

NO. 143

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COMPLIMENTS

of the

Kahnawake

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CLUB



KATERI

NO. 143

THE TIOHATARION ROLL

LITTLE BROTHER WANTS TO KNOWN...

KATERIGRAM

EASTER PRAYER

EACH NEW MOON

A PRIEST FOREVER

THIRD MENTION OF KATERI
IN MONTREAL

KATERI MENTIONED
FOUR MORE TIMES AT MIDLAND

THE BEATIFICATION
Contd

CORRESPONDENCE

LILY OF
THE MOHAWKS

Spring • 1985

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¢; Gilded: \$1.00 ½"; \$3.00 ¾";
Aluminum: 10¢

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Books

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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 — *Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha* by Bishop André-M. Cimichella, O.S.M., Revised Edition, 46 pp.: \$1.00
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

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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.



KATERI, No. 143 Vol. 37, 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 1985

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THE TIOHATARION ROLL

This brave is listed as "the chief of the Indians of the Sault" (Mission St. Francis Xavier) in 1694. He undoubtedly lived there in Blessed Kateri's time.

1. Mrs. Celina St. Pierre
2. Mr. Dalbé Cousineau
3. Mrs. Dalbé Cousineau
4. Mrs. Blanche Perron
5. A Soul in Purgatory
6. Mrs. Christine St. Laurent
7. Mr. Guy Roy
8. A Soul in Purgatory
9. A Soul in Purgatory
10. Mr. Clarence Fortin
11. A Soul in Purgatory
12. A Soul in Purgatory
13. A Soul in Purgatory
14. Mr. George Losson
15. Mrs. Ann Freddolino
16. A Soul in Purgatory
17. Mr. Théodore Thivierge
18. A Soul in Purgatory
19. Mrs. Jeanne D. Gauthier
20. Mrs. Roméo Aubry
21. Mr. Camille Lacroix
22. Mr. Henri Lebeau
23. Mr. Raymond St. Denis
24. Miss Blanche Poirier
25. Mr. Patrick Bernatchez
26. Mrs. Eugénie Guimond
27. Mr. Raoul Corriveau
28. Mr. Hector Dunn
29. Mrs. Léonidas Croteau
30. Mrs. Laurette Côté
31. Mrs. Mona Simon
32. Dr. C. Lydon Harrell
33. Mr. Frank Guy
34. Mr. Paul Hovington
35. Mr. Allen Duchene
36. Mr. Antonio Dumulon
37. Mr. Lauree Patry
38. Mr. John McCormick
39. Mrs. Helena Brennan
40. A Soul in Purgatory
41. A Soul in Purgatory
42. A Soul in Purgatory
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44. Mrs. Mary A. MacAuliffe
45. Mr. Joseph P. Nolan, Jr.
46. Mrs. Anne Searson
47. Miss Marguerite Desjardins
48. Mr. Jean Dubé
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51. Mr. Ralph E. Bush
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53. Mr. Odell Willis
54. Miss Alice Otto
55. Rev. Ralph Dunn
56. Mrs. Marion Levi
57. Mr. John R. Beneman
58. Mrs. Anne R. Czernicki
59. A Soul in Purgatory
60. A Soul in Purgatory
61. Miss Thérèse Gill
62. A Soul in Purgatory
63. Mr. Adrien Arcand
64. A Soul in Purgatory
65. Mr. Hervé Ouellette
66. A Soul in Purgatory

67. Mr. Chet Kolkoski
68. Mrs. Ruth Kolkoski
69. Mrs. Dora Carignan
70. Miss Rachel Fortin
71. A Soul in Purgatory
72. A Soul in Purgatory
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76. Mrs. Pauline Trottier
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87. A Soul in Purgatory
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91. Mr. Joseph Casale
92. Capt. Miles Standish, U.S. Army
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112. Mr. Edward B. Smith
113. Mr. Joe Cosentine
114. Mr. Fernand Lamarche
115. Mr. Placide Bélanger
116. Mr. Robert St. Martin
117. A Soul in Purgatory
118. Mrs. Fernande Hovington-Tremblay
119. Mr. Florian Morin
120. Mr. Georges Laporte
121. Mr. Gérard Martin
122. Mr. J. R. Laflèche
123. Mr. Antonio Michaud
124. A Soul in Purgatory
125. Mrs. Mathilda Pilon
126. Miss Rufina Claverie
127. Mr. Pierre-Léon Rousay
128. Mr. Holbeche Pereira
129. Mr. Gerhart Jansen
130. Miss Ruth Pilote
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134. Mrs. Léonidas Croteau
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148. Mr. Thomas L. Coutu
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157. Sr. Mary David
158. Mr. Adrien Van Eyll
159. A Soul in Purgatory
160. Miss Loretta Mae Weston
161. Mr. Kenneth Koch

162. Miss Jeanne Woodbury Wool
163. Mr. Alexander Bryan Hackett
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171. Mr. Clinton W. Smith
172. Mrs. Virginia Harrison
173. Mr. Naylor Harrison
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175. Mrs. Antoine Ferguson
176. Mr. Bertrand St. Denis
177. Sr. Annette Bélanger

A RECOMMENDED BOOK

The Sacred Vision: **Native American Religion and its Practice Today** by Michael Steltenkamp, S.J., who has experienced firsthand the power and depth of Native American religion as it shapes the lives of contemporary people. It's a spirituality book for general audiences. Not a theoretical piece.

Fr. Steltenkamp has been active in Native American advocacy movements and taught at the Red Cloud Indian School in South Dakota.

Cost: \$5.00 American, \$6.00 Canadian, plus mailing costs.

Order from:

Fr. M. F. Steltenkamp, S.J.
4828 S. Hagadorn
E. Lansing, MI 48823

✻ Kateri's smile upon you, Miss G.F.!

I am sending the enclosed amount for a special request. Two elderly ladies who are my neighbors had to move and they were worried about finding a suitable place. I told them I would pray to Kateri. Strangely enough they knew nothing about her. I gave them the prayer and they promised to say it. Only a few days later they were thrilled to tell me they had found an apartment just right for them. Now they want to know all about Kateri and are busy spreading the good news. (I think they will be very good press agents for Kateri.) I have lots of English prayers, Father, but since one of them is French and many of their friends are French I would appreciate your sending some prayers in their language. I would also like to have a few relics if any are available. When they move in July I will have subscriptions of "Kateri" sent to them. One of the ladies (eighty-four years young!) intends to organize a bus trip to the Mission. I know I will be able to get some prayer promises from them as well. I hope the enclosed amount is enough, Father.

(Montreal, Que.)

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

Little Brother wants to know...



PHOTO RON BOYER

...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 Tekanwitha.

Already 15,011 have come in.

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

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 J0L 1B0 for a free sample card.

One dozen cards
boxed: \$2.50.

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

SEND IN YOUR INTENTIONS NOW

Spiritual

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

Temporal

- ☐ Positions
- ☐ Health
- ☐ Lodgings
- ☐ Financial Aid
- ☐ Happy Marriages
- ☐ Happy Deliveries
- ☐ 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 BEYROUTH, LEBANON, HE WILL CELEBRATE NINE MASSES FOR YOU IN THE AGONY OF CONTINUED WAR.
(NO OFFERING REQUIRED.)

KATERIGRAM

Compared to a host of our contemporaries, Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha must have been quite intelligent. She understood what the Mass is. Those who habitually miss it without a valid reason certainly don't. She was alive to the fact that the Eucharistic Celebration brought down upon the altar Jesus Christ, Son of the Living God.

"If Catholics grasped what the Eucharist is," it has been asserted, "our churches would be as full as an egg." Kateri would not have understood how it could have been otherwise.

A Christian has often been defined, "a person who attends Mass." This definition isn't very original; still, better than many others, it determines our point of contact with Jesus Himself. The Mohawk Maiden was truly a Christian since she went to Mass. Each day she heard two Masses and frequently visited the Blessed Sacrament...

Since June 24, 1981, at Medjugorje in Yugoslavia the Virgin Mary has been appearing just about daily to six teenagers. Among other things she told them, "Mass is the greatest prayer to God and you will never be able to appreciate its greatness; that is why you must be humble and perfect at Mass and prepare yourselves for it." This message to our times, Our Lady surely communicated to Blessed Kateri in the 17th century. The Lily of the Mohawks put it into practice. Her Spiritual Father wrote: "This fact, moreover was so well known in the village that at the time of general Communion the most devout women hastened to place themselves near her in church, claiming that the mere sight of her exterior was so devotional and ardent at those times that her example inspired them and served as an excellent preparation for approaching the Holy Table in a proper manner."

Now let us implore her to open our minds even more to the meaning of the Eucharistic Celebration. Let us commend to her lovingkindness someone very near and dear who no longer has the slightest idea of the Eucharist. Then let us hasten to place ourselves next to Kateri and consider her attentively. Her exterior, devotional and ardent as it is, will serve as an excellent preparation for approaching the Holy Table in the proper manner. Thus our alleluias, our Easter hymns of praise and joy will be truly meaningful.

HENRI BÉCHARD, S.J.
Vice Postulator

✿ Kateri's smile upon you, Miss M.L.!

Enclosed you will find a money order of fifty dollars offered in thanksgiving for favors received from our Blessed Lily of the Mohawks. I was in deep depression the past two or three years, ... sin, no job, bills piling up, losing friends and family, all my interest in life just dwindling away, everything seemed deteriorating. Kateri saved me from all this after several novenas. One day I made a trip to my home area, found a job and the first thing I knew I moved everything but the house and made a new start. Now everything is falling into place, there are a few things to be straightened out yet, but all my trust is in Kateri, sooner or later all will be well. The other money order enclosed is for articles, like medals, picture prayers, etc. for distribution. I had promised I would spread the word and make her better known. Please send me information on when, where and whom do I contact for a pilgrimage to her grave. I've been to Quebec a few times but didn't know where to visit her grave. I am a fifty-four-year-old Cree woman, single, and will be on a holiday sometime in July or August. I would like to arrange to go during that time or when the pilgrimage is dated for.

(Hobbema, Alta.)

✿ Kateri's smile upon you, Miss C.B.!

We have just returned from another vacation trip to Florida, by automobile. In 1981 Blessed Kateri helped us through a terrible snowstorm in Pennsylvania. This year, she came to our aid again through torrential rainstorms and near-flooded roads! How we did pray that we would reach home safely, and we did! Many, many thanks, dear Blessed Kateri, for giving us the courage to drive on, and the skill in controlling our car at all times. I am sure Kateri was with us and our car, which never gave us a moment's anxiety. The driving rain and fog made it difficult to see our road and especially the road numbers, but somehow we made no wrong turns! We are always happy to help you in your work towards Kateri's canonization, which we hope will be soon. May God bless you and give good health...

✿ Kateri's smile upon you, Mrs. A.D.!

I made a promise to Kateri that I would send ten dollars towards her canonization if my husband and I could leave Atlantic City during a terrible storm. We were ready to leave when they said the roads were closed and I prayed to Kateri to let us leave and get home safe. In an hour they said the highway was open, we left and had a safe trip home. Many thanks to Kateri.

(Baltimore, MD)

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



PHOTO ARMOUR LANDRY

EASTER PRAYER

God our Father,
by raising Christ your Son
you conquered the power of death
and opened for us the way to eternal life.
Let our celebration today
raise us up and renew our lives
by the Spirit that is within us.

THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST

El Greco

EACH NEW MOON



KATERI'S SMILE...

Favors registered at the Kateri Center from November 1, to February 23, 1985:

Alcoholic Problem Solved	1
Articles Found	8
Better Health	7
Cures	39
Employment Found or Kept	32
Financial Aid	4
Happy Death	1
Lodgings	4
Properties Bought or Sold	9
Safe Pregnancies	5
Safe Trips	2
Strikes Averted	1
Successful Studies	4
Successful or Averted Operations	13
Temporal Favors	23

TWENTY-FIVE PRAYER PLEDGES OR MORE

Mrs. Nancy DiStefano, Baltimore, (MD), 52; Sr. Elizabeth Côté, C.N.D., Montreal, (Que.), 26; Sr. Lucile Danis, Chicoutimi, (Que.), 45; Sr. Leonarda, Forestville, (CT), 32; Mr. Larry Pelland, Indian Orchard, (MA), 29; Mrs. Marlene McCauley, Phoenix, (AZ), 173.



Six-year-old Sheryl Mayo from Kahnawke, Que., Kateri's village, before the high relief of the Lily of the Mohawks on the bronze doors of St. Patrick's cathedral, NYC.



IT'S ST. PATRICK'S!

I spent many years working with the Indians in Minnesota. I even had our 4-H Club named after her—"Tekakwitha 4-H Club." I have a strong devotion to her and say prayers daily for her canonization...

In regard to the "Letter From Spokane," in *Kateri*, no. 137, pp. 16 and 17, this is a small Mission church at Broakston, Minn. Father Alban Fruth, a Benedictine missionary, is the acting Pastor. This is in the Cloquet, Minn. area. Father Alban and I worked together at Red Lake and White Earth, Minn... He even composed two beautiful hymns to honor Tekakwitha and we use them often.

Sister Debora Herda, O.S.B.
St. Joseph, Minn.

A PRIEST FOREVER

Pierre Houde



On July 1, 1934, Fr. Michael Jacobs, S.J. was the first Iroquois to be ordained a priest. Fifty years later, on December 15, 1984, another ordination took place in the same historic church built in 1845. Fr. Jacques Nicole, S.J., was elevated to the priesthood by Bishop Bernard Hubert of St. Jean-Longueuil.

Having entered the novitiate on September 7, 1977, Jacques followed the regular course of studies prescribed for Jesuits and his ordination as a priest was a major event in his religious life. Now why was a French Canadian Jesuit, born in Montreal, ordained priest at the Mission of St. Francis Xavier in Kahnawake?

In 1983, Jacques spent a few weeks with the Objibways of Northern Ontario, his first contact with Amerindians. Shortly afterwards, the Jesuit Provincial, Fr. Bernard Carrière, sent him to help Fr. Léon Lajoie, S.J., Pastor of the Mission St. Francis Xavier. With youthful zeal, he gave himself up entirely to his pastoral ministry among the Mohawk population, especially the teen-agers. He cherished them to the point that he decided to dedi-

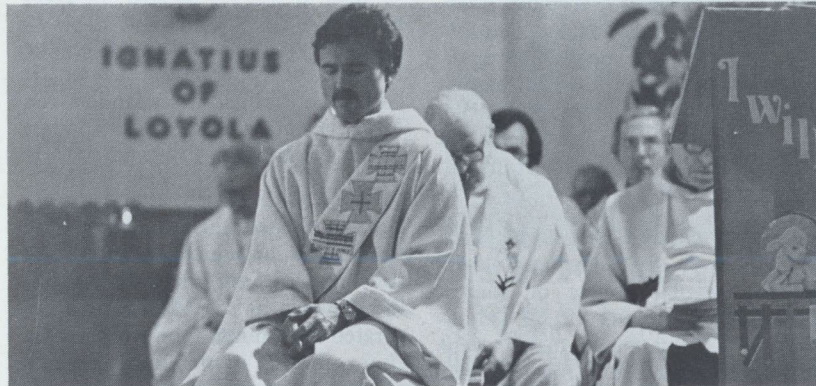
cate his priestly life to them and requested that his ordination take place in the Mission church.

That is why Jacques's ordination was of prime importance for the Christian community at Kahnawake as well as for the Society of Jesus which, shortly after coming back to Canada in 1842, returned to the Mission of St. Francis Xavier. It had been obliged to abandon the Mohawks after the death of the last Jesuit available in 1783.

The entire parish attended Jacques's ordination and shared the festive dinner which followed. As for the most important holy days, the children of the Mission had decorated the church; the well-known choir sang the most beautiful pieces of its repertory in the Mohawk language and thirty priests—twenty-five Jesuit and five diocesan—concelebrated with Bishop Hubert. In a short time, thanks to Jacques' zeal and devotedness, he had identified himself with the Christian community and the Mohawks accepted him as one of theirs. After Fr. Bernard Carrière presented Jacques to the Bishop of the diocese and asked him to ordain him priest, two Amerindians, Mrs. Rita McComber and Mrs. Beverly Delorimier, bore witness to Jacques's apostolic life, and in the name of the Christian community assented to his becoming a priest.



In the capacity of deacon, Jacques Nicole hands the chalice to Bishop Bernard Hubert of St. Jean-Longueuil as he reads from the Missal held by Jonathan Diabo of the Mission.



Jacques meditates quietly before the solemn moment of his Ordination..



Father Jacques consecrates his priestly life to Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha, Fr. Bernard Carrière, S.J., Provincial; Bishop Bernard Hubert and Fr. Léon Lajoie, Pastor of Kateri's Mission look on.

PHOTOS PAUL HAMEL, S.J.

BLESSED KATERI TEKAKWITHA,

*I now collect myself for a few instants
to offer you my priestly life.
Never cease interceding with the Lord
so that I may become a real, true priest
and as like the image of His Son Jesus Our Lord
as can be.*

*Protect me
so that I may never deviate
from the road I must follow,
which is to accomplish always and everywhere
the Will of the Lord.*

*And may your example of devotedness and joy
be a continual encouragement
to imitate Jesus Himself.
He who reigns
with the Father and the Holy Spirit.
for ever and ever.
Amen.*

Jacques Nicole, S.J.

For the Society of Jesus, an apostolic and missionary order, which first came to Canada as early as 1611, to evangelize the Amerindians, and founded this Mission in 1667, it was the renewal of its link with the past and with tradition.

Many were the Fathers and Brothers who devoted themselves since then to these people, in great majority Catholic today. That Jacques received the sacred oils of ordination in this Mission, that he agreed to dedicate the firstfruits of his apostolate and to serve as a priest for this Christian community, too often forgotten and scorned, all this was a source of profound joy for the Jesuits who have always been attached to it.

Finally, Bishop Bernard Hubert, in his homily, didn't fail to manifest his joy in ordaining a Jesuit in this church. It appeared to him as the expression of the close collaboration between the Society of Jesus and the Church, and the source of renewal for this diocesan mission. Since the beatification of Kateri, on June 22, 1982, the church of Kahnawake, which contains the remains of the Lily of the Mohawks, has become a national shrine and a pilgrimage center not only for the Amerindians but also for thousands of the faithful from Canada, from

the United States and from other parts of the world, which the heroic story of this young Iroquois maiden fascinates.

The ceremony of a priestly ordination is always moving for whoever takes part in it. The recitation of the Litanies of the Saints, the laying on of hands by the Bishop and the other priests or the giving of Holy Communion to the newly ordained priest's parents, everything recalls his mission in this world of ours today: a man for others. Now as a young Jesuit at the beginning of my religious life, Jacques's ordination took on a particular meaning for me, since it all related to my personal progress and to the end I must achieve, the service of the Christian community through the priesthood. Still the most touching gesture which affected me a great deal and was remarked by everybody was the sight of Jacques on his knees in the sanctuary, facing Kateri's tomb and dedicating his apostolic life to this Blessed Amerindian, who, for her people and for those who attend to their needs, surely shows a great foundness for them.

May God grant Jacques, the Amerindian communities, the Church and the Society His grace and peace!

Third mention of Kateri



PHOTO FEATURES LTD., OTTAWA, ONT.

THE HOLY FATHER in Montreal

On Tuesday, September 11, Pope John Paul II celebrated Mass at Jarry Park, Montreal, for the beatification of Sr. Marie-Léonie Paradis, the foundress of the Institute of the Holy Family, dedicated to the education of young girls and to family assistance. This was the first beatification ever on Canadian soil. In the following excerpt of his homily, the Holy Father mentioned Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha a third time since his arrival in Canada.

TODAY in this great city of Montreal, we want to praise The One Who Is. We want to praise him along with all creation, we who exist only because he exists.

We exist and we pass away, whereas he alone does not pass away. He alone is Existence itself.

And that is why we say with the Psalm in today's liturgy: "The Lord is great, loud must be his praise... give the Lord the glory of his name... worship the Lord..." (Ps 95, 96: 4-9) as Moses did when he "covered his face, afraid to look at God" (Ex 3:6).

Prostrate yourselves, men and women of today!

You know the mysteries of creation far better than Moses did! Do they no longer speak to you of God?

Prostrate yourselves. Read again and read thoroughly the witness of creation!

... God is above every creature; he is absolute transcendence. Where the evidence of creation ends, there begins the Word of God, the Word: "In the beginning he was with God ... Through him all things came to be, no one thing had its being but through him ..." (Jn 1:1-3).

"In him was life,

And the life was the light of men ..."

But listen to what follows: "The Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us ... To all who accepted him he gave the power to become children of God: to those who believe in his name, those ... who are born of God" (Jn 1:1-14).

Yes, God who is above all creatures, who is absolute transcendence, God has become a creature, a man. The Word was made flesh. In him, human beings, born of human beings, are born of God. They become sons and daughters through divine filiation, sons and daughters in the Son.

On this day, in this great city of Montreal, we wish to pay tribute to God made man.



PHOTO FEATURES LTD., OTTAWA, ONT.
The Mass at Jarry Park

"A holy day has risen for us

... the light has shone on the earth

... Glory be to you, O Christ, proclaimed among the people; glory be to you, O Christ greeted in this world by faith" (cf. 1 Tm 3:16), Alleluia!

We give thanks for all those who have welcomed this light here, on Canadian soil.

We give thanks especially for those who have become, through Christ, the light of the Church and of the whole of mankind.

The Church has officially recognized the holiness of some of them; several came from abroad, especially from France, but it is here that they completed their lives and attained their measure of holiness. They are familiar to you. I am referring to the holy Jesuit Martyrs, founders of the Church in Canada; Saint Marguerite Bourgeoys; and the blessed: Bishop François de Montmorency-Laval, Mother Marie de l'Incarnation, THE YOUNG IROQUOIS WOMAN KATERI TEKAKWITHA, Mother Marguerite d'Youville, Father André Grasset, Mother Marie-Rose Durocher, and Brother André Bessette.

I personally had the joy of celebrating in Rome the beatification of five of these and the canonization of one. But I know that other cases are under consideration and I hope the decision will be positive ...

✿ Kateri's smile upon you, Mrs. M.G.!

The enclosed check is another payment for a promise to Blessed Kateri for a favor received—employment for my grandson.
(Edinboro, PA)

✿ Kateri's smile upon you, Mr. and Mrs. S.P.!

Enclosed find my check for fifty dollars in thanksgiving to Kateri for quite a few prayers that were answered. My daughter gave birth to a beautiful set of twins after being ordered to bed rest for six weeks. We were so worried, but placed our confidence in Kateri. She even brought them home immediately, which means they were very healthy. Our business has been very successful so far this year. I'm still praying for the return to Church of my three children; two go faithfully and three hardly ever. This is really worrying us. With Kateri's helping prayers we trust they will soon all return. Please pray for them too. We trust Kateri will soon answer our prayers. Pray, too, that we all stay well and healthy. We say our Our Father and Hail Mary for Kateri's Sainthood.

(Ottsville, PA)

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

Kateri mentioned
four times more

THE HOLY FATHER at Midland

On Saturday morning, September 15, Pope John Paul II went to the Shrine Field in Huronia, Ontario, for a celebration of the Liturgy of the Word and a meeting with about a hundred thousand faithful, many of them belonging to the Indian peoples. At the Martyrs' Shrine the Holy Father addressed the assembly in English and in French as follows:

DEAR Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

1. **Chay!** With this traditional Huron word of welcome I greet you all. And I greet you, too, in the name of Jesus Christ who loves you and who has called you out "of every race, language, people and nation" (Rev 5:9) to be one in his Body the Church. Truly Canadians are a people of many races and languages, and thus it gives me great joy to pray with you at this holy place, the **Martyrs' Shrine**, which stands as **symbol of the unity of faith in a diversity of cultures**. I greet those of you have come from the far North and the rural areas of Ontario, those from the cities to the South, those from outside Ontario and from the United States as well. And in a special way I greet the native peoples of Canada, the descendants of the first inhabitants of this land, the North American Indians.



2. We are gathered at this site in Midland which is of great importance in the history of Canada and in the history of the Church. Here was once located the Shrine of St. Marie which one of my predecessors, Pope Urban VIII, designated in 1644 as a place of pilgrimage, the first of its kind in North America. Here the first Christians of Huronia found a "house of prayer and a home of peace". And here today stands the **Martyrs' Shrine, a symbol of hope and faith, a symbol of the triumph of the Cross**. The reading from Saint Paul's Letter to the Romans, which we have just heard, help us to understand the meaning of this holy place, and what it was that gave the martyrs the courage to lay down their lives in this land. It helps us to understand the power that attracted the native peoples to the faith. And this power was "the love of God made visible in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Rom 8:39).
3. Saint Paul also tells us how firmly he believed in the **love of Christ** and in its **power to overcome all obstacles**: "Nothing can come between us and the love of Christ" (Rom 8:35). These are words which proceed from the very depths of his being and out of his personal experience as an Apostle. For this great missionary faced many trials and difficulties in his zealous efforts to proclaim the Gospel. To the Corinthians, he writes: "I have been in danger from rivers and in danger from brigands, in danger from my own people and in danger from pagans; in danger in the towns, in danger in the open country, danger at sea and danger from so-called brothers. I have worked and laboured, often without sleep; I have been hungry and thirsty and often starving; I have been in the cold without clothes, and, to leave out much more, there is my daily preoccupation: my anxiety for all the churches" (2 Cor 11:26-28).
And yet, Paul glories in these hardships and says of them, "These are the trials through which we triumph, by the power of him who loved us" (Rm 8:37). All these hardships he gladly bears because he is convinced of the love of Christ, and that nothing can ever separate him from that love.
4. A similar **confidence in God's love guided the lives of the Martyrs** who are honoured at this Shrine. They, like Paul, had come to consider the love of Christ as the greatest of all treasures. And they, too, believed that the love of Christ was so strong that nothing could separate them from it, not even persecution and death. The North American Martyrs, then, gave up their lives for the sake of the Gospel—in order to **bring the faith to the native people whom they served**. In fact, we are told that their faith was so strong that they yearned and prayed for the grace of martyrdom. Let us recall for a moment these heroic saints who are honoured in this place and who have left us a precious heritage.

Six of them were Jesuit priests from France: Jean de Brébeuf, Isaac Jogues, Gabriel Lalemant, Antoine Daniel, Charles Garnier and Noël Chabanel. Fired with love for Christ and inspired by Saint Ignatius of Loyola, Saint Francis Xavier and other great saints of the Society of Jesus, these priests came to the New World **to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the native peoples of this land.** And they persevered to the end despite difficulties of every sort.

Two lay prothers were part of the missionary group: René Goupil and Jean de la Lande. With no less courage and fervour, they assisted the priests in their labours, showed **great compassion and care for the Indians**, and, laying down their lives, won for themselves the martyr's crown.

And as these missionaries laid down their lives, they looked forward to a day when the native people would enjoy full maturity and exercise leadership in their Church. St. John de Brébeuf dreamed of a Church fully Catholic and fully Huron as well.



A young woman of Algonquin and Mohawk ancestry also deserves special recognition today: **BLESSED KATERI TEKAKWITHA.** Who has not heard of her outstanding witness of purity and holiness of life? It was my personal joy, only four years ago, to beatify this woman of great courage and faith, who is known by many as the "Lily of the Mohawks". To those who came to Rome for her beatification, I said: "Blessed Kateri stands before us as a symbol of the heritage that is yours as North American Indians" (June 24, 1980).

5. As we are gathered in prayer today at the Martyrs' Shrine, we remember **the many efforts of the Church**, beginning three and a half centuries ago, **to bring the Gospel of Christ into the lives of the native peoples of North America.** The Martyrs honoured here are only a small representation of the many men and women who took part in this great missionary effort. We wish to pay tribute as well to all those who joyfully embraced the Christian faith, like **BLESSED KATERI**, and who remained faithful despite many trials and difficulties. Of great importance to the Church of Huronia is Joseph Chiwatenwa, who together with his wife Aonnetta, his brother Joseph and other family members lived and witnessed to their faith in an heroic manner. Their fidelity is yet another testimony to the truth attested to by the Apostle Paul: "Nothing can ever separate us from the love of Christ". A statue now commemorates the life and mission of Joseph Chiwatenwa. Particularly striking is the testimony of Saint Charles Garnier on the inscription: "It was in this Christian that we had our hope after God". These men and women not only professed the faith and embraced Christ's love, but they in turn became evangelizers and provide even today eloquent models for lay ministry.

We also recall how the **worthy traditions of the Indian tribes were strengthened and enriched by the Gospel message.** These new Christians knew by instinct that the Gospel, far from destroying their authentic values and customs, had the power to purify and uplift the cultural heritage which they had received. During her long history, the Church herself has been constantly enriched by the new traditions which are added to her life and legacy.

And today we are grateful for the part that the native peoples play, not only in the multicultural fabric of Canadian society, but in the life of the Catholic Church. Christ himself is incarnate in his Body, the Church. And through her action, the Church desires to assist all people "to bring forth from their own living tradition **original expressions of Christian life**, celebration and thought" (*Catechesi Tradendae*, 53).

Thus the one faith is expressed in different ways. There can be no question of adulterating the word of God or of emptying the Cross of its power, but rather of Christ animating the very centre of all culture. Thus, not only is Christianity relevant to the Indian peoples, but **Christ, in the members of his Body, is himself Indian.**

And the revival of Indian culture will be a revival of those true values which they have inherited and safeguarded, and which are purified and ennobled by the Revelation of Jesus Christ. Through his Gospel **Christ confirms the native peoples**

in their belief in God, their awareness of his presence, their desire to worship him, their sense of gratitude for the land, their responsible stewardship of the earth, their reverence for all his great works, their respect for their elders. The world needs to see these values—and so many more that they possess—pursued in the life of the community and made incarnate in a whole people.

Finally, it is in the **Eucharistic Sacrifice** that Christ, joined with his members, offers up to his Father all that makes up their lives and cultures. In his Sacrifice he consolidates all his people in the unity of his Church and calls us all to reconciliation and peace.

TRANSLATION

Like the Good Samaritan we are called to bind up the wounds of our neighbours in need. Together with Saint Paul we must affirm: "It was God who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the work of handing on this reconciliation" (2 Cor 5:18). This is truly the hour for Canadians to heal all the divisions that have developed over the centuries between the original peoples and the newcomers to this continent. This challenge touches all individuals and groups, all Churches and ecclesial Communities throughout Canada. Once again in the words of Saint Paul: "Now is the favourable time; this is the day of salvation" (2 Cor 6:2).

6. Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, this **Martyrs' Shrine** of Huronia bears witness to the rich heritage that has been handed on to the whole Church. At the same time, it is a place of pilgrimage and prayer, a **monument to God's blessings in the past, an inspiration as we look to the future.** Let us then praise God for his providential care and for all we have inherited from the past.

END OF TRANSLATION

As we go forward, let us commend ourselves to the intercession of the North American Martyrs, to BLESSED KATERI TEKAKWITHA, Saint Joseph, Patron of Canada, and all the Saints, together with Mary the Queen of Saints. And in union with the whole Church—in the richness of her diversity and in the power of her unity—let us all proclaim by the witness of our own lives that "neither death nor life... nor any created thing, can ever come between us and the love of God made visible in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Rom 8:38-39).



THE BEATIFICATION

ON FEBRUARY 2, 1980, the two Vice-Postulators, Father Béchard, S.J., in his Montreal office and Father McBride, S.J., in his office at Auriesville, N.Y., each received a telephone call from the Postulator General, Father Paolo Molinari, S.J., in Rome. A bolt of lightning would not have surprised them more. It was the long hoped-for message.

The Postulator General had proposed to the Cardinals of the Sacred Congregation for the Causes of Saints that they approve of the Beatification of the Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha on the strength of a **rumor miraculorum** or of a reputation of miracles instead of one or more specifically accepted miracles, in line with his teaching on the matter. On January 29, the Cardinals discussed the question and on February 2, 1980, the positive outcome of this discussion was communicated to the Postulator General by Corrado Cardinal Bafile, Prefect of the Congregation for the Causes of Saints.

On that same day, Father Molinari also shared this information by telephone with the Vice-Postulators "in a strictly confidential manner," since the Holy Father had not yet taken a decision. The following weeks lumbered by in anxiety crossed through with hope. After what seemed a thousand years, on April, 15, 1980, the Postulator received a letter from Cardinal Bafile containing the following message:

"I have the pleasant duty of confirming for you by writing that with the reputation of virtues and miracles, the beatification of the five Servants of God, to wit, Peter de Betancur, Joseph Anchieta, François de Montmorency-Laval, Marie de l'Incarnation and Catherine Tekakwitha, will take place at the Vatican on the following June 22."¹

Father Molinari immediately rang up the Vice-Postulator to tell him the date of the long-awaited day. There only remained two months to prepare for the great event. They quickly set to work.

Now who were the four other Venerables who were to be elevated with Kateri Tekakwitha to the ranks of the Blessed? The Venerable Kateri was the only Amerindian; on the other hand, the others, two Frenchmen and two Spaniards, had devoted themselves to the native peoples.

¹ Cumpio il dovere di confermarLe anche per iscritto che la Beatificazione dei cinque Servi di Dio 'cum fama virtutum et miraculorum' a cioè Pedro de Betancur, Giuseppe Anchieta, Francesco di Montmorency-Laval, Maria del Incarnazione e Caterina Tekakwitha, avrà luogo in Vaticano il 22 giugno prossimo."

To begin with, François de Laval, cornerstone of the Church in New France. Born on April 30, 1623 in his father's castle, which one may still see at Montigny-sur-Avre in the neighborhood of Chartres, he became in 1674 the first bishop of Quebec and, at the time the only prelate in North America outside Mexico. His jurisdiction extended all over the American continent except the English and Spanish colonies. He established the Holy Family Association throughout his vast diocese. Kateri Tekakwitha was admitted and profited by its beneficial influence. Throughout his episcopate, he favored missions among the indigenous people and opposed the liquor traffic under the pain of excommunication. He baptized the first inhabitants of what was to become Kahnawake and died on March 6, 1708, at Quebec, where he was buried the next day in his cathedral.

Then comes the native of Tours, Mother Marie of the Incarnation, a great mystic and foundress of the Ursulines in the New World. On arriving in Canada in 1639, she took an interest in the aboriginal Americans. She accompanied the Jesuits across the sea and planned to accompany them to Huronia, aspiring to share in their martyrdom. It has been said that she reserved the best of herself to the Indian tots. She often called them "the delight" of her heart and "the most beautiful fleuron" of her crown. She also catechized the adults. Having passed the forty mark, she decided to study the languages of the country and managed to master several. She even wrote an Iroquois dictionnary and catechism, a French-Algonquin as well as an Algonquin-French dictionnary. On her deathbed she offered her life for her dear little ones and expired on April 30, 1672, at the age of seventy-two. During twenty-two and a half years, she had spent herself for Christ in New France.

After these two French subjects, follow two Spaniards born in the Canary islands, Fr. Joseph Anchieta, S.J., and Fr. Peter of St. Joseph of Betancur. The first one, known as "the apostle of Brazil," saw the light of day in 1533 at Tenerife. As a novice of the Society of Jesus at the age of seventeen, he nearly ruined his health by excessive penances. Sent to Brazil in 1553, he worked hard during 44 years until his death. He rapidly learned the language of the native people, the Tupi-Guarani, wrote a grammar of it, a dictionary and two books of religious instruction useful to the Fathers in the conversion of the indigenous. He was a poet and wrote hymns which charmed the Indians as well as the Portuguese. To hasten the reform of manners, he composed and directed a drama which he played alfresco, much to the delight of all. It was probably the first attempt at dramatic art in the New World.

Blessed with a smattering of medical know-how even before his ordination, he accompanied the missionaries in their travels and took care of the native people who were ill. Like Francis of Assisi,

he commanded the wild beasts and his hold on the white as well as the brown men was irresistible. He died in 1597 at Resigtiba (Espirito Santo). Fr. Molinari took charge of his Cause as well as of that of Kateri Tekakwitha.

Peter of St. Joseph of Betancur saw the light of day on March 21, 1626 and died 41 years later, on April 25, 1667. At the age of 21 he quit his country to immigrate to Guatemala. He had barely landed when a serious disease put him into contact with the outcasts of fortune: the Indians and the Blacks. After an unexpected cure, in the capacity of a Franciscan Third Order man, he visited the hospitals, the prisons and the shacks of the unfortunate; he attended to the emigrants bereft of work and of the young without education however given to vice. He built an initial residence to house these little wretches. He saw to their religious and profane education with methods that would pass today as ultramodern. He erected an oratory, a school, a small infirmary, hostelry for the transient priests and for the university students in search of safe and economical accommodation. Little by little community life took shape and Fr. Peter wrote out a rule which ended in the foundation of two Congregations which still function in Central America at present.

Before the great day when the Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha and the four fervent apostles to the Amerindians would be elevated to the ranks of the Blessed, there remained little time, merely two months and a week. On April 26, the Postulator General wrote a long letter to the two Vice-Postulators. Fr. Molinari requested an authentic relic of Kateri for the Holy Father. "If it would be necessary to open the tomb of Kateri," he wrote, "this could be arranged. However a special authorization from the Holy See would be needed in this case and since all this takes time, I would prefer not to follow this course of action unless it is absolutely necessary."

It was not taken. Fr. Béchard gave up his personal relic, which reached Fr. Molinari's desk by the middle of May. He supervised the preparation of the reliquary in the form of a monstrance.

The Postulator General recommended a series of other points which his experience indicated. For instance, the organization of pilgrimages and details of the Beatification inasmuch as they did not depend on Msgr. Noe, Master of Pontifical Ceremonies. He furthermore insisted on close collaboration with Msgr. Paul A. Lenz, Executive Agent for the American Bureau of Catholic Indians and Delegate of Cardinals Cooke of New York and Krol of Philadelphia.

A month later at the ancient presbytery of the Mission of St. Francis Xavier in Canada, Frs. Joseph F. McBride of Auriesville, N.Y., and Henri Béchard, of Kahnawake, P.Q., met Monsignor, formerly a missionary in Ecuador. Since he is kindness personified everything went off without a hitch.



We have now come to the beginning of April 1980. Besides the Beatification, another great event was on its way: on the seventeenth of the month fell the tercentenary of the precious death of "Kaiatonoron" Kateri Tekakwitha, the "Lady-of-quality" [Venerable] who was Kateri Tekakwitha. The faithful were not yet aware of the forthcoming Beatification. For them, they thought, the most outstanding day of the year would be the tercentennial.

In the United States, on the actual territory where Kateri was born, her devoted followers worked hard with hearts full of joy at preparing the festivities. For example, on April 17, Mary-Eunice of Mary Productions with the students of St. Mary's School at New Monmouth, N.J., presented the most striking events of the life of the Venerable to the student body; at Phoenix, Az., Attorney Alan and Mrs. McCauley and their six children celebrated Kateri, first of all, at home on February 17, and then on April 20 at the Church of St. Francis Xavier where the Bishop of the place, His Excellency James Rausch officiated at the Holy Sacrifice and Fr. Edmond Smyth, S.J. gave the homily. The Prelate then unveiled and blessed a bronze statue of Kateri, the work of Sculptor Ted DeGrazia.

A few other examples will suffice. Mr. Chet Adams, vice-president of the Kateri Tekakwitha League in the United States and Detroit area coordinator, actively prepared the No. 924 Circle of the Daughters of Isabella for the Kateri tercentenary, when they would receive the 1980 Tekakwitha Award, the first group to receive it.

On April 20, at Kenmore, N.Y., just north of Buffalo, N.Y., an award was presented to Sr. Marcella O'Donnell and another one to her circle of some thirty Marian Auxiliaries at half past twelve during the Eucharistic Celebration at St. Andrew's Church. For many weeks, Sr. Marcella and her Auxiliaries had propagated devotion to Kateri in the vicinity of Wilson, N.Y., especially among the Tuscarora, and gathered a good round sum for the construction of a new Kateri Center at Auriesville, N.Y.

To the most numerous of all the Amerindians of the country, the Navajos, from January 20 on, from the Mission of St. Mary, Tohatchi, N.M., Fr. Gormac Antram, O.F.M. disseminated knowledge of Kateri over the air. Each week from three radio stations, to his auditors in New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, and Colorado, in their tongue as well as in English, he spoke of Kateri Tekakwitha's tercentennial; besides, he distributed to whoever wanted one a short life of the Venerable Mohawk.

In Canada, also, the tercentenary was celebrated **a mari usque ad mare**. The festivities among her brothers and sisters, the Iroquois should be highlighted. First of all at St. Regis [Akwesasne is its Indian name] sister-mission to St. Francis Xavier of Caughnawaga, Sunday, April 13 was chosen to honor the Lily of the Mohawks. Three

days before, the news of the coming Beatification had filled all hearts with an immense joy. Fr. Gérard Lavigne, S.J., Pastor and Fr. Michael Jacobs, S.J., Pastor Emeritus, backed by the faithful had taken much trouble to make of it a memorable celebration, for the following Thursday, April 17, was the exact day of the tercentennial. On this great feast, Bishop Robert Lebel of Valleyfield, P.Q. was the celebrant, accompanied by Frs. Lavigne and Jacobs, the only Iroquois Jesuit, Fr. Julien Harvey, S.J., Provincial, the two Vice-Postulators, Frs. Joseph McBride and Henri Béchard, a delegation from Auriesville, composed of Frs. Thomas Egan, Director of the Martyrs' Shrine, Robert Fleig, John M. Doolan and Raymond Whelan, besides Fr. Clarence M. Devan, Pastor at Bombay, N.Y., and the Master of Ceremonies, Bro. Claude Richer, S.C.

At Caughnawaga, the following Sunday, April 20, was consecrated to the Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha. The Indian Knights of Columbus wanted to set off this celebration as much as possible. About seventy-five Fourth Degree Knights in gala dress, come from Montreal, Ottawa, the United States and obviously from the village and the surrounding places, as well as the Daughters of Isabellâ in full dress, preceded by their Chaplain, Canon Antoine Rémillard, threw a colorful note on the assembly. Friends, old friends of the Venerable, came from as far away as Cleveland, Ohio.

Bishop Bernard Hubert officiated at the Solemn Mass, which began at quarter past twelve. Concelebrating with him were Fr. Edward Sheridan, Assistant to Fr. Arrupe, General of the Society of Jesus, Fr. Julien Harvey, Provincial, and Fr. Léon Lajoie, Pastor of the Mission. In the sanctuary participated thirteen other concelebrants among whom were Fr. Gérard Lavigne of St. Regis, Fr. Thomas Egan from the Martyrs' Shrine at Auriesville and other priests from the Mohawk Valley. Fr. Albert Burns, S.J., former Pastor at the Mission, joined the choir members, all intimate acquaintances.

In the United States as well at St. Regis and at Caughnawaga, the tercentenary of the holy death of "Kaiatonoron" Kateri Tekakwitha was gloriously commemorated.

Meantime, on the other side of the ocean, the Beatification was being carefully planned. On May 21, at the Vatican, it was decided that the ceremonies would take place within the Basilica of St. Peter and not outside in the great piazza. Fr. Béchard was pleased, so, not doubt, were Msgr. Lenz and Fr. McBride. But nothing else was settled.

About the middle of June, Fr. Molinari gave Father Béchard a call. He was looking for a Mohawk like Kateri to read one of the Universal Prayers during the Mass of Beatification. Fr. Béchard suggested the name of the president of the Indian Choir at Caughnawaga, Mrs. Esther Phillips. She had recently undergone an operation of the knee, but, even so, managed to get about with a

little help. On that, the Postulator General dictated in English the following prayer to be translated into Iroquois:

For peace in the world: so that the echo of Christ's message may become a leaven of love in the hearts of all men and women and inspire them in their efforts to build together a life that is more just and more human, in which the rights of the oppressed may be recognized and the ethnic racial minorities be respected and loved.²

Fr. Molinari wanted the Indian version for the next day. Mrs. Phillips got in touch with her best soprano, Mrs. Annie Lahache, who mastered the Mohawk language as well as she did, and asked her help in preparing the prayer in their maternal language—that of the Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha. The following day, Fr. Béchard was able to read the invocation in Iroquois to Fr. Molinari. A quarter of an hour after, the telephone rang again in the Kateri Center. Fr. Molinari wanted to control the text and it was necessary to reread the Mohawk prayer to him letter by letter.

Then it was that Fr. Julien Harvey, Provincial of the French Canadian Jesuits, took action. On April 15, he wrote a letter to eight of his men and invited them to become part of a Jesuit Committee for the Beatification of Kateri Tekakwitha. Fr. Marcel Laberge was named president and Frs. Michael Jacobs, Henri Béchard, Pierre Bélanger, Louis Joseph Goulet, Paul Hamel and the two pastors of the Iroquois Missions, Frs. Léon Lajoie, and Gérard Lavigne were appointed as his assistants. The task of the Committee consisted in assuring the participation of the public in the initiatives which the Mohawks of Caughnawaga, St. Regis, and Oka as well as the dioceses of St. Jean de Quebec and Valleyfield would take. It must also assist the Indians who planned to go to Rome, and consider an eventual contribution to them, take care of the publicity, and foresee the festivities in Canada on their return from the Eternal City.

On May 2, at half past ten, Quebec Seminary, founded in 1663 by Bishop de Laval, one of the three future Blessed, welcomed another Beatification Committee, much more important than the one mentioned above. His Excellency Archbishop Jean Marie Fortier of Sherbrooke, P.Q., presiding over the first reunion of this Committee for the Canadian Episcopacy, invited His Eminence Cardinal Roy to say the opening prayer and a word of welcome to the repre-

² Skenen ne owentakwekon: ne raowenna ne Sonkwawenniio toka aionkwatetase ne kanoronkwasera nene raoneriane ne rononkwe neaonteta tsinahoten neronontonnion nahonnonni senha naiottakwarisionhake ne onkwetake ratinakerion ne onka iontatkenronni nahatisatstene ne niateka naweraserake nahonwatirwakonniestake tanon nahonwatorononkwake.

sentatives of the Committees of the Venerable Francis de Laval, of Mary of the Incarnation and of Kateri Tekakwitha. The Cardinal began by expressing his satisfaction at being able to welcome the members present and by reminding them of the joyful event that was in preparation. It could culminate, according to him, in the happy realization of the wishes and prayers of all. His Eminence concluded with the hope that these celebrations would be the occasion of a marvellous taking into account of all the spiritual treasures of the country.

They then proceeded to review the work already accomplished by the Committees for the three Causes. As to that of the Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha, which particularly interests us here, what had been decided at the first meeting of the Jesuit Committee for the Beatification was repeated.

For the tercentenary of the saintly death of the Venerable Kateri, it had been hoped that the Honorable John Fraser, Postmaster General, would grant a commemorative stamp in honor of the Mohawk Maiden. "After having carefully examined the question," he wrote, "we must regretfully inform you that we cannot issue a stamp in honor of this religious personality... The consultative Committee on stamps, decided that her realization were not of a kind to serve for a stamp..."³ Stamps to honor Blessed Marguerite Bourgeoys and Blessed Marguerite d'Youville had already been issued.

Bishop Cimichella, who had recommended that the Conference of Canadian Bishops request a stamp to honor the tercentenary of Kateri Tekakwitha from the Conservative Government, was of the opinion that her beatification was another valid reason. He therefore referred this project once again to the Catholic Conference of Canadian Bishops. Archbishop Joseph J. MacNeil of Edmonton, Alberta, President of the Conference, thereupon applied to the new Postmaster General, the Honorable André Ouellet about a commemorative stamp for Kateri. On April 7, 1980, Bishop Cimichella, Msgr. Louis Aucoin, P.D., Pastor of St. Vincent Ferrier's parish in Montreal, Bishop Gilles Bélisle, Auxiliary at Ottawa, Bishop Eugene P. Laroque of Alexandria, Mr. Albert Lazare from Caughnawaga, P.Q. and Fr. Henri Béchar, S.J. from the Kateri Center went to the Canadian Parliament in Ottawa, where they were favorably received by the Honorable Minister. However, as the year was quite advanced, the unveiling was postponed to April 26, 1981 after the young Mohawk's Beatification.

As a result of the 1931 understanding between Bishop Gibbons, of Albany and Archbishop Gauthier of Montreal, the American Epis-

³ Truth to say, the Postmaster General was not the prime mover of this unfortunate measure, which, however, he covered with his authority, but the Consultative Committee on stamps by adhering too strictly to the badly conceived timetable.

copate, in particular that of New York State with Bishop Howard J. Hubbard and His Eminence Cardinal Cooke, took interest in the Cause of Kateri Tekakwitha. Later on, Cardinal Krol of Polish origin, Archbishop of Philadelphia and head of the Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions, gave this affair his entire attention.

During the reunion of May 2 at Quebec, following this review of the efforts of Fr. Harvey's Kateri Committee, plans were made for the celebrations at Rome and in France as well as those in Canada after the Beatification on June 22, 1980. Bishop Bernard Hubert of St. Jean de Quebec, decided that the celebrations at Caughnawaga would take place on the following Sunday, June 27.

All these Committees met from time to time in Quebec and Montreal until the end of June. Betweenwhiles, from May 29 to June 1, the parishioners of St. Catherine of Laprairie, P.Q., organized a triduum of prayers and festivities for the tercentennial of the happy death and of the forthcoming Beatification of Kateri Tekakwitha. With the backing of Fr. Philippe Burton, O. Praem., their pastor, they kept her day in fine style. For the occasion, Mr. Gerard Bonicalzi and the Knights of Columbus of the town restored and tastefully decorated the surroundings of the cenotaph of the young Iroquois Maiden, erected in 1884 by Fr. Clarence Walworth of Albany, N.Y. Later on, Mr. and Mrs. Bonicalzi would hand over to the Holy Father the story of the festivities at **Kateri tsi tkaiatat** or the "Place where Kateri was buried."

The month of June went rapidly by, taken up as it was in preparing the pilgrimage to Rome. More than four hundred, many of whom were Native Canadians coming from every corner of the country had decided to attend the Beatification Liturgy. The respective pastors of Caughnawaga and St. Regis or Akwesasne, Frs. Léon Lajoie, S.J., and Gérard Lavigne, S.J., were quite satisfied with the number of Mohawk pilgrims. Kateri would surely be pleased.

The two Catholic papers of Kateri's diocese, St. Jean de Quebec, called the coming Beatification of the Lily of the Mohawks to the attention of the faithful. **Le Richelieu** reprinted the June 1, 1939 issue: "To the most beautiful flower born among us," all of which had been written by Msgr. Lucien Messier.

In the United States, at Albany, N.Y., Bishop Bernard Hubbard, organized by means of his diocesan journal, **The Evangelist**, a pilgrimage for Kateri Tekakwitha's devotees. He named as its head Mr. Jon Harrington, and as pilgrimage coordinators Frs. Joseph McBride, S.J. and Ronald Schultz, O.F.M. Conv. From one end of the country to the other, hundreds of friends of the Mohawk Maiden, particularly Native Americans, signed up for the trip to Rome.

In Washington, D.C., at the Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions, nobody was idle. About April 15, Msgr. Paul Lenz flew to Rome to find out how the American Church would participate in the Mass of Beatification. As four other persons were to be beatified at the same time as the young Mohawk, the Bureau wanted to represent suitably the 500 tribes of the country. On returning home, Monsignor began to promote a pilgrimage to Rome for the great day. It was to join that of the diocese of Albany which would comprise Cardinals Cooke and Krol and Bishops Hubbard of Albany and Clark of Rochester. The departure of the American contingent took place on June 19, at 6:45 p.m. on Long Island at the JFK Airport.

Later on, that same day, at the International Airport of Mirabel, a little north of Montreal, the Canadian pilgrims gathered together. Among them were about ninety Iroquois from Caughnawaga and sixty from St. Regis. These two groups were particularly important: the first one came from the Mission where Kateri achieved holiness before her death in 1680, and the second, from the one established by the Caughnawaga Indians in 1755. To them must be added about twenty Hurons from Lorette, P.Q. It was thought at the time that the Government of the Province of Quebec had covered the cost of the latter's tickets, but this was not so. There were also other Amerindians from Quebec, Ontario, the Maritime Provinces as well as the Western Provinces including two Canadian Eskimos, Bartholomew Nerlongayok and his wife.

Before emplaning, Fr. Léon Lajoie, S.J., pastor of Kateri's Mission and organizer of the pilgrimage, along with Fr. Joseph Montour, O.M.I., passed among the travellers with a good word for each one. He congratulated Mr. Murray Sayers, Deacon, and his wife, Sisters Priscilla Solomon, and Dorothy Lazore from Ontario; Kateri Mitchell from New York State, and two if not three other Sisters Kateri Tekakwitha for going to the Eternal City to take part in the celebrations in honor of the Lily of the Mohawks.

(To be continued)

✿ Kateri's smile upon you, Mrs. F.E.!

I'm enclosing a small donation in thanksgiving for a favor received through the intercession of Blessed Kateri. The cattle market was depressed, and my son would have lost many thousands of dollars. I asked Kateri for help and he was lucky to sell without a loss. I am praying to speed the elevation of Kateri to the altar. God bless your work.

(Gilbert, AZ)

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

PLEASE RENEW YOUR SUBSCRIPTION; SEND GIFT SUBSCRIPTIONS TO:

- (1) NAME M
STREET
CITY OR TOWN
PROVINCE OR STATE
- (2) NAME M
STREET
CITY OR TOWN
PROVINCE OR STATE
- (3) NAME M
STREET
CITY OR TOWN
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- (4) NAME M
STREET
CITY OR TOWN
PROVINCE OR STATE
- (5) NAME M
STREET
CITY OR TOWN
PROVINCE OR STATE

(GIFT NOTE SENT UNLESS OTHERWISE REQUESTED)

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 Tiorhatarion 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.