



Kateri
Tekakwitha



Stained Glass
Window of
Kateri
Tekakwitha at
St. Gerome
Church

BLESSED KATERI TEKAKWITHA

"STAR OF THE NATIVES"

1656-1680

Kateri Tekakwitha, born in 1656 of an Algonquian Indian mother who was a devout Christian and a Mohawk chief who remained a pagan was beatified in 1980 by Pope John Paul II. In accord with the matrilineal traditions of her people Kateri belonged to the Algonquin nation Although she was brought up in the anti-Christian surroundings of the Mohawk community in Ossernenon, in what is now Auriesville, N Y , Kateri held fast to the faith of her mother Both her parents and her brother died in a plague and though Kateri survived the ravages of her illness, it left her delicate for the rest of her life.

Those who had charge of her hated the Christian missionaries and Kateri was persecuted because she refused to give up her Christian way of life "I want to be a Christian, even though I should die for it," she said Her foster parents deprived her of all food on Sunday because she would not work in the fields on that day. Beatings, continual criticism, sarcasm and mockery were her constant lot They tried to force marriage on her but she was inspired to remain a virgin and after she became a Christian she took a vow of virginity.

In time, Kateri made her way to Caughnawaga, a community of Christians There she led a life of intense Christian virtue until her death in 1680 at the age of 24. Her renown for heroic sanctity soon spread and many miracles have been worked through her intercession.

Kateri Tekakwitha followed the generation of Saints John de Brebeuf, Isaac Jogues and Companions thus bearing out the ancient Christian saying that "the blood of martyrs is the seed of Christians"

Novena Prayer to Blessed Kateri

Kateri, favored child and Lily of the Mohawks, I come to seek your intercession in my present need: (mention it).

I admire the virtues which adorned your soul: love of God and neighbor, humility, obedience, patience, purity and the spirit of sacrifice. Help me to imitate your example in my state of life. Through the goodness and mercy of God, Who has blessed you with so many graces which led you to the true faith and to a high degree of holiness, pray to God for me and help me.

Obtain for me a very fervent devotion to the Holy Eucharist so that I may love Holy Mass as you did and receive Holy Communion as often as I can. Teach me also to be devoted to my crucified Savior as you were, that I may cheerfully bear my daily crosses for love of Him Who suffered so much for love of me. Most of all I beg you to pray for me that I may avoid sin, lead a

holy life and save my soul.

AMEN

In Thanksgiving to God for the graces bestowed upon Kateri:
One Our Father
Hail Mary
Three Glory Be's
Kateri, Lily of the Mohawks, pray for me.

From Fr. Lovasik's book: KATERI OF THE MOHAWKS