

NO. 139

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COMPLIMENTS

of the

Kahnawake

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CLUB



KATERI

NO. 139

THE MARIE FÉLICITÉ ROLL

LITTLE BROTHER WANTS TO KNOW ...

KATERIGRAM

CHRIST GLORIOUSLY RESURRECTED

EACH NEW MOON

THE BEATIFICATION DECREE

KATERI TEKAKWITHA

SR. KATERI WRITES ...

VENERABLE!

(Continued)

KATERI'S LIFE IN TWELVE TABLEAUX

MEMO FOR OUR LEGISLATORS

CORRESPONDENCE

LILY OF
THE MOHAWKS

Spring • 1984

Kahnawake, P.Q., Canada



Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha

Kateriana obtainable from the
Office of the Vice-Postulation
(The Kateri Center)
Box 70, Kahnawake, P.Q., Canada
J0L 1B0

ISSN 0315-8020



Medals

Mat silver-Plated: 50¢
Aluminum: 10¢

Kateri Prayer Cards and Pictures

1. Sepia (brown), by Sculptor E. Brunet (5" x 2½"): 5¢
2. Colored, by Sister M. Fides Glass in Spanish only (4¼" x 2¾"): 2 for 5¢
3. Colored, by Mother Nealis (4¼" x 2¾"): 10¢
4. Colored, by Mother Nealis (13¼" x 9¼") for framing: \$1.00
5. Colored, by John Steele (4" x 3"): 10¢
6. Colored, by John Steele (6½" x 5") for framing: 25¢
7. Colored, by John Steele (24½" x 18½") for framing: \$4.00

Touch Relics

1. Small Kateri pictures with silk applied to relics: 50¢

Kateri Plaques

1. Ceramic plaque on mushroom-colored tile (4" x 4") by Daniel Lareau: \$3.50
Daniel Lareau: \$3.50
2. Plaque, plastic case with prayer (2½" x 1½"): \$1.65

Novena

In the form of a short biography: \$1.00

Statues

1. In hydrocal, ivory or bronze finish (6½"): \$10.00

Books

In English — *The Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha* by Henri Béchard, S.J., 20 pp., illustrated: \$1.00
In English — *Kateri Tekakwitha*. With a Prefatory Note of John Cardinal Wright, by Francis X. Weiser, S.J., hardcover: \$8.00; paperback \$6.00
In English — *I am Indian* by Gualbert Brunsman, O.S.B.: \$1.00
In English — *The Original Caughnawaga Indians* by Henri Béchard, S.J., hardcover: \$14.00
In French — *L'Héroïque Indienne Kateri Tekakwitha* by Henri Béchard, S.J.: \$10.00
In French — *L'Astre dans la nuit, Kateri Tekakwitha*, by Rachel Jodoin: \$14.50
In German — *Das Mädchen der Mohawks*, by F. Weiser, S.J.: \$10.00

Special

In English — *In the Early Dawn*, The Story of the Indian People in the days of the first Missionaries, Editor James S. McGivern, S.J.; \$1.90 postpaid
In English — *A Shining from the Mountains*, by Sr. Providentia, S.P.: \$7.00

Kateri Seals

A sheet of 36 seals: \$1.00

Sympathy Cards

You will find the Kateri Sympathy Cards in perfect taste, beautifully printed and very convenient to have at hand. Try them and see. To the bereaved family, the Vice-Postulator will be happy to send a note of sympathy.
One box of twelve cards: \$2.50. Each yearly enrollment in the Kateri Guild: \$2.00

Subscription to "Kateri"

Two dollars a year. Please renew your subscription yearly.

WHEN ORDERING, PLEASE ALLOW THREE WEEKS FOR DELIVERY.



KATERI, No. 139

Vol. 36, No. 2

AIM

1. Our quarterly bulletin, *Kateri*, published by the Kateri Center, intends to help you obtain favors both temporal and spiritual through the intercession of Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha. It is hoped her Canonization will thereby be hastened.
2. It aims to increase the number of Kateri's friends and to procure from them at least one daily Hail Mary for her Canonization.
3. It seeks also your donations, for without them practically nothing can be done to make Kateri known and to have the important favors attributed to her intercession examined and approved.

CONTENTS

Each issue of "Kateri" contains:

1. One or several pages on Kateri's life and virtues;
2. News from Kateri's friends everywhere;
3. The account of favors due to her intercession;
4. News concerning the native peoples of America, with special reference to the people of Kahnawake and their friends.

BENEFITS

Your contribution (\$2.00 a year, or more, if possible) enrolls you among "Kateri's Friends" for whom:

1. A weekly Mass is offered;
2. A weekly Mass for deceased friends is offered;
3. The Vice-Postulator prays at his daily Mass;
4. The spiritual treasure of the good works of the Society of Jesus is opened;
5. Extra graces are merited by working for Kateri's canonization.

MARCH 1984

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THE MARIE FELICITÉ ROLL

Marie Félicité, married at fifteen, was neglected by her husband. She remained faithful to him despite his lengthy absences, and worked hard to feed her children. Her purity of heart and her perfect service of the Lord merited her favors fragrant with mystical love.

1. Mrs. Mary Smith Engel
2. Capt. Richard Engel, U.S.N.
3. Miss Carolyn Wessman
4. A Soul in Purgatory
5. Mr. Marc-André Fortin
6. Mrs. Séverine Martel Grenier
7. Mrs. Peter John McNamee
8. Mr. Blais LeBlanc
9. A Soul in Purgatory
10. Mr. David Cormier
11. Mrs. Philomène Cormier
12. Mr. Guy David
13. Mr. Frank Cassellis
15. Mr. Philippe Tremblay
16. A Soul in Purgatory
17. Mr. Jean-Paul Bertrand
18. Mrs. Juliette Foy-Binet
19. Mr. John J. Moran
20. Mr. Joseph Kephart
21. Mrs. Lydia Painchaud
22. Mr. Francis McQuillan
23. Mr. Emile Demers
24. Mr. Aurel Brisebois
25. Mr. Simon Denis
26. Mrs. Denise Lamy
27. Mr. Alfred Nadeau
28. Mr. Clayton Dutchie
29. Rev. Antonin Bélanger
30. Mr. Joseph Muloin
31. A Soul in Purgatory
32. A Soul in Purgatory
33. Mrs. Joseph Mercurio
34. Miss Dorothy Seminara
35. Mr. Joseph C. Leonardo

36. Mrs. Clarence Henry
37. Mr. Joseph Seguin
38. Mr. Edgar Bourque
39. A Soul in Purgatory
40. Mr. Rénald Tremblay
41. Mr. Ernesto T. Tan
42. Mr. Aimé Arcand
43. A Soul in Purgatory
44. Mrs. Rose Haynes
45. Mrs. Madeleine Robinson
46. Mrs. Margaret Paul
47. Miss Violette Parenteau
48. Mr. Robert St. Martin
49. Mr. Séverin Boyer
50. Mrs. Fernande Tremblay-Hovington
51. Mr. Bruno Pelletier
52. A Soul in Purgatory
53. Mr. Aldhémar Senev
54. Mr. Donat Aspirault
55. Mr. David Ford, Sr.
56. Rev. Joseph Bérard
57. Mrs. Mary Olson
58. Mr. James Moran
59. A Soul in Purgatory
60. 9 Soul in Purgatory
61. Mr. James Pealey
65. Mr. Donat Ross
66. Mrs. Veronica O'Rourke
67. A Soul in Purgatory
68. A Soul in Purgatory
69. Mr. Robert Therrien
70. Mr. Paul Girard
71. Mrs. Alice Desjardins
72. Mr. Mathias Huot
73. Mrs. Catherine Walsh
74. Mr. Normand Mailloux
75. Miss Simonne Girard
76. Mr. Maurice J. Legault
77. Mr. Daniel Courchesne
77. Mr. Henry Goulet
79. Mr. Valère Pelletier
80. Mrs. Anna Tremblay
81. Mr. William Adams
82. A Soul in Purgatory
83. A Soul in Purgatory
84. A Soul in Purgatory
85. A Soul in Purgatory
86. A Soul in Purgatory
87. Mr. Lionel Lord
88. Mr. Elzéard Lampron
89. Mr. Fortunat Chabot
90. Mrs. Mary Swank
91. Mr. Olaf Feese
92. Miss Verna Trehwella

✿ Kateri's smile upon you, Mrs. J.L.!

Enclosed is a five dollar bill I promised Kateri if she would help my husband, who had surgery. He could not cough up the phlegm and I didn't want him to choke. Kateri helped. Thank you, Kateri.

(Windsor, Ont.)

✿ Kateri's smile upon you, Mrs. V.B.!

Enclosed, please find a check for ten dollars to be used for Kateri's Cause. I am thanking her for answering my prayers for a healthy baby.

(Flushing, NY)

(When acknowledging favors to Kateri, be sure to indicate details.)

✿ Kateri's smile upon you, Mrs. M.B.!

I am enclosing a check of ten dollars to Kateri for her intercessions followed by several favors granted to me, including controlling my diabetes with the diet plan and just recently having a physical that didn't show any bad results. Thank you, Kateri.

(Munnsville, NY)

✿ Kateri's smile upon you, Mrs. M.A.T.!

Enclosed you will find a money order for fifty dollars which I am sending to Blessed Kateri in thanksgiving for a great favor received. I said I would send fifty dollars for the miracle of her canonization and pledge three Our Fathers and three Hail Marys each day if she would cure an illness I had, which she did. Thanks so much, Blessed Kateri!

(Fredericton, N.B.)

✿ Kateri's smile upon you, Mrs. M.C.!

I am enclosing ten dollars to apply on the thirty I promised if my daughter-in-law passed the Real Estate Exam and got her license. She got the license a week ago and we are very happy. Ask Our Blessed Kateri to help her get some good deals as it will mean a lot to the family. I know Kateri will help her. Kateri has been very good to me and I am grateful and thank her every day.

(Lakewood, OH)

✿ Kateri's smile upon you, Mrs. J.D.S.!

Blessed Kateri was pleased to obtain a baby-sitter for my niece's new son, so that she could go back to work. Her mother quit her job and is baby-sitting her new grandson. My brother had prayed to Blessed Kateri to obtain the baby-sitter.

(Arlington, TX)

✿ Kateri's smile upon you, Sr. M.M.!

I have a nephew, 24 years old, who has been wanting to be a priest, but his mother is ill, unable to care for herself. A severe case of diabetes has made her blind and has affected her brain, so R. has to take care of her, especially when his father is gone, which is very often. R. is hoping for some sign that God wants him as a priest. We have been praying to Ste. Theresa of the Child Jesus and Our Lady of the Sacred Heart for his mother's cure but as yet nothing happens. I am now asking you if you will have your readers pray for this woman's cure which, I know, is impossible as nature goes but which is not impossible for God. I have read in LEAVES where you are looking for 50,000 promises of a daily Our Father and Hail Mary towards the canonization of Kateri Tekakwitha. We, the nineteen undersigned Sisters, have pledged one Our Father and one Hail Mary daily for the above intention.

(Flushing, NY)

(When acknowledging favors to Kateri, be sure to indicate details.)

Little Brother wants to know...



Please send yours to:
The Kateri Center
Box 70
Kahnawake, P.Q.
Canada J0L 1B0

MY PLEDGE TO KATERI

Date

I, the undersigned, pledge to offer up each day one Our Father and/or Hail Mary until the miracle needed for Blessed Kateri's canonization is obtained.

Name
Street or Box
City or Town
Province or State Code
Country Telephone

...if you won't help us get at least 50,000 promises of a daily Our Father and Hail Mary!

We need them to obtain from the loving Heart of Jesus the speedy canonization of Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha

Already 12,146 pledges have come in.

The Kateri Sympathy Cards !

5 good reasons
for having a
box on hand
all the time:

On the occasion of the death of a relative or friend, all you have to do is to sign a card and send it to the bereaved family.

We confirm your sympathy offering with a personal letter, and enroll the departed one in the Kateri Guild, for whom,

1. A Weekly High Mass is offered at the Mission of St. Francis Xavier;
2. An Intention is included daily in the Memento of the Vice-Postulator's Mass;
3. The Treasury of the many Masses read each month for the benefactors of the Society of Jesus is opened;
4. A Share in the good works of the Jesuits throughout the world is assured;
5. Participation in the merits gained in helping the Cause of the Lily of Mohawk's is guaranteed.

Write to the Kateri Center, Box 70, Kahnawake, P.Q., Canada for a free sample card.

One dozen cards
boxed: \$2.30.

Each yearly enrollment in the Kateri Tekakwitha Guild; two dollars.

SEND IN YOUR INTENTIONS NOW

Spiritual

- ☐ Love of God
- ☐ Conversion
- ☐ Peace of Soul
- ☐ Resignation in Trials
- ☐ Vocations
- ☐ Faithful Departed
- ☐ Happy Death
- ☐ Obedience to the Holy Father

Temporal

- ☐ Position
- ☐ Health
- ☐ Lodging
- ☐ Financial Aid
- ☐ Happy Marriage
- ☐ Happy Delivery
- ☐ Good Friends
- ☐ Success in Studies
- ☐ Peace in World

Other Requests

YOUR INTENTIONS SHALL BE FORWARDED TO FATHER ANTHONY ROUSSOS, S.J., ON JUNE 1. AT BETHLEHEM, ISRAEL, HE WILL CELEBRATE NINE SOLEMN MASSES FOR YOU IN THE BEAUTIFUL BYZANTINE LITURGY. (NO OFFERING REQUIRED.)

KATERIGRAM

THE LORD called Blessed Kateri to Himself during Holy Week 1680. She was aware that she was going to the Father's House. She knew that there she would celebrate Easter with the good Master gloriously resurrected. With Pseudo-Hippolytus, she would have readily sung, "O universal joy, honor, feasts, delight: the shades of death have lifted, life is given back to all, the doors of heaven are open! God has become man and man has become God . . . It is the Pasch of God, the God of heaven in His liberality united Himself to us in the Spirit, the immense wedding hall is full of guests. All are wearing the nuptial robe, none are thrown out for not having put it on. Easter!"

This is the source of the joy that suffused Blessed Kateri during her last moments. Her death was that of a privileged soul. "After a little less than half an hour of agony," noted Fr. Cholenec, her spiritual director, "she expired peacefully as if she had fallen peacefully asleep . . . Her face, which had been wasted by her illnesses and by her continual austerities, appeared so changed and so agreeable a few minutes after her death, that people who were present could not sufficiently show their astonishment and that one would have said that a ray of the glory, which we have every reason to suppose that she took possession of, was reflected on her body."

For three centuries, Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha has been carrying her message everywhere. The Cross, certainly, but not the Cross without Christ on it; the Cross, royal road to resurrection! God became man in suffering and in death, man became God in Christ gloriously ascended to the Father. It may even be put forward that Blessed Kateri inasmuch as she was a glorious member of the Mystical Body of Christ is intimately linked to His divinity.

And there you have her message: by way of the tortuous path of trials and suffering, an integral part of human life, we must Christify ourselves, we must deify ourselves with a view to universal joy, to honor, to divine feasts, to delight with Jesus gloriously resurrected, in short, with our hearts full of Easter everlasting!

Does it not devolve upon the friends of "good Kateri" to relay her Easter message to the whole world? First of all by making better known the Mohawk Maiden, even if only by disseminating the modest Kateri quarterly, and then like Kateri by drawing closer to Jesus in the Holy Eucharist and to His Blessed Mother.

✻ **Kateri's smile upon you, Mrs. H.S!**

Please find a donation enclosed. I promised to publish the favor obtained for my oldest daughter who went through open heart surgery seven months ago. She came through the operation very well. We still need more prayers that her pulse beat may be more normal, for it is still too fast. Also for some of our married children and for the health of my husband and myself, that our blood pressure may be kept under control. We pray each day to Our dear Lord and His Blessed Mother, for Blessed Kateri's canonisation. Thanks with all our heart!

(Stayner, Ont.)

✻ **Kateri's smile upon you, Mr. J.O.C.!**

Thank you to Blessed Kateri once again! This time for helping make a quick transition to training for new and better employment. Please find an offering enclosed.

(Pendleton, OR)

✻ **Kateri's smile upon you, Mr. P.C.!**

Enclosed is a check for twenty-five dollars, which I promised Kateri for her Cause in answer to my prayers for a safe and happy delivery of my granddaughter's baby. Thanks to her intervention my granddaughter had a beautiful baby girl and we are all ecstatic with joy. My thanks to Kateri for all her many favors.

(Astoria, NY)

✻ **Kateri's smile upon you, Sr. M.C.!**

I am 88 years old and a member of the Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha Guild. I am enclosing fifty dollars in thanksgiving. I promised this when our Sister Caroline who is 80 years old, fell 2 years ago. Her welfare is my deep concern. She was in the hospital for some months, then in an Extended Care facility. Finally she is with the Sisters of St. Ann in their Residence for the older Sisters. This is what I have wanted for Sister Caroline—to have the opportunity of daily Mass and Communion. I thank God—and here is my Thank-Offering.

(Duncan, B.C.)

**A FEW HUNDRED FIRST
DAY COVERS OF THE
KATERI TEKAKWITHA STAMP
REMAIN: \$1.50 EACH.**

**MASS STIPENDS
IN THE DIOCESE OF
ST-JEAN-DE-QUÉBEC
\$10.00 or \$3.00**

(When acknowledging favors to Kateri, be sure to indicate details.)



PHOTO JOHN MAHONEY

CHRIST GLORIOUSLY RESURRECTED

CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD
34, 34th Avenue, Lachine, P.Q.

○ Easter great and all holy, O Christ,
○ Wisdom, O Word of God, O Strength,
Grant that we may be united to You
In greater truth
On the unending day of your Kingdom.

Byzantine Liturgy

EACH NEW MOON



KATERI'S SMILE...

Favors registered at the Kateri Center from November 1, to January 25, 1984:

Alcoholic Problems Solved	2
Articles Found	8
Better Health	5
Businesses Sold	1
Cures	43
Employment Found or Kept	44
Financial Aid	2
Happy Deaths	1
Lodgings	7
Peace in Families	1
Properties Bought or Sold	5
Safe Pregnancies	4
Safe Trips	6
Saved from Fires	1
Successful Studies	5
Successful or Averted Operations	15
Temporal Favors	22
Articles Sold	2

TWENTY-FIVE PRAYER PLEDGES OR MORE

Mrs. O. F. Kavalac, Cincinnati, (OH), 32; Mrs. F. McColgan, Chalk River, (Ont.), 48; Mrs. Philomene Richard, Orleans, (Ont.), 50.

NO ROSE GARDEN

"I didn't promise you a rose garden!" The Canadian Post certainly didn't promise me a rose garden nor did it give me one. In Montreal, since last December, its procrastination has been holding up the winter issue of *Kateri*, which you should have received nearly two months ago (at the time of this writing). Kindly pardon me for not having more influential friends able to expedite matters...

FAITH-SHARING IN KAHNAWAKE



Sr. Roseline

In February, 1983, the Diocese of St. Jean, Longueuil, Quebec invited their people to join together and spend a weekend at the Retreat House on St. Bernard Island in Châteauguay, Quebec. We were to be initiated in the Parish Renew Program.

Shortly after, we, at St. Francis Xavier Mission joined in prayer to form a small nucleus of six persons to pray for the success of Renew in our Diocese and on our Reservation. Soon after, other persons joined us and by the month of May, we were as many as 18 persons coming together on Tuesday evenings to pray, to sing the glory of God, and to share and to study the Scriptures.

In July, 1983, the Pastor of Kahnawake, Father Leon Lajoie, S.J., had received literature on the 6th Summer Institute on Amerindian

Christian Leadership, to be held at Thunder Bay for the Native Indian people. Among the objectives of this summer Institute, one could read:

"to find light, guidance, courage and strength to fulfill our responsibility as Native people in responding in our way, expressing faith our way, living the Gospel our way."

Our Pastor made a leap into faith! He did not know how to finance the representatives of this Reserve. Nevertheless, he quickly contacted six people and asked them if they were interested in this type of study. They all agreed to go. It was through the generous gift offering of: *THE CATHOLIC CHURCH EXTENSION SOCIETY of TORONTO*¹ that our people were able to go. They financed the complete trip and since then, they also gave an offering to help us meet the expenses for the Renew Program. Without the help of this Society, there is no way we could ever have paid this debt. So to Msgr. Roy A. Carey, President of this organization, as well as to the Benefactors of this group goes our most heartfelt gratitude.

The trip to Thunder Bay did not go without seedlings! . . . Our delegation came back elated! They were quite impressed by what they had seen, heard, and witnessed. They also had attended a Prayer Session and they came to realize that our Indian people were no different from anyone else . . . they, too, had been called by name and they, too, shared God's gifts and they also had been made heirs to His kingdom.

At the request of the members of our Faith-Sharing Group and moved by the Spirit, they wanted to share with their brothers and sisters, a part of what they had seen and heard in Thunder Bay; so, we soon began making plans for a weekend. This marked the beginnings of our Kahnawake Kateri Days. It lasted for two complete days. Mr. Gene Bannon, an Ojibway Deacon from Thunder Bay, was invited for the weekend. His topic was: "On Being an Indian and a Christian" Another invited guest was our well-known, Father Henri Béchar, S.J., the Canadian Vice-Postulator for the cause of Kateri. Father's talk was entitled: "Dialogue on Kateri Tekakwitha—Her Spirit of Hope." *The Singing Prayer Group* of Richard Sayers from Blind River, Ontario led us in prayer and in song.

It was on Sunday, October 9, that we witnessed sadness and joy. Sadness to see our friends leave for their respective Reserves but joy in having brought peace, joy, and reconciliatory opportunities to all. The trip to Thunder Bay had paid off!

Today, the Faith-Sharing Group continues. We have an adult group of 15 to 18 persons, and since a few months, we also have the youth group, teenagers who meet for the same purpose. They are searchers in quest of answers to their identity, to their doubts, to their assertions. This is a most promising group under the leadership of Fr. Jacques

1. This is an organization which helps the Home Missions in all kinds of needs; an organization which is working for the underprivileged brothers and sisters. We, at the Mission in Kahnawake, can assure you that your offerings to the Catholic Church Extension Society really reach out to those in dire need.

Nicole, S.J. and Mrs. Beverley De-lormier. It was Beverley's dream and . . . she brought it to a reality. **BRAVO!**

In time, Fr. Béchard heard about the Faith-Sharing Group. He gives us, on a weekly basis, all the names of Kateri's friends who are seeking Kateri's intercession. We carry these persons and all the intentions of our Reservations, in our hearts and in our prayers. One must not forget that Kateri, too, was part of a Faith-Prayer Group. She, too, united with friends to seek God's intercession for the gift of faith, of peace and good will towards all. *Onen!** . . . We will meet you in spirit at our evening of prayer.

Sister Roseline Gagnéux, S.S.A.
Coordinator

* Good-bye!

KATERI RETREAT ON P.E.I.



PHOTO SR. GEMMA DUNN

Pictured above (from l. to r.): Fr. Lawrence Smith, S.J., Bishop James MacDonald, and 2nd row, (from l. to r.): Mr. John Joe Sark, Fr. Georges Coutlee, C.S.S.R., Fr. Ven de Ven, Fr. Henri Béchard, S.J. and Mr. Joseph Nicholas.

The third Kateri Retreat, made available to the Micmac people of P.E.I., was held at St. Anne's Parish on the Micmac Indian Reserve on Lennox Island, November 25-27,

1983. Native people from Scotchfort Indian Reserve on P.E.I. and from Big Cove Indian Reserve in N.B. travelled here to participate in the weekend retreat.

The retreat was under the direction of Rev. Lawrence Smith, S.J., of Maine and was ably assisted by Joseph Nicholas, also from Maine. We were most delighted to have Rev. Henri Béchard, the vice-postulator responsible for promoting the canonization of our Blessed Kateri, spend the weekend for us. His love for people and his devotion to Kateri's Cause, was admired by many.

The theme of our retreat was: "Discovering Jesus as Indian Catholics Today." Talks and liturgical celebrations were held at the church, while discussions, film presentations, and a youth session were held in the school. Despite the gales, which battered our community, retreatants "blew to the church" for each succeeding session.

The highlight of the weekend retreat was the beautiful closing Sunday liturgy celebrated by our own Bishop James MacDonald of Charlottetown. People from the Scotchfort Reserve transported their beautiful Kateri statue for the celebration. Alan Francis from Lennox Island with his brother Brian Francis from Rocky Point Reserve provided guitar music for the Mass. Our own Sr. Cecilia Keizer led the singing of the hymns while 11-year-old Andy Sark sang the Responsorial Psalm. Four young Micmac girls dressed in traditional costumes were chosen to carry the gifts of offering. Following the liturgy, everyone joined in a reception and lunch at the school.

John Joe Sark, a native person living in Fort Augustus, P.E.I., was largely responsible for the planning and organization of the retreat and for finding accommodations for visiting retreatants. Thanks are due also to the Native Women's Group of Lennox Island for providing lunches, to all the people who welcomed visitors into their homes, and to all persons who provided meals during the retreat.

Our prayer is that this retreat will bring many graces and blessings to native people here and elsewhere. May Kateri smile upon you all.

Sr. Gemma Dunn, S.S.M.
Lennox Island, P.E.I.

A NEW STATUE OF KATERI



From Kalamazoo, Michigan, Sculptor Gerald Westgerdes writes: "Enclosed are two photos of a sculpture I recently finished. This artwork, commissioned by St. Edward Catholic Church, Mendon, Michigan, is my interpretation of Blessed Kateri as an adult Mohawk woman

twenty-three or twenty-four years of age. I chose this period of her life because I felt that she grew more saintly with each passing day. I attempted to capture her sense of prayerful longing to be nearer to Christ. I hope I have succeeded in some measure . . ."

DID YOU KNOW THAT...

Fr. Mendl, pastor of Montclair, N.J., was the first to dedicate a building to the Iroquois Maiden? In 1888, he named his parochial school Tekakwitha Hall.

KATERI AUX PHILIPPINES



Kateri Joy's mother writes, "I'm putting up my own kindergarten and I shall name it the Kateri's Learning Center. How do you like the idea? Please pray for its success. Iloilo City, Philippines I've already talked about Kateri to many of my friends. Enclosed, find a picture of my very own two-year-old Kateri in Indian garb.

✿ Kateri's smile upon you, Mrs. D.M.M.!

Last month a co-worker vacationed in Quebec and stopped at the Center. She gave me a copy of "Kateri," knowing I am Catholic. Because of a problem existing in our family, I told my mother that I felt we should start to pray for Kateri's assistance. Within a week the problem was solved. We have promised to do all we can to make Kateri known in this area and we are still asking her intercession for our family.

(Berwyn, PA)

(When acknowledging favors to Kateri, be sure to indicate details.)

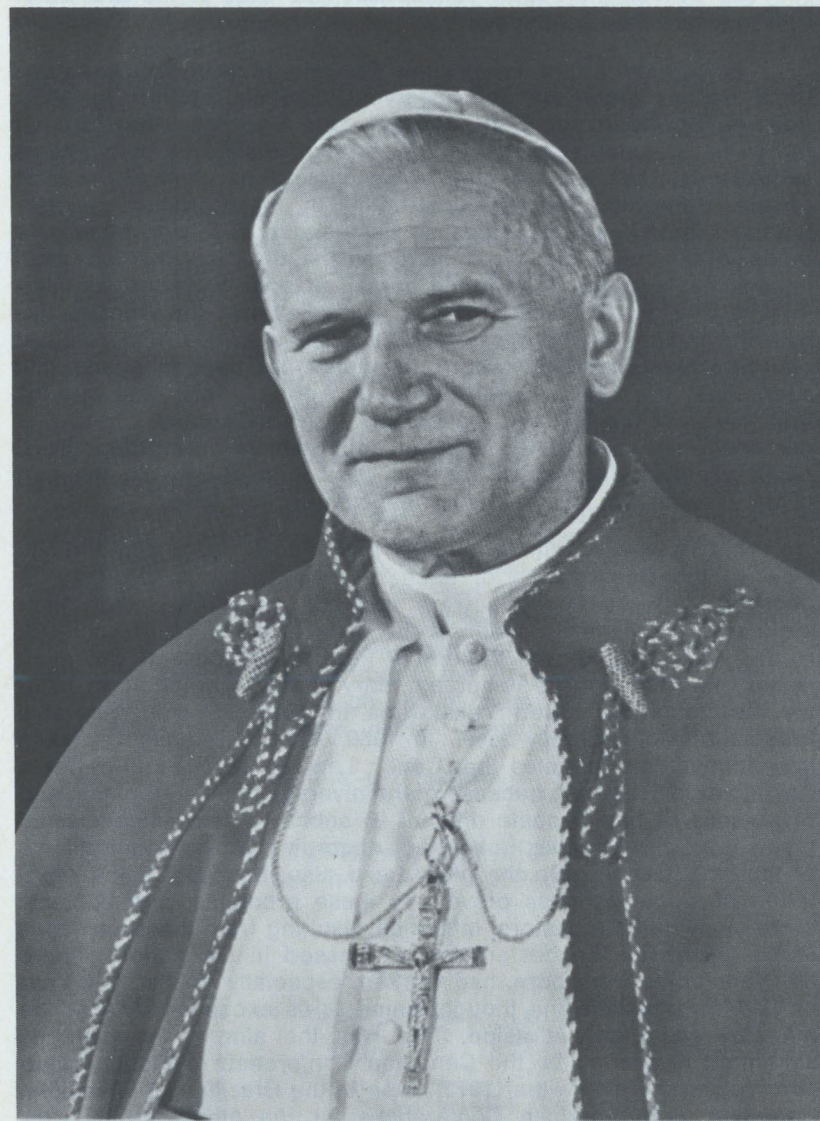


Jean-Paul II for perpetual memory

Along with the Venerables Joseph of Anchieta, Peter of St. Joseph Betancur, Mary of the Incarnation, Francis of Montmorency-Laval, Kateri Tekakwitha was declared blessed by His Holiness John Paul II on June 20, 1980. I have taken from the Apostolic Letter of the Holy Father concerning these beatifications, everything pertaining to the Lily of the Mohawks that might be of interest to our readers.

THE ADORABLE WORDS OF CHRIST, "Go out to the whole world; proclaim the Good News to all creation" (Mark 16, 15), indicate clearly that the teaching of the Gospel is not only one of the principal responsibilities of the Church, but belongs to its very essence, so that a church is inconceivable which would not have, from the beginning, propagated religion. Certainly the Word of God brought to creation turns first of all to establish faith in hearts, and to maintain it for salvation. But this word is rich enough in its gift to constantly improve the very condition of man on earth. The Church has always instilled in souls a very high opinion of human dignity, an opinion thanks to which we believe that man is the son of God and brother of all other men. The consequences which result: respect for the human person, the right of each one to liberty, to everyday work, etc., the Church has always taught, protected and brought to human society as a singular gift. All this can but contribute to the greater good of everyone.

Thus the lives, the preaching, the works of those whom we have honored today with the title of Blessed, absolutely bear out the following: The Church, by preaching the Gospel, goes to man, concerns itself with him entirely and brings about his complete salvation in this life and in the next. To scrutinize even briefly the destiny of these Venerable servants of God will rejoice us and certainly enrich us. The meditation of their lives will move us to greater virtue, it will bind us to all through a charity capable of making us easily responsive to the needs of these creatures of God who are our brothers in the Faith, our companions on the way to eternity . . .



Joannes Paulus PP. II

The Decree thereupon summarizes the lives of the four other Blessed and then continues:

There is still Kateri Tekakwitha. She was born in North America of a pagan father and of a fervent Catholic mother in 1656, near Auriesville, in the State of New York. She very soon lost her father and her mother as well as her brother; disfigured by a serious skin disease, she was adopted by an uncle, then chief of the tribe of the Mohawks. She was instructed in the Christian religion, baptized in 1676 by Fr. James de Lamberville, S.J., and became a model of all the virtues, particularly of chastity. Now this was held against her and she soon found herself at odds with her relatives. That is why, on the advice of the Jesuit Fathers, she went to live with the Indians of the Mission of St. Francis Xavier, who dwelt at Laprairie, near Montreal, where she spent her days in peace. But soon, alas! she went to Light Eternal on April 17, 1680. She was the first flower of the Indians, recognized by all as a saint. Even after her death, she always had this reputation which, during their lives, all Servants of God spread far and wide. And at last, on the part of the Church, we have a public testimony in her favor.

That is why, in different times and places, were instituted in view of the Beatification of each of these persons, ordinary or apostolic processes, which were favorably concluded; then their virtues were solemnly proved: for the Venerable Joseph of Anchieta, in the year 1736; for the Venerable Peter of St. Joseph Betancur, in the year 1771; for the Venerable Mary of the Incarnation, in 1911; for the Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha in 1943; for the Venerable Francis of Montmorency-Laval, in 1960. After this, must be taken into account the miracles that Canon Law (c. 2117) requires for a Beatification. However, because of the diversity of time, of place, and of persons, it had become difficult to submit to the exigencies of medical art the miracles submitted, according to the requirements of the Holy Canons. On the other hand also, because of the reputation of signal holiness proved by these prodigies, and because of the considerable pastoral influence resulting from the advantages to be gained by the designation of Blessed in the nations where the Venerables were born, had worked, especially as the Holy Year of 1975 approached, the thought came to us exceptionally that the miracles could be set aside. This was the aim of the petitions submitted first of all by the Canadian Conference of Bishops concerning Kateri Tekakwitha (1973), then of the Brazilian, Guatemalan, Canadian, and American Conferences for the others (1977). Our Predecessors Paul VI and John Paul I whom we have followed, submitted this problem to the General Assembly of the Sacred Congregation for the Causes of Saints. On January 20 of this year, all things being carefully taken into account, the Assembly came to the same decision as the petitioners. Backed by this opinion, on

March 15 of the same year, we have permitted, solely for the good of the Christian people and for very special motives that this time the law concerning miracles be suspended. We have decided to solemnly celebrate this Beatification today, June 22, 1980. A great multitude of Father Cardinals, of Bishops, of Clergy and of people, coming principally from the countries mentioned above and gathered together in the temple of St. Peter's in Rome, We have, during the Holy Sacrifice, pronounced these official words of the Beatification: "We, to comply with the wishes of our Brothers: Archbishop Avelar Brandao Vilela of Holy Savior in Brasil, of Archbishop Marius Casariego of Guatemala, of Archbishop Maurice Roy of Quebec, of Archbishop Paul Grégoire of Montreal, of Bishop Howard J. Hubbard of Albany in the United States as well as of many other Brothers in the Episcopacy and of many faithful Christians, after having consulted with the Sacred Congregation for the Causes of Saints, we authorize by our apostolic authority the Venerable Servants of God Joseph of Anchieta, Peter of Saint Joseph Betancur, Mary of the Incarnation, Francis of Montmorency-Laval, and Kateri Tekakwitha to be henceforth called Blessed, and that their feast celebrated each year on the day of their birth and in conformity with the places and manners established by Canon Law: that of Blessed Joseph of Anchieta on June 9, that of Blessed Peter of Saint Joseph Betancur on April 25, that of Blessed Mary of the Incarnation on April 13, that of Blessed Francis of Montmorency-Laval on May 6, and that of Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha on April 17, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." Then, after the homily on the virtues of each one of them, we have been the first to venerate them and have invoked their protection.

By this letter, all this we confirm in perpetuity, despite all contrary provisions.

Given at St. Peter, in Rome, under the Ring of the Fisherman, June 2, 1980, in the second year of our Pontificate.



Augustinus Card. Casali
publicis Eccl. negotiis

KATERI TEKAKWITHA



Fernando Martín, S.J.

IN A TRIBE of Iroquois Indians established in what is today the State of New York, south of Canada, took root a marvelous flower of goodness and grace, Catherine, or Kateri in the Indian language, who was elevated to the honor of the altars in June 1980.

She was born in 1656. Her father was an Iroquois warrior, who during an incursion among neighboring tribes had made a slave of an Algonquin Christian, his future wife. From this union an adorable little girl was born. She was four years old when an epidemic of small pox left her an orphan. She endured her illness, which left her with her face pock-marked. Entrusted to an elderly woman, she grew into an intelligent and lovable girl. She had received some religious instruction from her mother. Her occupation was that of the Iroquois women: needlework, barkwork, chores in the longhouse.

At that time, a few Jesuit missionaries had come to the Iroquois village in order to bring peace to them. The first one to see the young Indian maiden, immediately felt that he had before him an extraordinary person. He baptized her on Easter Sunday 1676. Her life of intense union with God, her life of prayer and penance openly contrasted with the customs of her tribe; even so, this young girl of 20 years knew how to keep alive her ideal of holiness, as a flower among thorns, or better still as an angel.

Her tribe was not ready to receive Christianity nor to retain in its ranks a young Christian girl willing to live only for the Lord. She was constantly harassed and ridiculed in every possible way; she was even accused of immorality and infamy. So the missionaries decided she must be sent to some other place. Nor far from Montreal, there was a flourishing mission. She prepared her escape and in the autumn of 1677, travelling by canoe on rivers and lakes and on foot through the woods, she reached Sault St. Louis. There she met a few women who had known her mother and was entrusted to the care of one of her Christian relatives, who adroitly tried her in all sorts of way. However, Kateri soon realized that she had come



Relic of Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha (foresection of sternum) venerated at the cathedral of Chicoutimi, P.Q., Canada. See story of its discovery in *Kateri*, No. 130, Winter 1981. The reliquary was obtained in Rome during May 1981 by the Very Rev. Canan François Plourde.

to the ideal environment for a life of piety. Those who sought her out found her either at work in her longhouse or absorbed in prayer at the church of the Mission. Various Jesuit missionary priests served as her guides in the spiritual life. Although the life of this young maiden went on in simplicity and silence, without any sensational adventures, Kateri was for them an object of sovereign respect, admiration and amazement. On Christmas Day of this same year 1677, she was allowed to receive her First Communion.

Every winter, with the rest of the Indians, she was expected to go hunting. Because of the easier life they led and consequently because of the danger to her virtue, Kateri had no taste for the hunt. She pitched her tent apart, erected a rustic cross among the trees and there she buried herself in prayer and meditation whenever her work left her free. On returning to the village at the end of winter, she was happy to find the missionaries once again, with the little church where she prayed at great length, with the touching ceremonies of Holy Week and preparation for Easter.

To the marriage proposals and to the snares to her virtue, she made answer with the vow of perpetual virginity, after duly obtaining permission from her spiritual Father. It was a heroic decision, but at the same time absurd if one takes into account the mentality of her people. From now on she would belong more to heaven than to earth. Debilitated by her austerities and penances, she committed her most pure soul to the Creator on April 17, 1680 at the age of 24.

Among her people, who were unaware of the secret of her spiritual life and of her holiness, the news of her death was spread with these words, "The saint is dead."

Her tomb at Kahnawake, Quebec, in Canada, is constantly visited by the descendants of the Hurons and of the Iroquois [as well as of the Whites], who have recourse to her intercession and leave flowers on her tomb. Her feast day falls on April 17.

Quito, Ecuador

✿ **Kateri's smile upon you, Mrs. H.D.!**

Enclosed is a check for ten dollars. I promised to send it to Kateri if my husband got better.

(Windsor, Ont.)

✿ **Kateri's smile upon you, Mr. R.I.!**

I am enclosing a donation in thanksgiving for a special intention answered: re recovery from illness. Warm regards.

(Kingston, Jamaica)

(When acknowledging favors to Kateri, be sure to indicate details.)

SR. KATERI WRITES...



After 17 years of devoted service at St. Regis, P.Q., her home reserve, Sr. Kateri Mitchell, S.S.A., was appointed to Williams Lake, in the heart of British Columbia. You will be glad to hear from her . . .

Since the Tekakwitha Conference in Minnesota last August 10-14, I have contacted many people and covered much territory. I flew from St. Paul, MN into Victoria, B.C. to begin my eight-day annual directed retreat from August 15-23. My director was a Jesuit from St. Louis, Fr. Harter. Then, **Air Canada** brought me to Calgary, Alberta, then to Banff by bus to attend a Native Ministry Workshop from August 27-September 2 sponsored by the **Catholic Church Extension Society** of Canada. I met a number of our Objibway and Jesuit friends from Northern Ontario and Toronto areas. On September 3, I left Calgary for Great Falls, MT, where I had a meeting with Father Gilbert Hemauer, O.F.M.Cap., to make plans for next July's Native Catechesis Workshop.

Labor Day, September 5 once again brought me back to B.C. I flew into Prince George and two of our Sisters drove me to Williams Lake, (3½-hr. drive), my new home for the year. My arrival on the eve of Sept. 6 to begin a new and exciting apostolate for the Lord began with a Mass on the morning of Sept. 7 celebrated by Fr. John Brioux, O.M.I., the priest I am assisting at this time. Sr. Dorothy Bob, a native sister, and our Provincial were also present for this new beginning. Our community served the native people of this area 97 years ago in a residential school. On Sept. 9 and 10, Sr. Dorothy, Father, and I journeyed to Kamloops (4½-hr. drive) for a Religious Education Workshop, plus an opportunity to meet our Bishop.

On Sunday, Sept. 11, we began our marathon of travelling to our missions for Mass. The round trip to our furthest mission is 250 miles in and around, ascending and descending mountains on narrow gravel roads. Our six missions are: the Toosey-Chilcotin reserve; and the five other Shuswap reserves—Sugar Cane, Dog Creek, Alkali Lake, Gang Ranch and Canoe Creek. They are quite poor and much smaller than reserves back East. Both Chilcotin and Shuswap Indians belong to the Interior Salish of B.C.

Besides travelling, Sister, Father, and I do home visitations. We have begun a Prayer-Teaching Hour in each village which is giving adults and children from age 4 up an opportunity to pray and sing and learn about our faith every two weeks for about 1½ hr. Each village has Sunday Mass every two weeks with home visits and the prayer-teaching hour. Due to the number of miles between each reserve and the distance from our apartment in Williams Lake, we travel with suitcases, sleeping bags, and food for the week. We are always on a picnic in one of our little cabins. Splitting wood, hauling wood and building fires in little wood stoves are new experiences for me (and much to learn!). We have also spent some time painting our little cabins on two reserves before it got too cold.

On October 22, Fr. John and I gave a talk on Parent and Teacher teaching roles in religious education. It was a good experience for me.

We attended a Priests' and Religious Sisters' meeting on the New Code of Canon Law in Kamloops on October 24-26. This gave me another opportunity to meet more priests and sisters of the diocese.

On November 18-20, the three of us were off to Kamloops once again to take part in The Search for Youth (ages 17-26). It was a very good experience. We are hoping to have a Search for our Native Youth in the Cariboo-Chilcotin areas in the spring. Please remember us in your prayers especially during our planning sessions.

A Prayer-Fast was held in one of the villages (Alkali Lake) on November 25-27, to prepare for the Season of Advent and to commemorate the beginning of the Long Snow's Moon of the Medicine Wheel. I took part in prayer sweats for the first time. We have five sweats in total: one at sunrise and another at sunset each day along with a complete fast. It was a unique and every prayerful experience.

We celebrated the Feast of the Immaculate Conception in Sugar Cane with a Mass followed by some refreshments. The drawing of our afghan raffle* was held and proceeds will help us to buy religious education materials for our prayer-teaching hours.

This Saturday, December 10, we will be returning to Kamloops for an Advent retreat for Sisters of the Diocese to be given by our Bishop. I am looking forward to these days.

On Christmas Eve and Day we will travel to all of the reserves for Christmas Masses—so it will be a busy day.

I am enjoying this time and opportunity to meet many people while at the same time being filled with God's gift in nature.

*Kateri, No. 136, Summer 1983, p. 16

Your continued prayers for me and my new field of apostolate among the Shuswap and Chilcotin Indians of the Interior will be most appreciated and be assured of mine for all of you. I think and pray for you especially at Mass and during our prayer-teaching hours in the various villages.

Hopefully, Kateri will become better known in this area soon.

Yours in Christ,
Sr. Kateri, S.S.A.

✿ **Kateri's smile upon you, Mr. J.D.J.!**

I'm sending five dollars in honor of Kateri Tekakwitha after I had a slight heart attack. I was in the hospital for a week and a half. Then I went home and on Sunday July 10, I went on the Pilgrimage to Our Lady and I prayed to Blessed Kateri daily. The doctor told me Wednesday that my heart was O.K. and everything was working better.

(Denzil, Sask.)

✿ **Kateri's smile upon you, Mrs. W.K.!**

The enclosed offering is made in thanksgiving to Blessed Kateri. I asked her to intercede for a young woman who had taken too many pills. I requested that she would be cured and relieved from the stress that caused her to take them. Thank God, she seems cured and peaceful.

(Atlantic City, NJ)

✿ **Kateri's smile upon you, Miss J.L.!**

Please find a small donation of five dollars for dear Kateri, for a great favor I received from her. My dear nephew who has had terrible family problems ran away from home once again. As he lives very far away from me, I was besides myself as he is only sixteen years old. I asked Kateri to find him and to get help for him and she did. His adopted mother, my sister, got custody of him. I only hope he will be happy and not run away again. But I know dear Kateri will watch over him and help him. Thank you, dear Kateri, for your help.

(Worcester, MA)

✿ **Kateri's smile upon you, Mr. J.M.!**

Enclosed, please find a check for five dollars to be used for Kateri's Cause in thanksgiving for a safe trip and also for our daughter's physical which was fine and all of our many blessings. I thank you.

(Birmingham, AL)

(When acknowledging favors to Kateri, be sure to indicate details.)

VENERABLE!

(Continued)

WHAT HAD THE CAUSE come to in September 1937? Since the Congregation of Rites was responsible at the time for more than 600 Causes, one must conclude that the Cause of Kateri Tekakwitha was doing well. All the preliminary work was done; better still, the Vatican Press guaranteed that at the end of the summer holidays, on September 8 at the latest, the **Positio**, that is to say the Presentation of the Cause, would be ready for the Consultors of the Congregation of Rites.

In Canada and in the United States, more than ever before, Kateri's devotees wanted to see the proceedings successfully terminated. On November 18, at the annual reunion of the American hierarchy, Bishop Gibbons, of Albany, advised his fellow-Bishops that the Cause of the Iroquois Maiden was well advanced at the Historical Section of the Congregation of Rites. Because it had a large number of Causes to take care of, he proposed that the Bishops make known to the Holy Father the interest that they had as well as the rest of the clergy and even the laity of the country regarding the beatification and canonization of Kateri Tekakwitha. Archbishop Curley of Baltimore proposed the motion and Bishop Gibbons seconded it.

On all sides, in Canada, prayers were being offered for the success of the Roman efforts. On May 22, 1938, for instance, from Montreal, Fr. Georges Mongeau, S.J., led a large pilgrimage to the church of St. Francis Xavier in Caughnawaga, to pray before the mortal remains of the Servant of God. Bishop Anastasius Forget of Saint-Jean de Quebec in whose diocese was the Mission of St. Francis Xavier, fostered Sunday pilgrimages to Caughnawaga and Côte-Sainte-Catherine-de-Laprairie; this initiative was followed in Montreal, and hundreds of automobiles could be seen driving in the direction of the Iroquois mission.

All the same time, thanks to the energetic action of Fr. Wynne, petitions from nearly 100 tribes of Canada and of the United States reached Auriesville. In a vast spread of indigenous languages, they invited the Holy Father to glorify their little sister who had expired in the fragrance of holiness. And these documents wrapped in parchment and prepared by the Indians in undressed leather decorated with their colors, were inserted in envelopes from Caughnawaga and De Smet, Idaho. They were placed in a case made from an oak tree which was already grown in 1656 at Auriesville, the year of Tekakwitha's birth. It was entrusted to Msgr. Egidio Vagnozzi,

Auditor of the Chancery at the Apostolic Delegation in Washington, D.C., who on July 16, handed it over to His Holiness Pius XI.

The next day, on the occasion of the Quebec Eucharistic Congress, the Pope in a radio message to the Canadian population did not forget Kateri:

"Present among you, too, are many men and women pre-eminent in evangelical virtue whose causes are now being considered by the Sacred Congregation of Rites. Among them may be mentioned François de Laval de Montmorency, first Bishop of Québec; Marguerite Bourgeoys and **Catherine Tekakwitha**, spectacles to the world of men and angels. They labored valiantly for their own salvation, for that of their fellows, and for the progress of the Christian religion. You know, indeed, whence they drew their strength and virtue, whence came the impulse and fortitude which made them enter with stout and willing souls upon the hard way of sanctity. It was from the august Sacrament of the Altar, which is indeed the wheat of the elect and wine springing forth virgins."

His Holiness Pius XI passed away on February 10, 1939. Shortly before, Bishop Forget of Saint-Jean-de-Québec offered him a biography of Kateri Tekakwitha written by Gilberte Bouvier. He opened it, skimmed attentively through it, promised to read it during his long, sleepless nights, and expressed his admiration for the Lily of the Mohawks.

During all this time, the members of the Congregation were not on holiday. On March 3, 1938, Fr. Antonelli, Relator General, signed the introduction to the **Positio** and on the 14th of the same month, in a supplement, he added the following questions, to which he himself responded affirmatively;

1. — Does the documentation submitted for the Cause of the Servant of God Kateri Tekakwitha seem to be sufficiently complete?
2. — Are the documents authentic and worthy of faith?
3. — Do the documents show that the Servant of God enjoyed a reputation of holiness among her contemporaries?
4. — Was this reputation spontaneous or artificial?
5. — Do these documents as a whole offer a solid foundation so that Their Excellencies the theological consultors may unmistakably come to a conclusion regarding the heroic virtues of the Servant of God?

By July, the Consultors of the Historical Section had approved unanimously Fr. Antonelli's statement. It was a giant step in the right direction. The Holy Father could now issue the Decree on the Introduction of the Cause of Kateri, and the Congregation of Rites would be able to examine if the Lily of the Mohawks had practised the Christian virtues heroically and if the cures attributed to her were truly miraculous.



The death of Kateri's parents at Ossernenon



Kateri adopted by her uncle



Kateri escapes to Kahnawake.



Her First Communion.



Kateri refuses to marry.



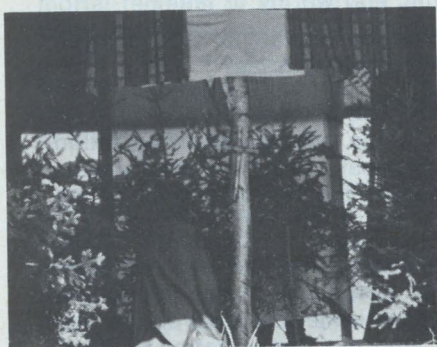
She is threatened for her faith.



She thinks of founding a religious community.



In a spirit of penance, she strews her bed with sharp thorns.



She prays in the woods.



She is persecuted as a Christian.



Her saintly death.



Kateri is declared Blessed in heaven.

PHOTOS JOSE WHITEDUCK AND RON BOYER

At Maniwaki, Qué., on August 7, 1983, at the Kateri Rally, in twelve tableaux, the Algonquins presented the life of Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha.

During the autumn of 1938, His Eminence Cardinal Carlo Salotti was appointed Prefect of the Congregation of Rites, a good omen for Kateri. Named Cardinal on December 16, 1935, he was well acquainted with the Cause of the virtuous Mohawk, since he had been the one to welcome it to Rome.

During the following spring, on Tuesday, May 9, Their Eminences the Cardinals of the Congregation met in a special session to discuss the merits of the Cause of Beatification and Canonization of the Indian Maiden Kateri Tekakwitha. The 23 Cardinals connected with the Congregation of Rites, lived in Rome or in the suburbs as well as the 28 officials, prelates and consultors, their collaborators. No matter where they may have been, they were thoroughly informed about the discussions concerning the Servant of God, which had been carefully prepared, printed and distributed to each one of them.

As to Kateri's Cause, as Fr. Wynne noted, for a year at least they had had before them the **Positio**, resulting from six years of hard work. It contained 21 documents about the virtues, the reputation for holiness of Kateri, and all the writings concerning her with the comments of the Historical Section of the Congregation of Rites. Besides, three appendices had been added:

1. — A plea for the Introduction of this Cause;
2. — Letters addressed to the Pope, inviting him to proceed with the Introduction of the Cause of the young Mohawk, coming from Cardinals, Archbishops, Bishops, Monsignori, diocesan and religious priests, nuns, laymen, different organizations and Indian tribes—620 in all, bearing 96,555 signatures;
3. — The objections of the Promoter of the Faith (Devil's Advocate) against the admission of the Cause and the Postulator's responses.

The question put to Their Eminences was quite clear: Should they recommend or no the Introduction of the Cause of Kateri Tekakwitha? The prelates unanimously agreed they should. On May 19, Pius XII was informed of the decision of the Cardinals of the Congregation of Rites and he expressed his satisfaction in two words: **Placet Eugenio**: It pleases Eugene (his Christian name).

Already in 1936, the Decree on the writings of Kateri Tekakwitha—there were none—had been approved. From then on, the Cause would progress, not at breakneck speed, but rapidly. Although the summer holidays in Rome are considered sacred, on July 18, the Congregation of Rites met to deliberate about the process **de non cultu**. This process had been prepared in part in 1932, but it was then deemed necessary to examine closely the many documents submitted during the previous year and the Introduction of the Cause sanctioned by the Holy Father. The Congregation accepted

straightaway the testimony regarding the total absence of all public cult since the death of the Servant of God in 1680 until then. In other words, the veneration with which her virtues and the favors obtained through her intercession was surrounded were due to a perfect knowledge of her life by her contemporaries and not to underhand manoeuvres as on the death of Evita Perón in Brasil so as to have her declared a saint!

On August 5, the Congregation published the official version of the Decree dispensing from the Apostolic Process on the reputation of holiness of the young Mohawk Maiden. And with cause, for during the last three centuries nothing was more certain.

All was going well in Rome. The Second World War which was already raging in Europe, had not delayed Kateri Tekakwitha's process. On November 26, 1940 at the Congregation of Rites was held the first of three sessions, known as antepreparatory, on the virtues of this Mohawk of the 17th century. Historically, there was no doubt about them. The question was were they motivated naturally or supernaturally.

In the course of the two first weeks of October, each member of the Congregation had received a beautiful book containing a short life of the Servant of God and a statement on her virtues accompanied with precise examples for each one of them. Following this biography, came a plea in favor of the declaration of her heroic virtues and a counterplea by the Promoter of the Faith.

Were present at this meeting, the eight official prelates and the 15 consultors besides the Promoter of the Faith with his six assistants. The resulting decision was favorable to Kateri.

The second session, called preparatory, took place on Tuesday, November 18, 1941. At the beginning of October, the arguments of the Advocate and of the Promoter of the Faith were in the hands of the Members of the Congregation.

Taking part in this session were His Eminence Cardinal Carlo Salotti, Prefect of the Congregation and Relator of the Cause; Their Eminences Cardinal Gennaro Granito Pignatelli di Belmonte, Cardinal Allesandro Verde, Cardinal Raffaello Rossi, O.C.D., and Cardinal Ermenegildo Pellegrinetti, besides Msgr. Alfonso Carinci, Secretary of the Congregation, Msgr. Salvatore Natucci, Promoter of the Faith and other officials. Fr. Miccinelli, S.J., Postulator of the Cause was also present to help in case of need.

As during the antepreparatory session, the Promoter of the Faith proposed new objections to which the Advocate easily responded. The question to be examined was: "Did Kateri practise the Christian virtues as a good Christian would or rather as the

heroes of the Faith, the saints of all times do?" The verdict unhesitatingly qualified the virtues as heroic.

The third session of the Congregation of Rites on the virtues met on June 9, 1942. This session of spiritual discernment took place before the Blessed Sacrament, after the last rather mild objections of the Promoter of the Faith had been heard as well as the responses of the Advocate. The unanimous conclusion of these experts surprised nobody: The Mohawk Maiden Kateri Tekakwitha had practised the Christian virtues heroically. The time had come to inform His Holiness Pius XII.

On the feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, Friday, June 12, the Prefect of the Congregation of Rites, his Eminence Cardinal Salotti, bore the good news to the Pope, who ratified the decision of the Sacred Congregation and promised to issue the Decree on the heroic virtues of Kateri, after having taken the time to pray God to grant him greater light on the matter.

More than six months passed by. Finally, for the feast of the Epiphany, were summoned to the Vatican Cardinal Carlo Salotti, Prefect of the Congregation of Rites, Msgr. Salvatore Natucci, Promoter of the Faith, Msgr. Alfonso Carinci and other dignitaries of the same Congregation besides Fr. Carlo Miccinelli, S.J., Postulator General, with a few other guests.

With this small but select group attending, Pius XII celebrated the Eucharist at the end of which he proclaimed:

"It has been proved, in this instance and for the purpose under consideration, that the theological virtues of Faith, Hope, Love of God and neighbor, and the cardinal virtues, Prudence, Justice, Temperance, Fortitude, and subordinate virtues of the Venerable Servant of God, Catherine Tekakwitha, were heroic."

Although the reports on what followed are nonexistent, the habitual ceremonial for these occasions must have been observed. It is probably at this moment that Fr. Miccinelli thanked the Sovereign Pontiff, who responded graciously.

On a silver tray, had been placed twelve illuminated copies of the Decree, which was offered to the Pope; other more modest copies to Their Eminences; still others even more simple to the rest of the attendants. Everything was prescribed, the size and quality of the paper, the white ribbons fringed with gold, binding the gilt-edged Decrees together for the Holy Father, the purple and gold fringed ribbons for the Cardinals, and the plainest of all for the others.

After the distribution of these precious documents, the Decree was speedily posted on the doors of the great Roman basilicas and from then on, the Servant of God was known as the Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha.

KATERI TEKAKWIIHA + 1656-1680



TEGANANOKOA
ETIENNE - 1690 + 1642

THE
ORIGINAL
CAUGHNAWAGA
INDIANS

*
BLESSED
KATERI

*
HER
SAINTLY
PEOPLE:
PENITENTS
VIRGINS
MARTYRS

*
by
Henri
Béchar, S.J.

P.B. 70
Kahnawake, P.Q.
J0L 1B0
CANADA

\$14.00 postpaid

Memo for our Legislators

In 1674, Fr. Frémin, S.J., Superior of the Mission of St. Francis Xavier, soon to become Blessed Kateri's haven, introduced his flock to sacramental marriage, by explaining Christ's stand on the subject:

"Some Pharisees approached him, and to test him they said, 'Is it against the Law for a man to divorce his wife on any pretext whatever?' He answered, 'Have you not read that the creator from the beginning **made them male and female** and then he said: **This is why a man must leave father and mother, and cling to his wife, and the two become one body?** They are no longer two, therefore, but one body. So then, what God has united, man must not divide.'

"They said to him, 'Then why did Moses command that a writ of dismissal should be given in cases of divorce?' 'It was because you were so unteachable' he said 'that Moses allowed you to divorce your wives, but it was not like this from the beginning. Now I say to you: the man who divorces his wife—I am not speaking of fornication—and marries another, is guilty of adultery.' "

(Mt 19, 1-9)

PLEASE RENEW YOUR SUBSCRIPTION; SEND GIFT SUBSCRIPTIONS TO:

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FROM: NAME
ADDRESS

As I am sending the names of **FIVE** new subscribers and their addresses to the Kateri Center (\$10.00), I now inscribe, free of charge, the name of one deceased person dear to me on the Marie Félicité Roll.

- Mr. ☐, Mrs. ☐, Miss ☐.....
- When the Roll is complete with the names of 200 deceased, 100 Masses shall be offered for the repose of their souls.
 - If no name is submitted for the Roll, "A Suffering Soul of Purgatory" shall be inscribed instead.