, August, September, 1964

Number 2

## The "Glory" and the "John of Baltimore" Sail to Philadelphia

Sea-faring vessels, crossing the Atlantic, the "Glory" and the "John of Baltimore," weighing anchor in the Delaware, despite the lapse of half a

century between their sailings, patterned the destiny of the maternal and paternal forefathers of Katharine Drexel of Philadelphia.

**Aboard the "Glory"**—THOMAS LANGSTROTH, as the English ship entered the Delaware and sailed up toward the port of Philadelphia, beheld with admiration the farms fringed by woodlands aglow with autumn splendor. Sent by his grandfather on business to the new world, the young man intended to return to Langstrothdale in Yorkshire, England. Thomas, now 22, decided to make his home in Philadelphia. The year was 1767. Thomas married Catherine George of Germantown. Twelve children blessed the union. Of the sons, Piscator married Eliza Lehman, and raised two sons, Benjamin and James, and two daughters. The Langstroths were members of the Church of the Brethren, but both daughters married Catholics. Hannah Jane Langstroth became the wife of Francis Anthony Drexel, and Elizabeth Langstroth the wife of Fortunato Joaquin Figueira, of Portugal and Philadelphia, where he and Francis Drexel had become close friends.

**Sanctuary Church of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary.**

**Aboard the "John of Baltimore"**—FRANCIS MARTIN DREXEL wrote of himself, "I was born

### Aboard the Bark of Peter

FRANCIS ANTHONY DREXEL, eldest son of Francis Martin Drexel of the Austrian Tyrol, was united in marriage to Hannah Jane Langstroth, granddaughter of Thomas Langstroth of Yorkshire, England, by the Very Reverend Charles I. H. Carter, V.G., pastor of the Church of the Assumption, Philadelphia, on the 28th of September, 1854, the year of the Promulgation of the Dogma of the Immaculate Conception. The couple made their home at 433 Race Street, near the banking office of Drexel & Company. Elizabeth, their first daughter, was born August 27, 1855, and baptized at the Assumption Church by Very Reverend Father Carter. On November 26, 1858, the year of the Apparitions of Our Lady at Lourdes, France, the second daughter, Catharine, was born. The child was destined to found a new Order in the Church, dedicated to the evangelization of the Indians and Colored People. Because of her frail health and the grave illness of her mother the infant was given private Baptism the day after her birth. On December 29, 1858, the ceremonies of Baptism were added in the Assumption Church by the Very Reverend Father Carter. The sponsors of Catharine Drexel were her father's brother and sister, Joseph and Mary Johanna Drexel. Her mother died the next day.



April 7, 1792, at Dornbirn, Vorarlberg, Austrian Tyrol, near Lake Constance. My father, Franz Joseph Drexel, was extensively engaged in commercial pursuits." Francis preferred, and studied the arts, excelling in portrait-painting. Francis was 25 and the year 1817, when he boarded the "John of Baltimore" in Amsterdam bound for America to spend "a year, maybe two, even six." The ship completed its course up the Delaware to the Port of Philadelphia, July 27, and "we anchored opposite Calowhill Street, in the stream," Francis noted. He found friends, among them "Anthony Hookey whose fourth daughter Catharine I married 23rd of April, 1821, being Easter Monday." The Drexels were blessed with six children. Francis Anthony, eldest of three sons, was taken into his father's banking firm as partner, at the age of 13. The firm prospered. Francis Anthony Drexel married Hannah Jane Langstroth, granddaughter of Thomas Langstroth.



## Tribute of Reverence Paid by the Late Cardinal Dougherty to The Mother of Mother Katharine Drexel

**His Eminence, the late Cardinal Dougherty**, saw fit to pay reverent tribute to the mother of Mother Katharine Drexel. Having satisfied himself by existing evidence that Hannah Jane Langstroth Drexel had manifested from the time of her marriage the dispositions of a catechumen and was unconscious at the time of her death, His Eminence approved of the re-interment of the body in the crypt of the memorial chapel of the Shrine of the True Cross, Torresdale, Philadelphia. Accordingly, with the cooperation of the civic authorities, exhumation was made from the cemetery of the Church of the Brethren in Germantown, and re-interment the same day in the vault adjacent to that of Francis Anthony Drexel, her husband and the father of Mother Katharine.

By what seems an unique dispensation of providence, Hannah Langstroth and her sister Elizabeth, non-Catholics who married fervent Catholics, were mother and grandmother, respectively, of two foundresses, namely Mother Katharine Drexel, Foundress of the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament for Indians and Colored People, and Dona Luiza d'Andaluz de Santa Martha, Foundress of the Sisters of Our Lady of Fatima, of Santarem, Portugal.

As this issue of **THE PEACE-MAKER** was being prepared, a letter came from Dona Luiza, now in her 87th year, expressing for herself and her sister, Mother Maria Isabel who lived a long and saintly life as a nun in the Carmel of the Immaculate Conception, Pamplona, Spain, until her death in 1955, the joy that fills her heart at the news of the opening of the Beatification process of Mother Katharine: "Let us pray together although apart. I feel sure that our three Congregations (Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament, the Sisters of Our Lady of Fatima, and the Carmel of Pamplona) are by God's Will joined in some way. May our fervent and united prayers obtain the precious graces we so ardently desire and need for all of us, but above all the happiness of obtaining the approbation of the Cause of my dear Cousin, Mother Mary Katharine."

Among the happy memoirs mentioned in Dona Luiza's letter, some of which will appear in future issues of **THE PEACE-MAKER**, the greeting written in her own hand by Mother Katharine to her cousin on the Vow Day of Dona Luiza,

October 13, 1939, deserves place in this issue. (It may be mentioned here that Mother Katharine was sometimes heard to say with great compassion that Dona Luiza experienced many and great trials because of the troubled times in establishing her Sisterhood on a firm basis as was desired by the Cardinal Protector of the Order. The Vow Day of the Foundress was, therefore, an answer to fervent prayer in which Mother Katharine united with Dona Luiza and her Sisters. Later, the blessing of Pope Pius XII confirmed the approbation given to the work and was a further source of joy to both the cousins.) Of the Vow Day greeting, Dona Luiza wrote in her letter of May 30, 1964:



**Mrs. Hannah Jane Langstroth Drexel and  
her daughters Catharine (left) and  
Elizabeth Drexel**



In my missal, near Katharine's memorial card and prayer for the Cause, I have for a long time kept a small picture of Our Lady on which is printed: "May Mary's maternal vigilance accompany you in all your ways." Written by Katharine on both sides and gummed to the picture very neatly, I read:

The Right Hand, used to give and receive, is nailed far away out of reach, to the arm of the Cross, and thus loses all power of giving and receiving.

The Left Hand is nailed beyond the reach of any human touch, and the love of the human heart, consecrated and attached forever to the Cross. It is adorned with the ring of the Heavenly Bridegroom.

The Feet always ready to go to any place, now firmly fixed to the Cross by the vow of obedience, deprived henceforth of the will to come or go, or act at pleasure.

On the reverse side of the paper, Katharine wrote:

"To my dear cousin, Luiza, who by taking her vows is nailed to the Cross of Our Lord. October 13, 1939. From one begging your prayers.

'When you follow Mary you will not go astray,

When you pray to her you will not despair,

When you think of her, you will not err,

When she protects you, you will not fear.' "

—Words of St. Bernard

Friends of the Cause will be interested to know that Mother Katharine's greeting to her cousin on her Vow Day is a revelation of her ardent heart, stirred to its depths by the significance of the occasion which called forth that greeting, desirous of imparting to her cousin's spirit the exaltation which surged through her own. There is, as always, the special touch which was Mother Katharine's very own—invariably, such a greeting would be associated with the interest or life-work of the recipient, as in this case, the dedication of her cousin as Foundress of the Sisters of Our Lady of the Rosary of Fatima.



## A New Home...A New Mother...A New Little Sister

Where was Mother Katharine Drexel born? The name of the city does not satisfy inquirers. But it was a reasonable inquiry until it was conclusively answered through what would seem to be the collaboration of her father and her own mother. Many years after grief had closed the doors of that first home of Francis Drexel upon four years of happy wedded life, Mother Katharine received a small box from Drexel & Company. It was accompanied by the information that it had been found in a safe that belonged to the brothers Francis and Anthony Drexel who died in 1885 and 1893 respectively. The combination of the safe was lost, and the firm decided at length to force the safe to reveal its contents. This was done. The safe was empty except for an unlocked box which must have been placed there by Francis Drexel as its contents appeared to be associated with his first wife. Mother Katharine found in the box a small gold thimble, a gold lorgnette, some lovely rings and other jewelry, all bright as if reflecting a joy that they had been discovered at last. And then, Mother Katharine found a small card-case containing an engraved plate and a few visiting cards finely engraved with name and address: "Mrs. F. A. Drexel, 433 Race Street." It may be imagined with what love and reverence their daughter closed the box which had evoked cherished memories of a loving father and a little mother whom she never knew.

**Francis Drexel's second marriage.** At the death of Mrs. Drexel, Anthony Joseph Drexel and his wife, Ellen Rozet Drexel offered to take the infant and her little sister into their home and raise them with their own growing family. Joseph, the youngest of the three brothers, invited Francis to share with him his bachelor apartment. Divine Providence was shaping events, however. In April of 1860, Emma Bouvier, daughter of Michel Bouvier, of France and Philadelphia, became the second wife of Francis Anthony Drexel at Old St. Joseph's Church, Willing's Alley where Francis (born January 20, 1824) had been baptized on March 4, 1824. A new and beautiful home, at 1503 Walnut Street, in what was then a residential part of the city of Philadelphia, welcomed the new mother to whom Francis brought little Catharine and her sister Elizabeth. Mrs. Emma Bouvier Drexel received the children into her arms and into her heart and mothered them wisely and affectionately until God called her to her reward 23 years later at the age of fifty.

Meantime, on October 2, 1863, a third daughter was born to the family. They were then in their sum-

mer cottage in Fisher's Lane, Germantown, and Louise Bouvier Drexel was baptized at St. Stephen's Church, at Broad and Butler Streets. Little Catharine needed no persuasion to believe that her baby sister, arriving on the Feast of the Holy Guardian Angels, was indeed "The Angels' Gift," as she came to be called in the household, and such she proved to be in the years ahead.

**Balm for Aching Hearts.** Not to Francis only, but to the devoted parents of Hannah Langstroth Drexel, Emma Bouvier Drexel proved herself enduring balm for aching hearts. Without delay she arranged for weekly visits of the children to their grandparents in Germantown. Grandpa and Grandma Langstroth forgot their grief and bestowed on Hannah's children

the love they themselves had cherished for their mother. Many surprises were planned for the little girls who were presently joined by their cousins in the wonderful play-room Grandma had fitted up for them, and visits became part of all the ensuing years. As late as 1877, Catharine wrote to her former pastor, the Most Reverend James O'Connor, Bishop of Omaha, Nebraska, that Grandma, al-

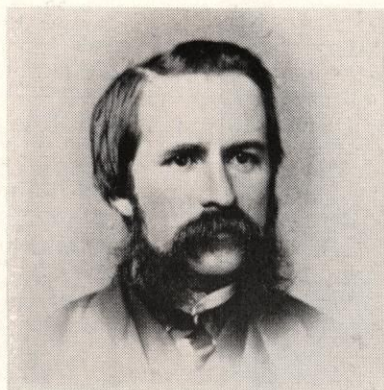
ways so strong and well, had suddenly lost her strength, and everybody was saddened by it. In her next letter she and her sisters had gone for a long ride on horseback, and had detoured to visit the cemetery of the Church of the Brethren to kneel and say a prayer at dear Grandma's grave.

### Keepsakes and Katie's Choice.

Mrs. Drexel treasured among souvenirs of the girls' childhood small gifts they had enjoyed,—Hans Andersen's Fairy Tales, a birthday gift to Katie "From Grandma," an autograph album in which friends and relatives had written beautiful autographs in fine penmanship. There were also such packets as Katie's first letters in French to "Dear Mama," telling how much she

loved her,—letters tied with white ribbon by the loving hands of "dear Mama." Among these mementoes was a character doll, a minstrel. The story of the minstrel was related by one of the playmates of the Drexel children who shared their fun at Grandma's. **En route** to Rome for the approval of the Rule of her Congregation, Mother Katharine, accompanied by Mother M. Mercedes, took advantage of a stop-over at Madeira, to visit her cousin, Madame Jardim, a daughter of Elizabeth Langstroth Figueira, who had married a lawyer and settled in Madeira. Incidents of the happy childhood days in America before her American mother and Portuguese father had taken her and her

(Continued on Page 4)



Francis Anthony Drexel



Emma Bouvier Drexel



The Drexel daughters: Catharine (left) Louise, and Elizabeth



## What Is the Mother Katharine Drexel Guild?

The **Mother Katharine Drexel Guild** is an association whose members are devoted to the advancement of the Cause of Beatification and the Canonization of Mother Katharine Drexel, S.B.S., and interested in providing the spiritual and material means for furthering the Cause.

There are three types of Memberships: annual, family, and life members. All members are encouraged to recite from time to time the short prayer for the beatification of Mother Katharine Drexel. They are also asked, if the opportunity presents itself, to visit and pray at the tomb of Mother Katharine. These spiritual aids are merely recommended and do not bind in conscience.



Sanctuary, Motherhouse Chapel, Cornwells Heights. Intentions commended are faithfully remembered in the prayers of all the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament, especially while on adoration before the Most Blessed Sacrament.

Members are invited to aid in the material support involved in furthering the Cause of Mother Katharine: the **Annual** Members by an offering of one dollar a year; **Family** members five dollars each year; **Life** members twenty-five dollars.

All members receive at various times in the year, **THE PEACE-MAKER**, as a means of promoting the Cause and informing friends of new developments therein.

Members also share in A SPECIAL MASS offered every week for their intentions general and particular; likewise, in an ANNUAL NOVENA offered for the members of the MOTHER KATHARINE DREXEL GUILD and their intentions.

**N.B.**—If a particular favor is granted, kindly notify the Rev. Vice-Postulator of the Mother Katharine Drexel Cause, 1019 N. 5th St., Philadelphia, Pa. 19123 or address the following:

SISTERS OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT  
1663 Bristol Pike — Cornwells Heights, Pa. 19020

### A NEW HOME . . . A NEW MOTHER . . . A NEW LITTLE SISTER (Continued from Page 3)

sister Anna (the mother of Dona Luiza) to Portugal, were Madame Jardim's topics of conversation with Mother Katharine's companion. One incident concerned the day when, as the Drexel children were leaving, Grandma told Katie to select any one of the dolls and take it home with her. There were many beautiful dolls in silks and satins. Katie thanked Grandma and walked resolutely to the little character doll, picked him up gently, and carried him home. Emma Bouvier Drexel heard the story from Grandma Langstroth. Motherlike, she had "kept all these things in her heart." Years later, her daughter Louise found, wrapped carefully in tissue paper in a neat box, the character doll in his trim red-and-white minstrel suit, his air of uncertainty still a challenge to any heart as compassionate as little Katie's.

## The Congregation Founded By Mother Katharine Drexel

THE SISTERS OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT FOR INDIANS AND COLORED PEOPLE—

**Motherhouse**, Juniorate, Novitiate,  
Blessed Sacrament College,  
1663 Bristol Pike,  
Cornwells Hts., Pennsylvania 19020

**Local Houses**, as follows:

**ALABAMA**: St. John Baptist, Mtgy.

**ARIZONA**: St. Michael's, St. Michael's; Tekakwitha Indian School, Houck

**CALIFORNIA**: Our Lady of Fatima, Fresno; St. Agatha's, Los Angeles; Mother Katharine Drexel Convent, Pala

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**: Holy Redeemer, Tekakwitha House

**GEORGIA**: Our Lady of Lourdes, Atlanta; St. Peter Claver, Macon

**ILLINOIS**: St. Anselm's and St. Elizabeth, Chicago

**INDIANA**: St. Monica, Gary

**LOUISIANA**: Xavier University, Xavier Prep; Corpus Christi, Epiphany, Holy Ghost, St. Monica, St. Peter Claver, New Orleans; Sacred Heart, and Immaculate Heart, Lake Charles; St. Mathilda, Eunice; Our Lady of the Assumption, Carencro; Mother of Mercy, Church Point; Mother of Mercy, Rayne; Notre Dame, St. Martinville; St. Edward, New Iberia

**MASSACHUSETTS**: Blessed Sacrament, Boston

**MISSISSIPPI**: St. Therese, Gulfport; Mother of Sorrows', Biloxi

**MISSOURI**: St. Bridget of Erin, St. Louis

**NEW JERSEY**: St. Bartholomew, Camden

**NEW MEXICO**: St. Catherine, Santa Fe; San Jose, Laguna

**NEW YORK**: St. Charles, St. Joseph's, St. Mark's, New York City

**OHIO**: St. Ann, Cincinnati; St. Edward and St. Adalbert, Cleveland; St. Dominic, Columbus

**OKLAHOMA**: Immaculate Conception, Pawhuska

**PENNSYLVANIA**: St. Catherine, St. Ignatius, Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament, Phila.; St. Michael's Mission Center and St. Michael's, Convent, Torresdale; Holy Providence House, Cornwells Heights

**SOUTH DAKOTA**: St. Paul's, Marty

**TENNESSEE**: St. Vincent's, Nashville

**TEXAS**: Sacred Heart, Pt. Arthur; Blessed Sacrament, Beaumont; St. Therese, Orange

**VIRGINIA**: St. Francis de Sales, Powhatan

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