

St. Katharine Drexel (1858-1955)

F E A S T
March 3

A Modern Woman

“She could have had anything,” said someone who knew Katharine Drexel. A lively, spirited woman, she was well known in the Philadelphia area, where her wealthy family lived. But, instead of living a life of privilege and luxury, Katharine Drexel chose a vow of poverty for herself. She used her fortune to help two groups that badly needed support: former slaves and American Indians. St. Katharine Drexel started an order of sisters who continue her work by teaching in poor areas and on Indian reservations. Katharine herself became a friend of Red Cloud, the famous Sioux chief.

Let's Write About It

1. Why would it be accurate to call Katharine Drexel a saint of social justice?

2. How can you become a champion—if not a saint—of social justice today and in the future?

