



The Drexel Society, Inc.
Houston Chapter
NEWSLETTER
2026 March - April



From the Desk of President Elizabeth Owens:

Happy Easter!

A Joyful Easter to our members and all in our community who celebrate! Praise God for His indescribable gift! The celebration of Easter is the most important Christian holiday. It commemorates the resurrection of Jesus, who sacrificed so that Christians may have life with God after death. Easter with its themes of renewal, hope, generosity and community, presents a strategic opportunity for us to align our mission of service with meaningful seasonal engagement. Service is our Celebration:

- Embodying the message: Easter represents the high point of sacrificial love. *Serving* those in need allows us to move beyond words, turning the message of redemption into a tangible lived experience.
- Active Hope: The resurrection represents new life and overcoming darkness. Easter reminds us that *love* triumphs overall, bringing light after darkness. By serving we bring practical hope to our community, fostering renewal where it is needed most.
- Stewardship of Gifts: We see this season as a foundation for stewardship, recognizing our duty to *use our resources* to serve others, mirroring the love shown to us.
- Living the Mission: Instead of only observing, we choose to *act*, ensuring our daily mission of support is strengthened during this time of reflection.

By focusing on service, we turn the celebration of a risen Savior into a lived reality of love, redemption and service to our neighbors. May the miracle of Easter bring you peace, joy and renewed faith.

St. Katharine Drexel Feast Day – March 3, 1955

When Francis Anthony Drexel died in 1885, he left more than 114 million dollars to charity, not including the vast wealth split between his three daughters. In 1887, Pope Leo XIII suggested that Katharine become a missionary. She took up the name Mother Katharine and decided she would give herself and her inheritance to God through service to both Native Americans and African Americans. She wrote, *“The feast of St. Joseph brought me the grace to give the remainder of my life to the Indians and the Colored.”*

Interesting facts about St. Katharine Drexel:

- Mother Katharine established a religious congregation called the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament for Indians and Colored People
- In 1915 Katharine and the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament opened Xavier Preparatory High School in New Orleans, Louisiana. She then added a Normal School for training black educational instructors two years later.
- By 1942, St. Katharine Drexel had a system of black Catholic schools in more than 13 states, 40 mission centers, and 23 rural schools.
- She established 50 missions for Indians in 16 states according to Franciscan Media.
- Using her inheritance of \$7 million (about \$180 million in today's currency), she spent the next 60 years and an estimated \$20 million building missions, schools and churches for Native Americans and African Americans.
- She died on March 3, 1955, at 96 years old.
- Katharine Drexel was beatified by Pope John Paul II on November 20, 1988, when her first miracle through prayer, healing the severe ear infection of teenage Robert Gutherman in 1974, was accepted. She was canonized on October 1, 2000, when her 1994 miracle reversing congenital deafness in 2-year-old Amy Wall was recognized.

Happy St. Katharine's Day Mother Katharine from the Houston Chapter of The Drexel Society, Incorporated.

THANK YOU

Thank you to all who participated and attended the St. Katharine Drexel Feast Day Mass at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church, March 1, 2026. The Mass and message were a beautiful celebration of renewal, hope, love, generosity, forgiveness, and community. The planning, organization, and reception were well executed.



March 2026	April 2026
Katherine Davis 3/6	Odessa Broussard 4/13
Angela Duplechain 3/30	Shirley Jefferson 4/29
Karen Higgins 3/14	Patricia McQuarter 4/16
Burnelle Loche 3/26	Joyceleen Mott 4/22
Sharon Moore 3/5	Agnes Thompson. 4/20
Carole Phillips 3/11	Sheila Wiltz 4/29
Elizabeth Pollard 3/17	

Houston Chapter Prayer Breakfast

March 21, 2026

We look forward to seeing you at the annual Prayer Breakfast on March 21, 2026, prior to the beginning of the March meeting. Bring your prayer requests, whether for specific individuals or groups of people, for a cause, concern or endeavor, or for God's guidance, vision, empowerment or for each other, it will be a time to engage in meaningful prayer and reflection.

Lenten Season of Reflection - Invitations: All are Welcome

Lenten Revival at St. Philip Neri Catholic Church, March 1, 2026, at 5:00 p.m. and on March 2, 2026, at 6:00 pm.

Lenten Journey to the Cross, St. Dominic Center, Morkovsky Hall, Rm 204, February 28, 2026, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m..

Meeting and Refreshment Schedule:

Meeting Date	Refreshment Group	Meeting Location/Room#
March 21, 2026	St. Mary of the Purification	St. Dominic Ctr. – 2401 Holcombe Blvd., Morkovsky Hall, Room 202
May 16, 2026	St. Anne de Beaupre; Our Lady Star of the Sea; St. Vincent de Paul; Sacred Heart-Manvel	St. Dominic Ctr. – 2401 Holcombe Blvd., Morkovsky Hall, Room 202
July 18, 2026	St. Benedict the Abbot	St. Dominic Ctr. – 2401 Holcombe Blvd., Morkovsky Hall, Room 106
September 19, 2026	Our Mother of Mercy; St. Monica; St. Rose of Lima	St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church, 4600 Reed Rd., Harris Hall (Pending)
November 21, 2026	St. Philip Neri; St. Peter the Apostle	St. Dominic Ctr. – 2401 Holcombe Blvd., Morkovsky Hall, Room 104

Mark your Calendar

25th Biennial National Convention

Hosting Chapter: Breaux Bridge

October 2-4, 2026

Double Tree by Hilton Hotel – Hotel Lafayette

1521 West Pinhook Rd., Lafayette Louisiana 70503-3158

337-235-6111

Shared-cost bus transportation arrangements – pending

Houston Chapter

Meeting

St. Dominic Center

Morkovsky Hall

Saturday, March 21, 2026

Room 202

9:30 a.m.

AGENDA

Call to Order

Opening Ceremonies

- A. Welcome
- B. Opening Prayer
- C. Roll Call/Sign-in
- D. Adoption of Agenda

Minutes

Correspondence

Report of Financial Officers

- A. Financial Secretary
- B. Treasurer

Unfinished Business

- A. Presentation Charity Ball Update
- B. Convention – Update and Bus Travel

New Business

- A. Membership Committee
- B. Convention notes– Alabama Area Meeting
- C. Culture and Literacy Awards Committee
- D. Empower Wellness (Breast Cancer) Committee
- E. Sisters of the Holy Family
- F. Vision Board
- G. Dreams Alive
- H. Website Administrator (Nat'l Appointment)

Good of the Order

Announcements

Closing Prayer

Adjournment

Presentation Charity Ball Update:
The Presentation Charity Ball and Scholarship Program has been rescheduled

New Date: April 11, 2026, 8:00 p.m.

Location: Wyndham-Houston Hotel, San Jacinto Ballroom
8686 Kirby Drive Houston, Texas. 77054

Ticket availability: See Drexelaire Karen Higgins

Please advise your guests to arrive early, as no admittance will be granted until the promenade portion of the evening is concluded.

Thank You Houston Chapter

Again, deepest gratitude for all your dedication, hard work and unwavering support in making the Presentation Charity Ball an incredible success. Your commitment-whether through planning, volunteering or simply showing up with enthusiasm-helped create what we know will be an evening filled with joy, generosity and community spirit. Because of your efforts, and those of some generous donors, we will be able to continue this time-honored tradition of the charity ball and scholarship program and make a greater impact in the lives of those we serve. We are proud to have you as part of our mission and look forward to creating more meaningful charity ball events in the future.

Thank you to our generous donors for their contributions which have always been a crucial part in the success of our events. Thank you to all the collective efforts of all volunteers who dedicated countless hours preparing and organizing this event. Your continued support enables us to impact the lives of numerous individuals in and around our community. Finally, thank you for your kindness and commitment to making a difference.

RESOURCES:

- **Income Tax Return Assistance: TAX AIDE - FREE SERVICE**
AARP Foundation operates the AARP Foundation Tax-Aide program under a cooperative agreement with the IRS. **In order to help complete your tax return, AARP trained and IRS-certified volunteers will see personal information that you give them about your finances.** This information is strictly confidential and not shared with anyone except as necessary to accurately file your tax returns, as otherwise required by law. To learn more about free programs offered, you may contact them at taxaide@aarp.org or aarpfoundation.org/services or 888-227-7669 for a location near you. **IRS Tax deadline : April 15, 2026.**
- **Target Hunger Food Fairs – Free, open to anyone.** However, Houston Food Bank Food Distribution is for clients 60+ years. You must complete a registration form before receiving food, or plan to complete the form at the food fair.

TARGET HUNGER

Date	Location	Address
March 13, 2026	Fifth Ward MSC	4014 Market St. Houston, 77020
March 18, 2026	Kashmere MSC	4802 Lockwood Dr. Houston 77026
March 19, 2026	Valero	9701 Manchester, Houston, 77012
March 20 th , 2026	The Orange Show	5328 Gulf Fwy, Houston, 77023
March 26 th , 2026	Northeast MSC	9720 Spaulding St., Houston 77016
March 27 th , 2026	Fifth Ward MSC	4014 Market St. Houston, 77020

April 3, 2026	The Orange Show	5328 Gulf Fry., Houston 77023
April 9, 2026	Northeast MSC	9720 Spaulding St., Houston 77016
April 10, 2026	Fifth Ward MSC	4014 Market St., Houston 77020
April 15, 2026	Kashmere MSC	4802 Lockwood Dr. Houston 77026

HOUSTON FOOD BANK: Clients must be 60+ years old.

March 16, 2026	Kashmere MSC	4802 Lockwood Dr. Houston 77026
----------------	--------------	---------------------------------

MSC – Multi-Service Center

- **Clinic: Free Transfer on Death Deed (TODD) Clinic**, available to all residents who need information and assistance with executing a TODD. Registration is required.
 Part 1: Information Session – Wednesday, March 11, 2026, 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
 Part 11: Execution Session, Saturday, March 21, 2026, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
 Trinity Gardens Church of Christ, 7725 Sandra Street, Houston, Tx. 770160
 Call 713-520-5232 for more information.
- **Homebuyer Education:** Saturday, March 28, 2026, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
 Nubia Square Apartments Community Room, 3711 Southmore, Houston, Tx. 77004
 Get registered online : www.nrcdc.org. **Cost is \$25.00.** Registration includes breakfast and lunch.
 Call 713-520-5232 for more information.

Prayer for the Sick, Shut-in and Families of Deceased:

Please continue to pray for our members who are sick and/or shut in. Also, pray for the consolation of families of deceased members. *May the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.*

AWARDS:

Remember to submit names for Culture and Literacy Awards to Drexelaire Sylvia Carrier, sylvia77carrier@yahoo.com

BOOKS:

Don't forget to bring New Books to meetings and give them to Drexelaire Angela Duplechain

HEALTH & WELLNESS: - Tips for March 2026

- **Sleep & Time Change Prep:** Prepare for the March 2026 time change by shifting your sleep schedule earlier a few nights before.
- **Nutrition:** March is National Nutrition Month, which is the perfect time to focus on balanced, whole foods rather than restrictive dieting. Key 2026 trends include “eating the rainbow” for antioxidants, incorporating fermented foods (kefir, kimchi) for gut health, and prioritizing protein at each meal.
- **Physical Activity:** Counteract sedentary habits with “movement stacking”- short 5–10-minute bursts of activity throughout the day, such as stretching or walking. Aim for 15-minute brisk walks daily to reduce health risks.
- **Preventive Care:** Schedule annual check-ups to monitor long-term health, as 2026 focuses on proactive, consistent care.
- **Hydration=** Hydration, Hydration, Hydration. - stay hydrated. Aim to drink 64 oz. of water a day on days without heavy exercise or sun/heat exposure. Apples, cantaloupe, watermelon, cherry tomatoes oranges, celery and carrots all help you stay hydrated. Jumpstart Your Health.