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Contact Name: Janis DeVore
Organization: St. Katharine Drexel Mission
Phone: (571) 330-8112
Email: jmsdevore@gmail.com
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Construction Well Underway on New Catholic Church in Haymarket

[HAYMARKET, VA] – Construction on St. Katharine Drexel Mission’s new church home on the corner of Waterfall Road and Route 15 in Haymarket, VA, is moving forward at an impressive pace since groundbreaking in March. This faith community, originally founded in 2000, plans to celebrate its first Mass in the new church in May 2024.

Located in Western Prince William County, St. Katharine Drexel Catholic Church will include a 300-seat worship space, sanctuary, altar, tabernacle, and preparation spaces. Fr. Christopher Murphy, pastor of St. Katharine Drexel Mission, notes that the church will allow parishioners to fully participate in sacramental life. In addition to celebrating both daily and Sunday Mass, “there will be the opportunity for quiet prayer with the Lord for those who visit the church,” shares Fr. Murphy. “We will have the ability to reserve Holy Communion for sick calls, and the church will also be equipped for the Sacraments of Baptism and Penance, with a baptismal font and a confessional. In the future, we will celebrate First Communion, Confirmation, weddings, and funerals.”

The church will also include an architectural highlight that preserves a treasured piece of Prince William County Catholic history. The church design features seven stained glass windows from the Benedictine Monastery in Bristow, originally part of the monastery’s hundred-year-old chapel.

St. Katharine Drexel Mission is partnering with local contractor Whitener & Jackson on this design/build project, working in conjunction with project manager Bonnie Vancheri from the Arlington Diocese Office of Planning, Construction and Facilities. “The framing of the building is complete, roof sheathing is in place with shingles going up shortly, interior walls are being erected, and VDOT has completed work on turning lanes and sidewalks. Our parishioners are starting to count down the weeks in anticipation of celebrating Mass in our own dedicated sacred space.” stated Tim Freeman, chairperson of the St. Katharine Drexel Mission building committee.

St. Katharine Drexel Mission currently has approximately 430 registered families and 1,500 parishioners. Since work began on the building, many new parishioners and area families have reached out to learn more and the community has seen an increase in those attending Sunday Masses at Battlefield High School, celebrated at 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM each Sunday.

Parishioners are excited to welcome more individuals and families to worship as they prepare to open the doors of their new church. “St. Katharine Drexel Mission is a call to all local Catholics to come home and help build the community that reflects Christ among us,” reflects Fr. Murphy.

“This path to building our own church has been a long time in the making,” adds longtime parishioner Casey Parker. “When my family and I moved to Haymarket in 2000, I was pregnant with my youngest daughter. I now look forward to her wedding, which will be one of the first in our new church building.”

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About St. Katharine Drexel Mission:

St. Katharine Drexel Mission is in the Catholic Diocese of Arlington, and is a Mission church of St. Stephen the Martyr in Middleburg, VA. The community first began celebrating Mass in Haymarket in September 2000 at the former Pace West Elementary School and currently celebrates Sunday Mass at 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM at Battlefield High School (15000 Graduation Drive, Haymarket, VA). The new church will be located at the corner of Waterfall Road and Route 15 in Haymarket, VA. Stay up-to-date on the latest church construction news through the Mission website at katharinedrexelcc.org or on Facebook at facebook.com/katharinedrexelcc.