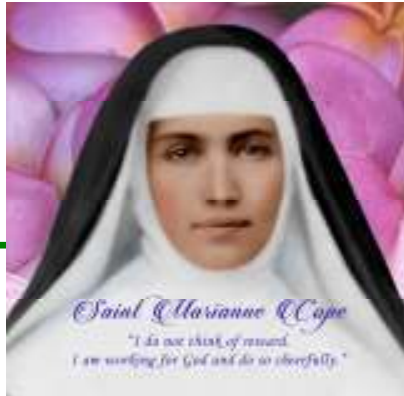


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At a young age, Katherine did not know what she was going to do with her life. She traveled all over the United States and Europe with her father. As wealthy and privileged as she was, her heart was moved by the Indians on reservations and the plight of Black people in our country.

On a trip to Nebraska to visit the Indian Reservations she met Bishop O'Connor, the Bishop of Omaha, Nebraska. Later he became her Spiritual Director. Please understand, in those days the method of communication was by letter. Even though she lived in Philadelphia he was spiritually directing her through letters.

Incidentally, I have several seminary (priest) classmates in Omaha. I have visited there several times. Because of Bishop O'Connor and some of Katherine Drexel's wealth, Omaha has one of the grandest Catholic Cathedrals in the nation. Its beauty is incomparable. It seats about 2,000 people! It is called St. Cecelia Cathedral and is the only Roman Catholic Cathedral named for St. Cecelia in the entire Western Hemisphere.

On a visit to Rome during a private audience with pope Leo X111 (1878-1903) Katherine was inspired by the Holy Father to enter the convent and become a nun to help the plight of the American Indian on reservations and Black , underprivileged peoples.

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Katherine's father died in 1885 leaving 85 million dollars to his three daughters. Eventually, Katherine's two sisters preceded her in death and Katherine received all the money which would be equivalent to 305 million dollars today. That's why she is known as the "Richest Nun in the World".

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All the reasons we should join in celebration of these two saints.

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March 10, 2024



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**St. Joseph Statue:  
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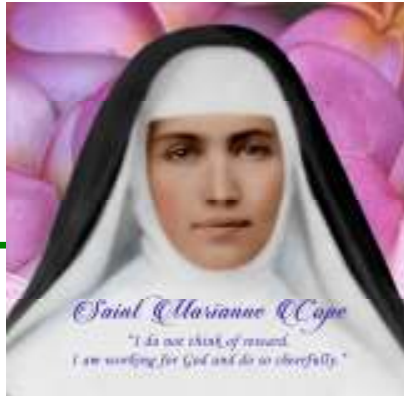


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