

Saint Katharine's Kids!

In Honor of Our Patron Saint, Saint Katharine Drexel

HELPFUL HINTS FOR PRE-TEEN AND TEEN HELPERS (AGES 10 AND UP)

Thank you for your involvement in the **Saint Katharine's Kids!** Program! We are excited to have you with us for an hour of fun and learning! We look forward to working together with you to make this program successful for everyone!

A **Saint Katharine's Kids!** Helper is an essential ingredient of the **Saint Katharine's Kids!** recipe for success. We are mixing together religious teachings, craft activities, stories and fun. Next, we blend in 2 friendly adults and 2 pre-teen/teen helpers to guide the children through the hour. We value your presence tremendously!

Volunteer Applications and Training - Young Helpers (ages 10 and up)

Please complete the Archdiocese of Baltimore Application for Volunteer Services. You may use teachers and neighbors for the Reference section. For more information or to obtain a copy of the Volunteer Application, please contact Laura Weber, Director SKD Faith Formation (SKDFormation@adelphia.net), phone 301 360-9581, or visit the Archdiocese of Baltimore Website (www.archbalt.org/stand).

What Does the Pre-Teen/Teen Helper Do?

You are a very important part of the **Saint Katharine's Kids!** hour because you have the opportunity to help each child on an individual level. Your role will be to gently guide children when transitioning from one activity to another, help them through craft activities (e.g., cutting, pasting, coloring), and provide lots of TLC. They will look to you for help and support during our hour together. The catechists and catechist assistants will look to you for help when setting up activities, making transitions, or giving TLC to children not having a good day.

TIPS for being helpful: To allow the children to have fun while learning about our shared religion and beliefs, you can be most helpful by keeping these guidelines in mind:

- Get down on the same level as the child (i.e., kneel down or sit on floor with them).
- Do not force the children to participate in a craft – allow them to choose. If they choose not to participate, please help them find another quiet activity (coloring, looking at a book).
- Be open to the child exploring their craft on his/her own terms. Helping them use glue or select the desired crayon color will help them be successful. Try not to do the work for them.
- Some children may have trouble separating from their parents. Be comforting for these children and allow them time to get comfortable in the room. This may mean distracting them with a book or a toy or just sitting with him/her.
- Be aware of what the catechist and catechist assistants are trying to accomplish with the children. Look for ways you can help achieve the goal. For example, if it is time for a Bible Story, help the children get seated in a group on a sit-upon or rug square.
- Please keep the children as your primary interest during the **Saint Katharine's Kids!** hour. This will help them get the most out of the lesson, and allow you to learn more about them.

Other Information Sources

Please feel free to request a copy of the Resource section of the **Saint Katharine's Kids!** Lectionary. It provides helpful information on working with this age group. Contact the parish office at stkatharinedrexel@adelphia.net or by phone at 301-360-9581