

No 174

Postage Paid at Montreal
Publication Mail Registration No. 0854



Compliments

of the

KAHNAWAKE

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CLUB

KATERI

No 174

KATERIGRAM

THE MARTIN SKONDEGONRASKEN ROLL

AMERINDIAN NEWS

THE ANCESTOR OF THE CARIBOU

THE STORY OF GUADALUPE: A XMAS STORY

THE OLD STORY IN A NEW LAND

MERRY XMAS

THE STORY NECLACE

THE POPE SPEAKS OUT

NEWS FROM THE CENTER

**LILY OF
THE MOHAWKS**

Kahnawake, Quebec, Canada



Winter • 1992



The Kateri Center
Box 70
Kahnawake, Quebec J0L 1B0
Tel.: (514) 638-1546 or 632-6030

KATERI

No 174

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 also seeks 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 (\$3.00 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.;

December 1992

Printed with Approbation of the Ordinary and Permission of Superiors, Canada. Kateri (ISSN 0135-8020) is published quarterly for \$3.00 per year by the Kateri Center, Box 70, Kahnawake, Quebec, J0L 1B0. U.S.: Third class postage paid at Champlain, NY 12919.

Katerigram

Here's a story from my childhood. A Xmas story, a true story. A story for all.

My parents then lived in Manitoba, a few miles away from the Roseau Reserve, where there were a few hundred Saulteaux Indians.

Once a month, an Oblate missionary got off the train and invariably my father would take him by car to his mission.

It was the Sunday before Xmas and the missionary came to celebrate the Lord's birth by anticipation, with his Saulteaux brothers and sisters.

A few parishioners rushed to the chapel first, to prepare for the feast. For the crib, all they had to do was to cut a few pine trees close by and with some branches make a nest where the baby could be placed.

Father, seeing them all busy with the preparation felt so happy. In their hearts too, no doubt, they were preparing a crib for their Savior. This chapel was not a big city cathedral with lofty decorations but there was the shining whiteness outside, the warmth filled with the odor of fresh pines, and the stars sparkling as if to guide Joseph and Mary to this humble enclosure. There was room for them in the hearts of many a Saulteux.

The evening was moving ahead. A few young girls were already singing Xmas carols. Their mothers were joyfully making the chapel tidy and clean. Peter the elder, by himself, went to and fro, concerned. In spite of his searching everywhere - in the sacristy, in the small choirloft, under the altar - he could not find the waxed Baby-Jesus. he was going to confide his concern to Father when his wife exclaimed: "Here it is!" It was nestling there under the altar, in a brown bag, almost imperceptible. She brought it with pride to Peter who received it with dignity. Unwrapping it, what a surprise: instead of a white-wax Jesus, His face was all brown, brown like the skin of a Saulteux...

Mass could start now and the missionary was so eager to announce to his faithful: "My dear brothers and sisters: Jesus is born. Tonight he is born for you in a special way. See Him in the crib: Jesus is an Indian."



Kateri Tekakwitha was baptized on April 5, 1676, in Fonda, NY, but it is only on December 25, 1677, after coming to Laprairie, that she was free to practice her religion, that she could really celebrate Xmas.

How she must have admired Jesus in the crib then, before receiving Him in her heart at communion time. For Kateri, Jesus was an Indian.

Jacques Bruyère, S.J.
Vice-Postulator



The Martin Skondegonrasken Roll

Martin Skondegonrasken, one of Kateri's contemporaries was only 18 years old when he settled down at the Mission of St. Francis Xavier in 1673. Predisposed to Christianity, he was baptized after only two months of probation. He had a great devotion to Mary. During the Xmas hunt, he fell seriously ill. In the heart of the forest, Our Lady appeared to him three times. Soon he would be with her in paradise, she promised. He died on Xmas day.

- | | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Mrs. Annie Peter Paul | 21. Miss Amélie LeBlanc | 41. Rev. Fred Jordan |
| 2. A Soul in Purgatory | 22. Mr. Richard J. Taylor | 42. Mr. Napoléon Meilleur |
| 3. Miss Rose Anna Mallet | 23. Mrs. Richard J. Taylor | 43. Mrs. Napoléon Meilleur |
| 4. Miss Léonie Girard | 24. Mrs. Mary Frances Neubold | 44. Mr. Pierre Caron |
| 5. A Soul in Purgatory | 25. Mr. Gérard Chagnon | 45. A Soul in Purgatory |
| 6. Mr. Levite Picard | 26. Mr. Denis Robichaud | 46. Mr. Fred Bvono |
| 7. Mr. Vincent M. Charamella | 27. Mrs. Marguerite Dumaine | 47. Miss Rose-Alma Tchernoff |
| 8. Mr. Edgar V. Brideau | 28. Mr. Camille Roy | 48. Mrs. Yvonne Servante |
| 9. Mr. Alonzo Godbout | 29. Mr. Paul-Emile Laplante | 49. A Soul in Purgatory |
| 10. Mr. Robert Birch | 30. Mr. Delford Van Leuvan | 50. Mr. Noël Paris |
| 11. Mr. Nelson Vermette | 31. Mr. Emilien Bourgouin | 51. A Soul in Purgatory |
| 12. Mr. Noël Lamy | 32. Mr. Michel Laquerre | 52. A Soul in Purgatory |
| 13. Mrs. Anita St. Jean | 33. Mrs. Hazel Peter Paul | 53. A Soul in Purgatory |
| 14. Mr. Donat Giroux | 34. Mr. Lévi Thibodeau | 54. Mr. Thurbide Corriveau |
| 15. Miss Nancy Frost | 35. Mr. Fulton Monroe Green | 55. Mrs. Hélène Cantin |
| 16. Mr. Earl Frost | 36. A Soul in Purgatory | 56. Mr. René Charest |
| 17. Mr. Roger Fortier | 37. Mr. Claude Gagné | 57. Mr. Robert Diotte |
| 18. Mr. Paul Pépin | 38. Miss Mary Lou Green | 58. Mrs. Alice Brideau |
| 19. Mr. Martin LeBreton | 39. Mrs. Florence St-Pierre | 59. Mr. Jean-Paul Fortin |
| 20. Mr. Michael Prendergast | 40. Miss Marie-France Breault | 60. Mr. Paul-Emile Servant |

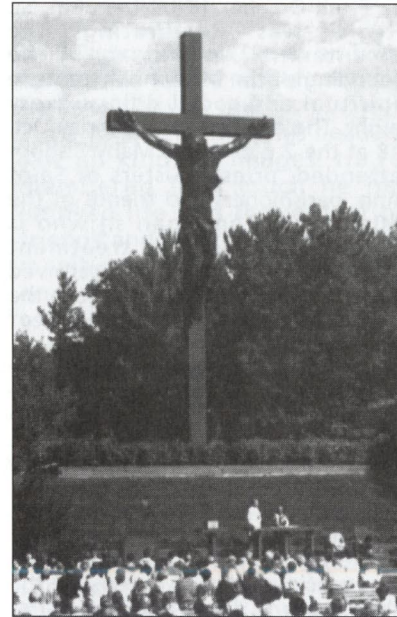


Painting done by Shirley Shopteese Munoz, presented to Our Lady of Snows Church, Potawami Reservation, Mayetta, KS. Phoenix Az.



AMERINDIAN NEWS

The Cross in the Woods



The world's largest crucifix, the Cross in the Woods was erected in Indian River, Michigan, in 1959.

The 31-foot - bronze Christ figure is mounted on a 55-foot-tall, 22-foot-wide redwood cross. The 60-foot steel cross near Unionville Pa. is the world's largest cross, however the Cross in the Woods has the world's largest crucifix.

The cross in the Woods traces its origin to the Rev. Charles D. Brophy, a Catholic priest in the Indian River area inspired by the story of a young woman, Kateri Tekakwitha. After she became a Christian, she made crosses of sticks which she placed throughout

the woods of her Native New York State.

Fr Brophy wanted to build a crucifix in the woods as a tribute to Kateri's Christian spirit and he decided the quiet forest near Burt Lake was the perfect site.

Kateri was a lover of the Cross. Even after her death she appeared to her friend and recommended the devotion to the Holy Cross.

Indian honored as missionary

Harry Blue Thunder, 86, last remaining member of a group of Indians who aided Jesuit missionaries in teaching Christianity on reservations of the Old West, was honored Oct. 31 for his missionary work. He received the Catholic Church Extension Society's Lumen Christi award at St. John's Seminary in Boston.

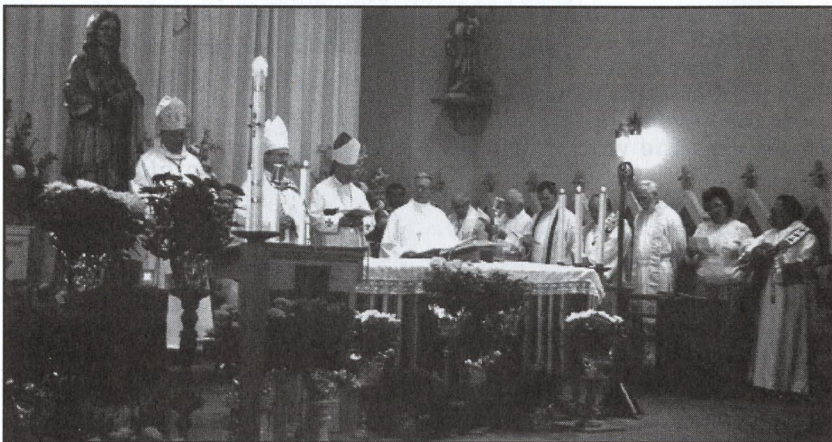
Blue Thunder, a Lakota Sioux from the remote Rosebud reservation in South Dakota, is the last survivor of a group of 96 Indian evangelists which was created shortly after the last battle of the Sioux wars in 1890. They performed duties now usually done by deacons.

"This is the untold story of a courageous group of Native Americans who were extending the faith to their own people at a very critical time in American Native history," said Extension Society president, the Very Rev. Edward J. Slatery.

1992 Nobel Peace Prize to Guatemala Native

Rigoberta Menchu is a 33 years old Mayan Indian whose parents and brother were killed out of violence. Two of her sisters joined the guerillas. She herself has led a peaceful fight for the rights of Guatemalan indigenous people. With several other Guatemalians in exile she has formed the "United Representation of the Guatemalan Opposition" which has worked on the international level to promote the cause of Guatemalians primarily indigenous population.

At the time of the Nobel announcement, she was in Guatemala to mark the 500 years of resistance to colonialism. Menchu intends to use the \$1.5 million prize to put up a fund in her father's name.



Grand finale of the celebrations of the Bicentennial of the Saint-Regis Mission, on October 26, 1992. Three Bishops were concelebrating.

Bicentennial of the Mission St. Régis

From October 10 till the 20th, St. Régis was celebrating the Bicentennial Anniversary of the founding of the Mission. There were spiritual and social doings every night. The climax was on Sunday Oct. 18 at the 2 p.m. Mass. Many Bishops attended, priests, Sisters of Saint Ann, parishioners and friends of the Mission. Fr Tom Egan s.j who is undergoing medical treatment managed to be there and received the Diocesan Merit Award from the hands of Bishop Robert Lebel, of Valleyfield.

An invitation was made to the parishioners to come back to the primitive fervor of the Mission "Grandparents and of the children. Today some of them cannot even make the sign of the cross..."

When the Mission was founded, its sister-mission, Saint-Francis-Xavier Mission of Kahnawake, offered some very precious relics of Kateri. But the church burnt down and the bones turned to ashes. Some parishioners say that today, in summer time, at the place where the relics were, a lily blooms... Congratulations to Saint-Francis Regis Mission!

The Ancestor of the Caribou

by Armand McKenzie

This story took place some time ago in the land of the Innuat. It is the story of a man already well on in years. He was sad in his heart because he felt he would soon die. He loved life very much.

He reflected and in his head, he saw all kinds of images. He remembered how much he had enjoyed life and thought of his friends and relatives. And he remembered when he was young and strong, the pleasure and astonishment he felt when he saw a caribou. He relived some unforgettable hunting moments.

He was very unhappy and felt a kind of suffocation in his soul. He told himself that he absolutely had to see a caribou before he died. He refused to accept such a sad death. To leave for the other world without seeing a caribou would be to show disrespect to the master of the animals of the world. Was it not thanks to him that he had lived well?

So he decided to leave the home he had been offered to persuade him to stop hunting. The old man went far away from the village. For him, the sedentary life was over.

Outside, it began to grow very cold. But that was of little importance to the old Innu compared to the dream he wanted to come true. He preferred to live out his last moments in the forest, where he was born, rather than allow himself to die in a small room in a house. However, even though he was now at home in the forest, he still felt somewhat sad. He still had not seen the animal he so wanted to gaze at. He began to feel weak. He told himself the caribou had surely taken shelter against the

cold and the wind. As the hours went by the weather was not getting any better. He already felt the cold penetrating his knees and his elbows, immobilizing him. He knew then that he did not have much longer. Increasingly, he asked himself if, in the next few moments, he would see the caribou. Suddenly, the old Innu slumped to the ground and lay with his face in the snow. His long white beard was already frozen. Sensing he would not see it, he was filled with great sorrow. A sorrow as bitter as the icy wind that blew across the immense lakes of his country. The old Innu began to shed tears of sadness.

During this lengthy complaint, the great creator heard the old man crying. He saw how the old Innu was and understood his deep love of nature, the animals, and particularly the caribou.

The old man was about to breathe his last, he had exhausted all his strength waiting, when something marvellous happened. A voice told him: "I have seen how much you prize life and I have seen how you love the animals I have created. Your strength has touched me. To show you how glad I am to see you acting like this, I want you to be master of the caribou. Accept my words."

Surprised, the old man accepted. From that moment, the Innu became a caribou. He grew stronger, and felt his pain quickly disappear. He walked better, and his breathing came easily.

Our old man, now the master of the caribou, could at last admire and contemplate the caribou in all its splendour.

THE STORY OF GUADALUPE is a Xmas story

"On Dec. 9th 1531 Mary came to Cuauhtlatohuac, as Pope John Paul II called him at his beatification on May 6, 1990, a name that means 'the eagle that speaks'. Better known by his imposed Spanish name, Juan Diego, a 57-year-old catechist was hurrying to the mission at Tlatilolco for Mass. Even the earth, the boulders, the plants glowed as Mary spoke to him in his native Nahuatl, from a desert hill long dedicated to Tonanzin, the Aztec 'mother of our gods'. As a sign to the local, sceptical Spanish bishop, Mary provided the marvellous 'out of season and out of site' flowers and her own life-sized portrait on Juan's tilma or cloak. There she was mestiza, métisse, Spanish and Aztec... reconciling in herself the two civilizations who had so recently come together. Her clothing was like that of the Aztec goddess Tonanzin, and the black sash to an Aztec meant that she was pregnant. Being 'clothed with the sun, the moon at her feet', both gods to the Aztec, she makes us think of Revelation 12. And she was about to give birth to Jesus in another culture. The Aztecs now saw a tender God of the Gospel who was on their side. And because they saw her as someone familiar, an earth mother who loved them and embraced their culture, the Aztec and other dispossessed First Nations embraced her as 'la Madrecita'



(the dear little one) or even 'Maronita' (the dear little brown one)."

"Not only does Mary appear to an Aztec but also as an Aztec. She has the same skin colour. The sun, moon and stars on her person and around her have specific Aztec meaning. She is dressed in colours reserved for their royalty, and she imprints her image on Juan Diego's 'tilma' or cotton coat. There can be no doubt that her apparitions were meant to affirm Juan Diego's people, and that all First Nations people can find in Guadalupe a deep affirmation of their worth and values.

Christmas is the celebration of promise, the promise that henceforth God is in our midst, God is one of us. The story of Guadalupe is a Christmas story. Perhaps even now God is here in our midst, in ways we have not seen because we have been looking in the wrong places. Guadalupe and the native, Juan Diego, invite us to new ways of finding God among us."

Kateri Tekakwitha and Juan Diego, for being devoted to Mary, "la Conquistadora of the Americas" are claimed to be two symbols of America. These two Indians, we hope officially to call saints and signal protectors of the Native Races of the New World.

The Old Story in a New Land

Father Antoine shivered slightly, even in the shelter of the log hut. He was cold with the bitter chill of the Canadian northland. But he was colder with loneliness and longing for home. Home, to Father Antoine, was the ordered peace of his monastery, back on the sunny slopes of the southern French hills. Home was the sweet ringing of the chapel bell, the solemn songs of the deep-voiced choir, the conversation about high and holy things.

Father Antoine raised homesick eyes to his surroundings. Outside were the huge pine trees hung with gleaming snow; the dead stillness of the forest; the snowshoes piled beside the low door of the nearby hunter's lodge. Around and about moved the tall forms of Indians, members of an unfriendly tribe camped nearby for a few days. Their presence made Father Antoine feel that he was indeed a stranger in a foreign land. For it was Christmas Eve! Christmas Eve and not a soul but faithful Pierre the fur trapper, his guide and companion, to join with him in the Christmas service tomorrow.

Yes, it was Christmas Eve, and all about him were the people of this unfriendly tribe. He had not expected to find them here, near the lonely hut of Pierre, where he had come to rest for a few days. Yet for the sake of just such people he had left the peace and order of the monastery and braved danger and hardship in an unfriendly, new world. Now as his chance to help.

As the thought took hold of his mind, Father Antoine's heart

began to glow once more. Christmas Eve, and here were those who had never heard the most glorious story of all the world. Christmas Eve, and here was he, knowing their language and able, though haltingly, to tell them of that story. The loneliness and cold vanished from the heart of Father Antoine. The wintry woods at which he had shivered not so many minutes ago seemed to sparkle with light and joy.

Father Antoine went hurrying into the woods, filled with the delight of a new idea. He would cut boughs of pine and hemlock and the graceful balsam. He would deck the cabin door and window. Pierre would bring logs and build a mighty fire before the door. They would invite the Indians to come and listen to the Christmas story. As he worked busily to get the greens, Father Antoine began to repeat to himself the story of the angels and the shepherds and the Wise Men. In what words should he tell the story to these Indians?

Father Antoine came to a sudden pause as he worked. He remembered that he did not know the Indian word for "sheep"; nor for "shepherd"; nor for "camels," as far as that went. I must ask Pierre, he thought. Then he laughed aloud in the still forest. There would be no such words in the language of the people of the far north woods. They had never seen any sheep. Nor any shepherds! And most certainly no camels!

Father Antoine went slowly on with his work. His mind was busy planning the story in a way which could be understood by the



The Old Story in a New Land (continued)

Indians. "Perhaps it is not needful for these forest folk to hear of the beasts that live in Palestine," he said to himself. "I think not. For it is about the wonder and beauty of that first Christmas night that I want to tell them."



Pierre was delighted when he heard Father Antoine's plan. He carried the invitation to the Indian camp. He helped to deck the lodge with pine and spruce and balsam and dark hemlock. He heaped high a pile of logs near the door. Then, when the hour had come, he carried embers from the fire within and lighted the Christmas logs.

It was a strange sight that firelight showed - the keen, bronzed faces, and lean and hardy forms of chiefs and braves, the slender figures and the deep dark eyes of squaws and maidens. Among them were the children, eager to know the news this pale-faced man might bring.

Father Antoine stood upon the threshold of the lodge. He raised his hand. Then in words that sometimes faltered, but with voice strong and clear, he told the Christmas story. And in these words he spoke it.

"It was a night like this," said Father Antoine. "The woods were dark and full of snow. The moon shone bright upon the hills and valleys. Through the woods, traveling to join a gathering of their tribes, there came a man and woman, worn with cold, weary of the trail.

"Night had fallen before they reached the camp. The place was already full. There was no room for them within the wigwams of their friends. No room in any lodge! But she, the squaw, had bitter need of shelter. So at length a place was found, beneath the spreading branches of a mighty pine. There had been heaped the poles on which the wigwam coverings were dragged in travel. There, a sort of shelter was devised where she might rest."

The Indian folk leaned forward to hear better. They knew well how weary one could be from winter travel.

Father Antoine went on. "'Twas on that very night, within that shelter, that her child was born. There was no bed in which to lay the babe. They placed him on a deerskin, soft as moss, laid in a cradle of soft evergreen. Her brave kept a fire blazing in the open place between the trees. He dared not have the flaming logs beneath the pine tree. But he carried hot coals so as to bring their warmth to the mother and to the child."

Father Antoine paused. This next part of the story was not easy to make clear to those who listened.

"Out on the forest trails," he said, "the hunters of the tribe followed the deer in search of

food for their people. When the hunt was over and they had started home, their feet came to a sudden stop upon the trail. They listened. From somewhere there came sounds such as they had never in their lives heard before. It was the music of sweet voices singing. Sweeter than the voice of wind among the treetops; fairer than the sound of rain upon parched forest; softer than the sound of waves lapping upon the lake shore, came the music. Suddenly, before them on the trail, in garments whiter than the snow itself, with great white wings that reached as high as the tallest pine tree, stood a messenger with arms outstretched. The hunters feared not man nor beast, but now they were filled with fearsome wonder. As they stood in awe, the messenger spoke and said: "In a forest shelter near, a child is just now born. That child is sent by the Great Spirit, for your people's good. Beneath a pine tree, cradled in a deerskin, you will find him."

"His message given, with quivering wings the messenger floated out of sight. Suddenly all the sky was filled with brightness. Praise to the Great Spirit filled the air."

Father Antoine's very voice was full of wonder as he pictured the scene. He went on with the story. "When the song was finished, and the forest once again lay silent, the hunters hurried to their camp. Beneath the ancient tree they found the child, as the messenger had said, all wrapped in deerskin. Such a tiny babe! So deep and cold

the snow! The youngest hunter stripped away the wolfskin he was wearing and wrapped it around the child."

Listening carefully to the story, the squaws nodded their heads. They knew how warm a wolfskin was. The baby in the story would lie snug that night, they knew.

Father Antoine paused as he finished his story. Then he lifted high his arms above the listening folk. "Great Spirit, Father, God," he prayed, "be here, within this forest and among these folk. Enter their hearts that they may then come to know the love which sent thy Son to us to teach us of thee."

When the Indians had gone, old Pierre smiled. "Father, I had forgotten it could be Christmas in such a wilderness. But as you talked I felt the same springing joy I used to know at home."

"Christmas is in the heart, Pierre," said Father Antoine. "And I pray that the good God may someday have the love of these wild children of the forest. May their hearts someday be full of Christmas love and of the love of God."

The embers of the fire cooled and blackened. Within the close-barred lodge, Father Antoine and old Pierre wrapped themselves in their skins of wolf and otter and lay down to sleep. Their loneliness was gone. They were happy in the memory of the Christmas story spread.



Emilie Glen



*A Xmas and a New Year
Full of gifts!*

Best Wishes!

Huron Christmas Carol Jesous Ahatonhia
circa 1641 - by Father Jean de Brébeuf

*"Twas in the moon of winter time when all the birds had fled,
That Mighty Gitchi Manitou sent angel choirs instead.*

*Before their light the stars grew dim,
And wand'ring hunters heard the hymn:*

*"Jesus, your King, is born;
Jesus is born;
In Excelsis Gloria!"*

*Within a lodge of broken bark the tender 'Babe was found.
A ragged robe of rabbit skin enwrapped His beauty' round.*

*And as the hunter braves drew nigh,
The angel song rang loud and high:
"Jesus, your King, etc.*

*The earliest moon of winter time is not so round and fair
As was the ring of glory on the helpless Infant there.*

*While Chiefs from far before Him knelt,
With gifts of fox and beaver pelt.
"Jesus, your King, etc.*

*O children of the forest free, O sons of Manitou,
The Holy Child of earth and heav'n is born to-day for you.*

*Come, kneel before the radiant Boy
Who brings you beauty, peace and joy.
"Jesus, your King, etc.*

"The Story Necklace"



The "story" necklace is a combination of the Zuni "fettish" and the American "charm," however, the charms in this particular piece of jewelry are sacramental in character for they have been blessed. Together, the Zuni fetish symbols and the charms that were found in a "holy" box, tell a simple tale of a little Mohawk-Algonquin Indian girl who lived over three hundred years ago when America was in an aboriginal state. The story is of our precious friend, Kateri Tekakwitha, from the Eastern woodlands.

The tiny hand-carved creatures represent the symbols of the Mohawk clan: the turtle, wolf and bear. In this case, the turtle is the most significant for it represents "Mother Earth" in

Iroquois mythology and in the Mohawk tribe, is the symbol of the clan in which Kateri's father was a great Mohawk Chief.

Other creatures such as game, fish and birds symbolized the swirling rivers and lush green forests in which Kateri romped. In this photo, on the first level, centered, you see a turquoise eagle. This sacred bird symbolizes "flight" for this necklace tells the story of Kateri's ascent to the pinnacle of life in search for her treasure.

There are ten strands representing the ten plateaus of the mountain of life which Kateri must traverse to get to the top. The two large turquoise wolves on the highest level, gaze upward to the "Great Spirit" who looks down on His Creation.

The Zuni tribe of the Southwest, create their nature images from the natural stones of Arizona. Included in this necklace are stones of turquoise, coral, mother-of-pearl, malachite, lapis, peach-melon shell, yellow and clear amber, black jet and serpentine. In the Zuni culture, the turquoise means: strength and protection from evil while the malachite and lapis have the capability for energy and endurance. The holy "babe of the woods" embodies all of these characteristics and many more! "She-Who-Feels-Her-Way" up the mountain of life chooses the path of the way of the cross. Kateri Tekakwitha was born, lived and died by the cross. She found her treasure...the golden cross of victory and in this cross Kateri found peace, tranquility, joy and ultimate, perfect, profound, intimate union with the "Great Spirit."

Imagine a mountain with ten levels to mount. The first plateau begins wide but as the ascent progresses, the way becomes steeper and the course narrower. This "necklace" mountain is divided into three sections: the left, right and center. The "difficult" paths in which are scattered a variety of crosses are located to the left and right of the

central course which is the way of the living river of the spirit, refreshing the soul with the crystal water of grace as indicated by gold or silver crosses suspended along the way. The black, tarnished or dull crosses on the route of the brambles, thorns and jagged rocks of suffering and persecution, all provide strength and light, leading Kateri to the mainstream of the living waters. It is on this course that Kateri ultimately traverses, passing through the waters of Baptism, Holy Eucharist and finally the waters of pure love of Jesus indicated by her vow of perpetual virginity in March of 1679, on the day of the Annunciation, March the 25th. It was on this path that she totally gave her soul to Jesus in the Eucharist and her body to Jesus on the cross in severe acts of sacrifice and penance. It was on this route that she became a member of the Holy Family Association. "She-Who-Feels-Her-Way" approached her peak of life infused with Divine graces from the crystal waters and emerged fragrant and pure as a lily.

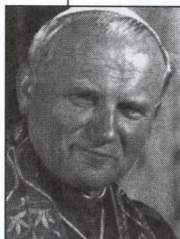
The necklace has twenty-four medals, some silver others blue which chart the course of her life on earth for twenty-four years, the blue medals representing her heavier trials. The two Zuni turtles inlaid with turquoise and silver with a drop of coral in the center, flanking the cross between them of the same design and color, illustrates that Kateri was born of a Mohawk father and an Algonquin Christian mother. The coral drop in the center of these symbols symbolize their suffering and death by the dread disease, "smallpox" when Kateri was four, leaving her orphaned... her first major cross.

On the first level, are two medals representing the Christ Child and the Blessed Virgin, illustrating that Kateri's Christian mother, imbued her with the embryo of faith during her tender years before four. Three little circular silver medals with gold rays on various levels indicate the three names; "Sunshine Tekakwitha;" "She-Who-Feels-Her-Way" and finally "Kateri." her Baptismal name from Catherine of Alexandria. Special medals on the necklace bear meaning indirectly next to crosses of silver and gold are special symbols along the living waters of life. They are: a gold Baptismal shell, chalice with Host, Holy Spirit and Guardian Angel.

In the heart of the necklace is a big circular gold medal of eight sides with rays emanating showing Kateri's transformation in Christ. Below is the relic of her rib bone blessed by the Holy Father at her Beatification. High above the peak of the mountain is suspended a cross of mother-of-pearl, colored lavender symbolizing Kateri in heaven now sending her gifts to man, of love and intercession. The roses and birds convey her happiness in Heaven. There are twenty-six tiny stones from which the cross suspends, symbolizing Kateri's precious virtues which merits her power to intercede for mankind on earth.

The excitement of the "story necklace" is that it lends itself to adding more charms to enhance the "tale". Since the photo was taken several medals and crosses were added. The necklace, however is missing one medal. With your prayers one day soon, will join the others as: **St. Kateri, Tekakwitha!**

Marlene McCauley
Phoenix, Arizona



The Pope talks to the Knights of Columbus

We are united with the whole Church in giving thanks to God for five hundred years of the Church's presence in the Americas, five centuries of faith and service, of confidence in the saving power of the Cross of Jesus Christ.

Because the Church acknowledges her Savior as the Lord of history, from the very beginning she saw the discovery of the New World as a fresh and urgent call to carry out the mission he entrusted to his Apostles: "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations" (Mt 28:19). Then as now, the Church recognized the unfolding of a divine plan of salvation in the events of human history. In this sense, 1492 represented a *kairos*, a "salvific occasion" of the first magnitude, to which the Church responded promptly and decisively, in a great saga of evangelization. Generous missionaries faced enormous challenges in the new lands, in order to plant the Cross of Christ. They preached the Word of God in all its fullness, without passing over in silence the practical consequences that derive from the dignity of each man and woman - brothers and sisters in Christ and children of God.

In this evangelization as in any human enterprise there were successes, failures and mistakes, "darkness and light but more light than darkness," to judge from the results we see five hundred years later (*International Symposium on the History of Evangelization of America, May 14, 1992, 3*). In view of various attempts to distort the history of the evangelization of the Americas, I have appealed to historians and others to seek the truth in the facts. One extraordinary fact which cannot be overlooked is the conversion to Christianity, within a relatively short period of time, of an enormous continent, a continent where half of the world's Catholics now live. The depth and the fruitfulness of the acceptance of the Gospel clearly indicate that the first evangelization of the Americas was truly a work of love. The encounter between European missionaries and the indigenous peoples, while not exempt from certain misunderstandings and limitations characteristic of that age, was in both practice and theory a vigorous affirmation of the equal dignity of all peoples and the universality of the basic rights inherent in human nature.

John Paul II

KATERI CENTER NEWS

FAVORS registered at the Kateri Center from August 19 to November 4, 1992.

Alcoholic Problem Solved	1
Articles Found	4
Better Health	10
Business Problem Solved	1
Cures	9
Employment Found or Kept	22
Financial Aid	1
Lodgings	2
Peace in Families	2
Properties Bought or Sold	4
Return to the Faith	1
Safe Pregnancies	4
Safe Trips	3
Successful Studies	4
Successful or Averted Operations	13
Temporal Favors	2

Twenty-five Prayer Pledges or More

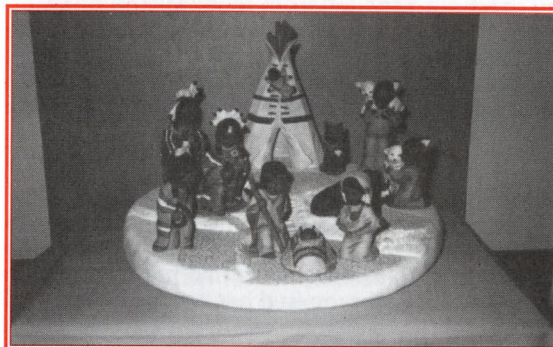
Sister Marie-Ange, Syracuse, NY, 55.

Long live the Members of the Kateri Band Club!

Even though the Kateri Center did not send out a reminder to renew its enrollment in the Club, it has received many a renewal for 1992-1993. Many will follow suit, of course. Thank you!

A new statue to Kateri in Washington D.C.

Before this Kateri issue is out, a new Vermont marble statue of Kateri will be unveiled, blessed and dedicated in the Basilica of the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington D.C., on Monday November 16. The special rite will be performed during Mass, with a special sweet grass Ceremony and singing by the Mohawks of Kahnawake. Blessed Kateri's will be the last major statue to be installed at the Shrine, being located next to those of Saint Francis Cabrini and Saint Elizabeth-Ann Seton. His Em. Cardinal Hickey, Archbishop of Washington, made a simple comment: "There is life in this statue!" Msgr Paul Lenz, executive director of the U.S. Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions comments further: "One gets the impression of Blessed Kateri really alive with her Indianness and Faith so very evident. As she looks at the cross there is strength of love that is brought out..."



A Nativity set made by Mariette Cappuccilli and Barbara Montour, from the Kateri Activity Department of the Kateri Memorial Hospital Center, in Kahnawaké, P. Q.

Testimonies of favors obtained

✿ Kateri's smile upon you, Mrs. O. J. K.!

For helping me find a valuable document stashed away in an unusual corner, I enclose a cheque for fifty dollars towards Kateri's canonization.

(Montreal, QC)

✿ Kateri's smile upon you, Mrs. P. C.!

The enclosed check is a small donation in thanksgiving for a safe and happy delivery of my great grandson. I knew Kateri would pray for my granddaughter and I thank her with all my heart. She has never failed to answer my many requests and now I have another one to ask...

(Astoria, NY)

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

Thank you for your prayers and kindness. I wish to thank Blessed Kateri for many favors granted. Especially for helping my nephews with their school work. One was in danger of failing 8th grade, but he made it! Please pray that he will be accepted into a Catholic high school...

(Chalmette, LA.)

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

Enclosed is a donation of five dollars in gratitude to Kateri for helping me through my mastectomy. It was a very traumatic time for me and my family. Please Kateri pray that I weather the chemo and radiation treatments which I will have to take for a month. I pray for Kateri's canonization every day and would like you to send me some prayer cards so I can give them to my friends.

(Birmingham, AL)

✿ Kateri's smile upon you, Mr. L. P.!

Thank you my little intercessor Blessed Kateri, for healing my five year old grandson and his mother. Both were seriously ill during a period of a year. I am enclosing twenty-five dollars for Kateri's Cause and promise to do all that I can to obtain many pledges for her canonization... God bless all of your efforts.

(Chicopee, MA)

✿ Kateri's smile upon you, Mrs. L. P.!

Enclosed please find my check for fifty dollars in thanksgiving to Kateri for a favor received. I have been praying her novena prayers for the past eight months in addition to my daily prayers for her canonization. I feel now that my daughter has been given another chance to make something of her life and I will continue to pray that Kateri will guide her.

(Baltimore, MD)

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

Please find enclosed a check for twenty dollars to help further Kateri's cause. I asked Kateri to intercede in a leg/foot condition that I had been experiencing since April. To this date, I have had hardly any pain in my leg/foot, thanks to Kateri! I had promised her twenty dollars and to have the favor published.

(Cinnaminson, NJ)

✿ Kateri's smile upon you, Mr. and Mrs. A. R.!

On May 24, 1992 while returning from a visit from the Kateri Center and sharing a Mass, my wife and I were involved in a car accident on the Northway. The front tire of our car blew out taking us into the guard rails, taking down 21 of them and totally destroying our car. When the vehicle finally stopped we were about ten feet from an 80 foot drop off. We firmly believe Kateri stopped us there. Her presence was really felt there in our car. When the State Police arrived at the scene of the accident his comment was: "It's a miracle you were not killed. Someone had to be riding with you." The only injury was a scratched foot my wife received. We firmly believe Blessed Kateri was with us this day and every day. We pray to her daily for guidance in our lives. As Jesus guided her through her life, she guides us through our lives daily.

(Amsterdam, NY)

✿ Kateri's smile upon you, Mr. and Mrs. C. H.!

Please accept this small donation for favors and prayers answered. Our daughter just had her first child and both mother and baby are doing well. We pray daily to Blessed Kateri and for her to pray for us.

(New Minas, N.S.)

✿ Kateri's smile upon you, Mrs. L. Z.!

Enclosed is twenty-five dollars in thanksgiving to Blessed Kateri for a successful operation for breast cancer on August 21, 1992. I pray this donation will help further the Cause of Kateri. I go to the Kateri Aboriginal Church in Winnipeg, Man. That is where I learned of Blessed Kateri and I am so happy I did.

(Winnipeg, Man.)

✿ Kateri's smile upon you, Ms. S. A.!

I wish to thank Kateri for a favor received. I was under great stress about a new furnace. Everything turned out for the best. Enclosed is a check for twenty dollars.

(Grand Rapids, MI.)

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

I want to thank Blessed Kateri for answering my prayers. Shortly after I made a novena to her, my son found a job.

(East Bay, NS)

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

Enclosed is a check for Kateri and for prayers answered. My granddaughter was accepted in a catholic school the same week I asked for prayers...

(Albuquerque, NM)

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

Enclosed please find a check for fifteen dollars which I had promised Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha for the blessing and help I asked of her so my sonnegram tests would be negative. I just learned today that they were O.K. I will be ever grateful to her and our Blessed Mother. Please remember me in your prayers.

(Azusa, CA)

Little Sister wants to know...



Amy Tekakwitha Guyer
Born December 1985
Kahnawake, Quebec

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

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

*Some 25,191 pledges have come in
after ten years' effort.*

Please send yours to: The Kateri Center
Box 70
Kahnawake, Quebec J0L 1B0

My pledge to KATERI _____ Date _____

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

Name _____

Street or Box _____

City or Town _____

Province or State _____ Code _____

Country _____ Telephone _____



Send in your Intentions now

Spiritual

- ☐ Love in 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
- ☐ Good Friends
- ☐ Success in Studies
- ☐ Peace in the World

Other Requests _____

Your intentions shall be forwarded
to Father **Anthony Roussos, S.J.**, on March 1,
at Beyrouth, Lebanon. He will celebrate nine masses
for you in the agony of continued war.

(no offering required.)

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 sign a card and send it to the bereaved family.

The departed one is enrolled 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 the Mohawks is guaranteed.

Write to the Kateri Center, Box 70, Kahnawake, Quebec J0L 1B0 for a free sample card.

One dozen cards boxed: \$5.00 (Postage included). Each yearly enrollment in the Kateri Tekakwitha Guild: \$2.00

Katerina



obtainable from the
The Kateri Center
Box 70
Kahnawake, Quebec J0L 1B0
Tel.: (514) 638-1546 or 632-6030

Medals

1. Aluminium 15¢; Mat silver-plated: 50¢
2. Gilded: \$3.00

Kateri Prayer Cards and Pictures

1. Sepia (brown), by sculptor E. Brunet (5" x 2 1/2"): 10¢
2. Colored, by Mother Nealis (4 1/2" x 2 3/4"): 15¢
3. Colored, by Mother Nealis (9" x 13 1/2"): \$1.50
4. Colored, by John Steele (4" x 3"): 10¢
5. Colored, by John Steele (6 1/2" x 5") for framing: 50¢
6. Colored, by John Steele (9 1/2" x 12"): \$1.50
7. Colored, by John Steele (24 1/2" x 18 1/2"): \$5.00

Touch Relics

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

Kateri Plaques

1. Plaque, plastic case with prayer (2 1/2" x 1 1/2"): \$2.50 - with relic: \$3.00

Novena

In the form of a short biography: \$1.00

Kateri Seals

A sheet of 36 seals: \$1.00

PLEASE ADD A LITTLE EXTRA FOR POSTAGE AND HANDLING.

Statues (Postpaid)

1. In hydrocal, ivory or bronze finish (6 1/2"): \$12.00
2. Colored (6 1/2"): \$15.00
3. In hydrocal, ivory or bronze finish (8 1/2"): \$15.00
4. Colored (8 1/2"): \$18.00
5. Kateri key chain: \$1.25
6. One inch statuette in plastic case: \$1.00

Books (Postpaid)

In English - *Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha*, by Henri Béchar, S.J., 20 pp., illustrated: \$2.50

In English - *Kateri Tekakwitha*, With a Prefatory Note of John Cardinal Wright, by Francis X. Weiser, S.J., hardcover: \$10.00; paperback \$8.00

In English - *I am Indian*, by Gualbert Brunsman, O.S.B.: \$2.00

In English - *The Original Caughnawaga Indians*, by Henri Béchar, S.J., (Book on Kateri's virtues): \$15.00

In French - *L'Astre dans la Nuit, Kateri Tekakwitha*, by Rachel Jodoin (Fictionalized biography): \$15.00

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.: \$3.00

Subscription to "Kateri"

Three dollars a year. Please renew your subscription yearly.

WHEN ORDERING, PLEASE ALLOW THREE WEEKS FOR DELIVERY.

ISSN 0315-802

Please renew your subscription;

send gift subscriptions to:

PLEASE INDICATE MR., MRS. OR MISS 7 CODE

- (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 _____
Province or State _____
- (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 (\$15.00), I now inscribe free of charge, the name of one deceased person dear to me on the Martin Skondegonrasken 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.