No 203

KATERI CENTER BOX 70 KAHNAWAKE QC JOL 1B0





Compliments

of the

KAHNAWAKE

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CLUB

No 203

Katerigram
The long Passion of Jesus-Christ
Chief Tiouateskon Roll
Amerindian News
"Do you believe in God?"
The legend of Kwikwici
I need your hands.
The Blanket Maker
The Wampum bird
One more yea, Lord

2000

Why God made little girls.

A good Jubilee
and a very Happy Easter

Feast day of Kateri

Sr Theresa Chikaba, princess and saint?

News of the Center
Testimonies of favors obtained

LILY OF

Kahnawake, Quebec, Canada

Spring • 2000







The Kateri Center Box 70 Kahnawake, Ouebec JOL 1B0

Tel.: (450) 638-1546 or 632-6030

Fax: (450) 632-6031

KATERI

No 203

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 (\$5.00 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;
- The spiritual treasure of the good works of the Society of Jesus is opened;
- Extra graces are merited by working for Kateri's canonization.

Spring-2000

Printed with Approbation of the Ordinary and Permission of Superiors, Canada. Kateri (ISSN 0135-8020) is published quarterly for \$5.00 per year by the Kateri Center, Box 70, Kahnawake, Quebec, JOL 1B0. U.S.: Third class postage paid at Champlain, NY 12919.

Copyright by Rev. Jacques Bruyère, S.J. Vice-Postulator. Legal Deposit - Quebec National Library – ISSN0315-8020



Katerigram

THE LONG PASSION OF JESUS-CHRIST



In the "Spiritual Exercises" of Saint Ignatius, we find this meditation: the long PASSION OF Jesus-Christ.

Let us not forget that Jesus Christ suffered all His life. He is the perfect Son of His Father, He loves His Father. He loves humanity and all men and women without exception, with the very same love that His Father loves them: "With the same love that my Father loves me, I love you." Therefore He doesn't love "a little", He doesn't love a lot, He loves totally, He loves with an infinite love, without any possible limits.

Now then, when we love someone, it's the beginning of suffering. "To live is to love, to love is to suffer, to suffer is to praise." If you love while suffering, you will have joy and you will sing. When you will hear someone singing, it may be because he suffers

You cannot love always, with an open heart, without suffering, it's impossible...

Oh! love, peace and joy! Yes, but a joy which is simply the result of pruning, of trimming; it's the fruit of effort in peace. Jesus-Christ has love and peace, joy and suffering, equal to His peace and to his love for men and women.

...

Father Merch could say that suffering produces its effect even though it is not accepted in a positive way; it is already accepting enough when you suffer.

To suffer is to accept. This is what love explains. When you tell me about God not being the hanged man of the Calvary, I answer you: You are mistaken

But when you know this, that God did not fear to be hanged by humans and then embrace them, talk to them lovingly, saying: Your sins are erased, then you will have understood ... Jesus Christ is still suffering in His disciples, this is the long Passion of Christ ...

Let us take in hand the Bible, let us look at Jesus-Christ suffering in all circumstances of his life, then our share will appear so little. As much as we identify with Him, we are suffering more... Today, is the long Passion of Jesus-Christ.

Père Monier Trad. J.B.



Chief Tiouateskon Roll

n 1677, when Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha came to live among the Praying Indians on the St. Lawrence, Tiouateskon was the chief of the Mohawks, an active member of the Holy Family Association, and head of a longhouse noted for its fervor.

- 1. Mr. Alphonse G. Rousselle 2. Miss Emily John
- 3. Mr. Conrad Bineau
- 4. Mrs. Laura Lambert Bédard
- 5. Mr. Ulric Dulude
- 6. Mr. Josephat Quimet 7. Sr. Germaine Giasson
- 8. Mrs. Gabrielle Lord Vallée
- 9. Mr. Guillaume Robichaud
- 10. Mrs. Annette Bryson 11. Mrs. Alice Legros
- 12. Dr. William G. Kendall
- 13. Mr. William Kovisto
- 14. Mrs. Thérèse Chabot Guérette
- 15. Mr. Bertrand Ménard
- 16. Mr. Paul Pelletier
- 17. Mr. Alphonse Boudreau
- 18. A soul in Purgatory
- 19. Mr. François Vinet
- 20. Mrs. Laurence Beaudoin
- 21. Mr. John Volpe
- 22. A soul in Purgatory 23. Mr. James E. Lazore
- 24. Mrs. Rose Grimard
- 25. Mr. Hector Dunn
- 26. Mr. Lucien St. Pierre
- 27. A Soul in Purgatory 28. Mr. Léandre Hébert
- 29. A Soul in Purgatory
- 30. Mr. Dwaine Louis Naokwegijig
- 31. Mr. Onésime Boucher
- 32. Mr. Jean Couture
- 33. Miss Louise Duguay
- 34. Mrs. Mary Lazare Cross 35. Mr. Léo Ouellet
- 36. Miss Caroline King
- 37. Rev. Michael Hurtubise
- 38. Mr. Gilles Laverdière
- 39. Mrs. Delia Breau
- 40. Mrs. Régina Riendeau 41. Mr. Clément Saumure
- 42. A Soul in Purgatory
- 43. Miss Francine Robichaud
- 44. Mrs. Marie Haché A Soul in Purgatory
- Mr. Robert Lambert
- 47. Mrs. Serra Hook Pagel 48. Mrs. Marie Leblanc
- 49. Mr. Omer Leblanc

- 50. Miss Germaine Levesque
- 51. Miss Suzanne Cormier
- 52. Mr. Abel Gagnon
- 53. Mr. Murel Major
- 54. Mrs. Joan Creagh
- 55. Mrs. Matilda Deveau
- 56 Mr Marc Deveau
- 57. Mr. John Ogushing
- 58. Mr. Lindy Latour
- 59. Mr. Oliboire Martel
- 60. Mr. Patrick Lavallée
- 61 Mr Antoine Blanchard
- 62. Mr. Patrick Masciangelo
- 63. Mr. Aristide Arseneau
- 64. Mr. John L. Rodrique
- 65. A Soul in Purgatory
- 66. Miss Margaret Lattanzi, R.N.
- 67. Miss Yvette Blondin
- 68. Mr. Léonard Rioux
- 69. Mrs. Helen Jolibois
- 70. Mrs. Pierre Audette
- 71. Major Marcel Breault
- 72. Mrs. Antoinette Lavoie-Boivin
- 73. Mrs. Ernest Lagacé
- 74. Mrs. Jeanne Laperle 75. A Soul in Purgatory
- 76. A Soul in Purgatory
- 77. Mr. Yvan Rhéaume
- 78. Mrs. Terri Kivimaki
- 79. Mr. Benoit Viens
- 80. Mrs. M.-A. L. M. Aubin
- 81. Miss Nathalie Lecours Devarennes
- 82. Mr. Patrick Allain
- 83. Mr. Léo Belcourt 84. A Soul in Purgatory
- 85. Miss Christine Cormier
- 86. Mr. Gérard David Robitaille
- 87. Mr. Tim MacKinnon
- 88. Mr. Lloyd Leland
- 89. Miss Kim Kertland
- 90. Mr. Lionel Lavoie 91. Mr. Charles Brennan
- 92. Mr. Real Levesque 93. Mrs. Sarah Alice Gagnon
- 94. Mr. Lawrence Polson
- 95. Mrs. Fernande Paré
- 96. Mr. Damien Leclair 97. Mrs. Albina Ouellette



Amerindian News



A MUSICAL DRAMA ABOUT KATERI

"I'd like to share the following info with you regarding Kateri ...

The cause of Kateri is very important in our family. As an Artist/musician my home is filled with paintings and sculptures of Kateri. My oldest girl is named Kateri, also my niece.

Recently I composed a musical drama, dealing with the life of Kateri. It will be performed for the first time in April (in an adjacent town. Vacaville). Wish us well. All proceeds will benefit the Tekakwitha orphanage. We're all praying and hoping for her canonisation."

Regards. Jim Davis

Great Lakes Missionary

Tather Lawrence Lautishar was a Slovenian who came to the Native American missions to work with Bishop Frederic Baraga, Father Lautishar froze to death at Red Lake, Minnesota, on December 3, 1858, just a week before his thirty-eighth birthday, because of an unfortunate sequence of events.

Father had left the mission of Arbre Croche (now Harbor Springs, Michigan) to go to Mackinac Island, where he would catch a steamboat to Milwaukee. From there he would travel by train. another steamboat, and cart to the mission in Crow Wing, Minnesota.

In those days the Great Lakes steamboats had no regular schedule. When the boat whistle blew, Father Lautishar grabbed his suitcase (but forgot his overcoat) and ran for the boat.

After he finally arrived at the Minnesota mission, he then left it to go across the frozen Red Lake to minister to people living on the north shore of that part of the lake. The weather was balmy when he left, but during his return a blizzard swept through the area. When the blizzard subsided. Native Americans found the priest's frozen body and that of his little dog about 100 yards from the mission. Father Lautishar is buried at Calvary Cemetery in Duluth, Minnesota.

Regis Walling

The Murphy Complex in Seattle

Last September, Archbishop Alex Brunett blessed the 330 unit student complex named for the late Seattle Archbishop. He himself was reared in poverty and knew the value of education as a "passport out of poverty."

At the end of the dedication, a sculpture was unveiled commemorating Archbishop Murphy. Along with him were 5 other Catholic figures: St Peter Claver, a 17th C. Jesuit who devoted his life to the abolition of slavery. Dorothy Day a social activist who co-founded the Catholic Worker Movement in 1933. Father Rutilio Grande, a Salvadoran Jesuit priest and social activist assassinated in 1977, for his outspokenness against oppression. Fr. Gerard Manley Hopkins s.j., a 19th C. poet and teacher whose poems exalted the beauty of Creation and delved in the reality of suffering.

Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha, a 17th C. Mohawk Indian maiden who was converted by the Jesuits and who went to care for the sick and elderly before her death at age 24.

Do You Believe in God?

n April 20, 1999, when Cassie Bernall walked into the library of Columbine High School, she had little more on her mind than her next lit assignment. She didn't know that before the end of the hour, she would be asked a decisive question by two classmates, and be killed because of her answer.

"Do you believe in God?" they asked her, probably because they heard her praying after they burst into the library armed with guns. She answered, "Yes," and was shot to death.

The remarkable part of Cassie's story is that she had only recently made a commitment to Christ, after living a rocky and troubled life not unlike that of her killers.

When Cassie was in 8th grade, she fell in with a destructive group of teens, and began to dabble in drugs and the occult. She rebelled against her parents, and plotted with a friend

how to take revenge on them. When her parents found some letters she had written, they cut off her friendships, put her into another school, and forced her to go to a Christian youth group. But Cassie continued to rebel, until the spring of her freshman year.

Her friend Jamie tells what happened to Cassie that year:

"There was this youth group I went to, which was a church group, but you could totally be yourself I was pretty sure Cassie would feel comfortable there, so when I heard about this retreat they were putting on, I really wanted to go and have

her come along too. She didn't want to come at first, but I told her more about it, like how cool the people, were, and then she wanted to. I didn't really promote the spiritual side of it at all.

We were up at Estes Park in the Rockies, about three hundred kids, I'd say. There was a night-time praise-and-worship service. I don't remember what the guy talked about. It was the singing that for some reason just broke down Cassie's walls. It really seemed to change her. I wasn't expecting much out of the whole thing, also

not for her, because she'd always been so closed. So when she totally broke down, I was pretty shocked.

We were outside the building, and Cassie was crying. She was pouring out her heart-I think she was praying-and asking God for forgiveness. I could hear some of what she was saying, but not all of it.

Later I noticed that Cassie's whole face

had changed. You looked at her, and even though she was still shy, it was like her eyes were more hopeful. There was something new about her."

Once Cassie met Jesus, she never turned back. The next two years of her life, she read Scripture, got involved with her youth group, and tried to make amends to her family.

On the night before she was killed, she wrote a note to her friend Amanda that ended:

"P.S. Honestly, I want to live completely for God. It's hard and scary, but totally worth it."

Jamie's anecdote

THE LEGEND OF KWIKWICI

nce upon a time there was a little bird that was injured when trying to escape from a mean wolf. Kwikwici was looking for a place to rest because his wing was broken and he couldn't fly. He wandered among the trees of the forest trying to find shelter. Kwikwici found himself in the birch forest. He got around by hopping and asked a beautiful white birch for help: "Birch tree, my brother, I am injured. Can I stay with you until I am well again, I will make myself small." But the birch tree refused and said that he would break his leaves and bark.

Kwikwici was not discouraged and went to find the forest of aspens. He begged the aspen to give him a place to stay: "My beloved brother the aspen, I come to ask for your hospitality for awhile. My wing is broken

and I would like to rest on your branches."
The aspen also refused and said: "No I cannot help you! Go for away from me, you will ruin my beautiful leaves and branches. I have no place for you here." Kwikwici then went into the maple forest hoping to find comfort.

He hopped over to the maple tree: "Oh beautiful maple, colourful and generous, I know that you have a heart as big as the world. I come to ask you for shelter among your branches for I am weak and sick." Like the others, he refused: 'No I cannot. You will dirty my pretty colourful leaves. Stay away and don't ever bother me again." Kwikwici cried. He was discouraged and suffered terribly. Kwikwici saw a majestic spruce tree near the river. He took a last chance and went over to the spruce: "Oh! beautiful spruce tree, I would like to stay with you. Please give me shelter, my wing is broken. I am so weak and so tired, my injury is making me suffer."

The spruce, compassionate and deeply moved, agreed to help Kwikwici and said to him: "Come to me, my friend Kwikwici. Come rest and warm yourself among my branches. I will take care of you until you are completely healed."

A few moons later, Kwikwici was healed and all because of the spruce tree's good care. They became inseparable friends. The legend says that the spruce received the privilege of being forever green, even in the winter because it never sheds its needles. At Christmas, it becomes a nice Christmas tree. Its beautiful branches are used to insulate floors in the tents of native people and there are numerous birds that make their nests among its beautiful and thick branches.

Kwikwici is an Algonquin word for magpie. This legend is taken from volume 1 of the series *Our legends to read and tell*, First Nations Education Council (FNEC), 240, Place Sondakwa, Wendake (Québec), GOA 4VO Tel.: (418) 842-7672, fax: (418) 842-9988. Available as books, audio cassettes or compact discs.



I need your hands

Since I ascended to heaven, I have no more hands to work on earth. No more feet to tread on your roads. No more arms to embrace children

Well! I need you.

With your hands I wish to touch your brothers: with your eyes I wish to plunge my look into vour soul; with your feet I wish to walk in vour school: with your legs I wish to run after the lost sheep; with your heart, I wish to love the badly loved; by vour word. I wish to enlighten the stray spirits: with your AFFECTION I wish to dress the wounds of the wounded; with your arms, I wish to give back strength to all those who have fallen; by your presence, I wish to console the lonely; by your prayer. I wish to liberate the tormented minds.

What's your reaction to this?

Yes said Jesus, in your school, in your factory, on the street, many people will never see any

other face of me than yours, will never read any other Gospel than your life, will never receive any other pardon than yours.

This task, you alone can accomplish it. This child, this wife, this neighbour, I confide them to you. If you don't take care of them, nobody will do it in your place and there will always be a big lack in my Creation.

"Then? Tell me, may I rely on vou?"

Jesus

by Christian Beaulieu

Getting to know you again.

For 16 years, Patricia White Bull was unable to speak, to swallow or to move much. After giving birth to her fourth child, she had slipped into a catatonic state.

On December 18, Archbishop Sheehan of Sante Fe, had invited his parishioners to pray Blessed Kateri to obtain some medical miracle. And to every one's surprise, on the eve of Christmas, Patricia regained all her senses. Since then Bishop Sheehan believes that there was a miraculous intervention. He also thinks that Kateri obtained this healing. Since then Mrs White Bull has been speaking her children's names, catching up on family developments and spending a lot of time watching her children and smiling. "I just went up to her and gave her a hug and she gave me a hug back." said Cindi. "It was the first time she had ever hugged back. It was scary at first. It was overwhelming emotionally." Seeing a pair of running shoes, Patricia said: "I'm going to run". The vice-Postulator for the States and Mgr Lenz are working on the case hoping that Rome will accept it as a miracle and bring to us all Kateri's canonization.

The Wampum Bird

ong ago, a war party of Mohawks captured a young man of the Wampanoag Nation. For some years, the Mohawks had been at war with these people. The captive boy was allowed to live, and was given permission to move freely about the Mohawk Village. He was closely watched so that he might not escape back to the Wampanoag

One day, a young Mohawk hunter came running into the village. He was filled with excitement, for he had seen a strange bird in the forest. This bird was covered with wampum beads, Immediately, a hunting party was organized, and the hunters set out to try and capture this wonderful bird. The bird was as the hunter had described it - covered with white and purple feathers. As soon as the chief saw the bird, he offered his beautiful daughter to anyone who could get the bird, dead or alive. All of the hunters tried to hit the bird with their arrows. They filled the air with their arrows. Occasionally, the bird was hit by an arrow, and off would fly a shower of wampum. New wampum appeared on the bird

to take the place of the fallen wampum. Finally, after trying to hit the bird for some time, the best hunters began to get discouraged, and one by one, they gave up trying to get the bird.

The young Wampanoag captive, from the unfriendly nation, asked the chief if he could try his luck. The Mohawk warriors did not want this to happen, and even threatened the boy's life. The chief interfered, and told the boy that he could try. "If warriors have tried and failed, surely a mere boy cannot bring down the bird," said the chief.

The warriors finally agreed, and the boy lifted his bow and fitted an arrow. The swift arrow pierced the heart of the bird, and it fell to the ground. Its wampum plumage enriched the people. The boy married the Chief's daughter, and with the marriage came peace between the two nations. The boy said, "Wampum shall bring and bind peace and it shall take the place of blood."

(Wampun are small beads made from quahog clam shells. The beads are strung into belts with designs to commemorate special events or treaties.)

Special Kateri Center awards on April 30.

Who is most devoted to Blessed Kateri, who can tell? Some pray for her canonization, get others involved too and some help in a material way to promote Blessed Kateri's cause.

So this year we choose two candidates who represent all those who are friends of Kateri. Sr Rollande Larochelle S.R. who for so many years has sent us so many names of people who wish to pray every day for Kateri's canonization. Her name is not mentioned in the Kateri Center News but today we wish to thank her and congratulate her.

The second elect is Mr Gordon Deer, a regular parishioner of the Kateri Shrine. Since he has retired as an iron-worker, he likes to attend mass so often and shows much interest in Kateri's Cause. He's also an outstanding supporter of the Cause.

The plaques we will present them with are the work of a local artist, the President of the Knights of Columbus, Larry Taylor.

Congratulations and thank you!

The Blanket Maker

ur "Blankets" are very sacred to us. They contain the Spirit of the maker. To be a blanket maker is to be attuned in Spirit and with the Great Spirit so you know you can complete your work. We are told that if you cannot finish your task, you must, in ceremony, pass on the responsibility to one who agrees to finish. You may not leave any part of your work unfinished, otherwise you leave a part of your Spirit behind.



When our time comes to walk the Spirit Road, we must make proper arrangements, leaving behind no unfinished business. All apologies must be made, tribal responsibilities passed on, gratitude and love for your time with those is demonstrated by the final Give-away of all your belongings ... that you may complete the work of your Spirit.

Can one be truly alive without knowing what their Spirit is doing? Do you not hear what your Spirit is saying to you? We weave our Spirit

into everything we do, everything we make why do some weave our Spirits into negative things? We need to pull our Spirits back, learn to walk in a Sacred Way..... return to our Traditional values. Weave your Spirit into relationship with the Creator. It is as simple as that, it is as difficult as that. And then, not only will your "Blanket" be beautiful, it will be Sacred.

As I wrap myself in my Blanket, I become the symbol of Home, Acceptance and Community. I reclaim my truth and balance, no pretence or false face or denial. My Blanket requires Honor and Respect as it also symbolizes how the Creator enfolds the People. The Medicine of the Blanket is Healing, Warmth, Protection, Freedom, Growth, Change, a place of rest. So, my Blanket becomes a place of Sacred Space, to embrace another becomes Ceremony, to share these powerful things. There is nurturing, comfort, respect.....HOME. As I take up my Blanket, I pray that the Great Spirit wrap me and my people in blessings, that I be humble and respectful and bring honor to this Blanket. That it be the symbol of a woman proud the Great Spirit made her Indian..... Blanket Maker on the Red Path. In my Sacred Blanket, I grieve the wounds of my People and ask for Healing. I celebrate our Courage and Honor you with every step I take... Blessed am I among women... I am the Blanket Maker. I have said this and it is so. Aho

Inikwe Tutsuakwe

One more Year, Lord

Today, dear Lord, I am 80 and there's much I haven't done. I hope, my Lord, you'll let me live until I'm 81,

But then if I haven't finished all I want to do

Would You let me stay a while until I'm 82.

So many places I want to go to so very much to see...

Do you think you could manage to make it 83.

The world is changing very fast.
There is so much in store.

I'd like it very much to live until I'm 84.

And if by then I'm still alive I'd like to stay till 85.

More planes will be up in the air so I'd really like to stick

and see what happens to the world when I'm 86.

I know dear Lord it's much to ask and it must be nice in heaven

But I would really like to stay until I'm 87.

I know by then I won't be fast and sometimes will be late.

But it would be so pleasant to be around at 88.

I will have seen so many things and had a wonderful time

So, I'm sure that I'll be willing to fade away at 89... perhaps

Anonymous

Feast of Kateri April 17



Celebration

April 30

Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha: Lily of the Mohawk

Traditional iconography gives witness to the human face of the Sacred. This icon, imaged in the features of America's indigenous peoples, reveals anew that sacred power. It celebrates the soul of the Native American as the original spiritual presence on this continent, and as a prophetic sign, it celebrates the reconciliation of the spiritual vision of Native and Christian peoples of this land.

The warm glow surrounding her figure suggests the blessedness of her innocence and, more mystically, its radiance among us.

Flight of the Lily

Dashing through a forest strange and wild: Across vast waters and trails unknown:

Whispers of the wind do quide this child Who senses fear, but is not alone.

Eved from above, she remains alive:

Angels hover as she's forced to flee.

A dear infant of the Nations Five.

A Mohawk princess is Kateri.

Braided hair, a sign of the maiden. No earthly ties shall bind her soul.

Northward her path, her body so laden With pain; injuries taking their toll.

Weak of eyes and sight so fast fading,

She reaches the land of the Black-Robed Fathers.

And there for her is refuge waiting By the shores of Canadian waters.

But now this girl, Tekakwitha named, Sees her labors as just beginning,

Among her native people so maimed By illness, hunger and age; life dimming.

A lily among Mohawks is she

Said to be, as she, a soul unstained,

Prays with cross roughly-hewn from a tree. For her is Heaven surely gained.

Tears soon flow for this sweet Kateri, That lovely flower sown in the wild.

She's called from earthly woes; soul made free

Released to Heaven, in peace she smiled.

She knew her work would go on above

As gracious miracles to perform.

In kindly deeds, acts of so much love, We see the aura of sainthood form.

Ray Lacharité

Sister Teresa Chikaba

From Princess to Saint?

(Teresa Chikaba resembles Kateri Tekakwitha in many ways: she lived in the 17th C., left her homeland, was scorned because of her Christian identity, died in a holy way, and should be canonized soon. Editor's note)

hikaba, an African princess, was born in 1676 in the West African country now called Guinea. Today she is known as Servant of God Teresa Chikaba. Those who are promoting her cause for canonization hope she will soon be Saint Teresa Chikaba, thus becoming one of the few black female saints in the history of the Church.

From an early age Chikaba was filled with a restless vearning for truth that the rituals of her people could not satisfy. As a young princess she eagerly went with her family to worship Lucero, the god of their small kingdom. But when everyone bowed down in reverence. Chikaba felt disappointment. Yes, Lucero the morning star was radiant in the early dawn, but could that small star have created the sun that warmed the earth? Could that star claim to have set in motion the great ocean whose waves pounded the shore of her homeland? "Who put that star there?" Chikaba asked

The people soon recognized Chikaba's gift for deep reflection. They regarded the child with awe and sought her



help in consoling the sick and encouraging the distressed. Her older brothers began to fear that the people might prefer Chikaba as their ruler when their father died. But Chikaba reassured her brothers that she had other plans. On one of her solitary strolls through the luxuriant countryside, Chikaba had met a special being who had claimed her heart. There in the wilderness while sitting beside a clear spring, she had seen a lady with a beautiful child. From that day Chikaba insisted she would marry the child and live in a

place far away.

Soon after this mystical experience, when Chikaba was ten years old, she was snatched by Spanish sailors while she was walking along the beach near her father's home. Like countless other Africans who would be sold as slaves in Spain and the New World, Chikaba's life was irrevocably changed. We can only dimly imagine the fear and anguish this sensitive child felt as she was carried away from her loved ones by strange men. The sailors had her baptized, and she was given a new name: Teresa.

Recognizing her royal lineage, the sailors presented her to the Spanish king in Madrid, who sent her to the marquis of Mancera. The marquis and his wife were charmed by this delightful and pious African child and treated her as a member of their family. In their household she was instructed in the Faith; for the first time Chikaba's insatiable longing for truth was satisfied. She grew in love for Jesus and his Church.

Although her sweet disposition endeared her to her foster family, the household servants grew jealous and taunted and even beat her. Teresa Chikaba refused to retaliate in any way; instead, she spent long hours in prayer in the family's downstairs chapel. She found strength in Jesus who had endured so much suffering for her

redemption.

The years passed swiftly and by the time Chikaba was twenty-four years old, she had become accustomed to life in Spain. But her African past abruptly came to reclaim her. One of her uncles had been captured by a European vessel-French this time-but the king of France recognized the captive's noble birth and set him free.

On his way home to West Africa, her uncle stopped in Madrid to greet the king. There he heard about Chikaba and immediately went to visit her. Their reunion was joyful, but her uncle brought Chikaba unexpected news. Her parents and brothers had been converted by travelling Capuchin friars. Shortly afterward, however, her family had died. Chikaba's uncle would now be king, and he urged her to return to Africa with him and to reign as his wife for the glory of God and the good of her people.

Chikaba faced an agonizing decision. Should she keep the impetuous promise made so long ago when she had her vision of Jesus? Should she accept her freedom and return to her people? Her answer: she would live in exile, an untitled servant and the spouse of the One who had claimed her heart.

Her angry uncle planned to kidnap her. Chikaba hid until he had departed, but she realized it was time to act on her private yow. She would enter the cloister and live united in prayer with Christ.

The path of her vocation was full of trials. Chikaba suffered the prejudice and endured the alienation experienced by so many millions of her black brothers and sisters. All the convents where she sought admittance refused her because of the color of her skin. She who could have been a gueen was scorned and rejected.

When the Dominican nuns in Salamanca finally accepted her, the bishop initially insisted she remain a tertiary, a maidservant of the Sisters. Chikaba endured all these trials with patient hope and love for the crucified Christ. Finally, after several vears and now with the bishop's blessing, she was accepted as a fully professed Dominican sister.

In this contemplative convent Chikaba, now called Sister Juliana Teresa de Santo Domingo, lived selflessly, From early morning until late at night, she could be found helping, consoling, and praying earnestly. During the three hours she allowed herself to sleep. Chikaba used a block of wood for her pillow.

Even people outside the convent began to seek out the holy African Sister for counsel. Never did she display impatience or distress at these unrelenting demands upon her. Like the holy founder of her order, Saint Dominic, Chikaba was eager to lose herself and become more like Jesus. After forty years of convent life, she died on December 6, 1748. The profound sorrow of all in Salamanca was tempered by the memory of one who had blessed their city with her presence and who had offered prayers on their behalf.

Today, two and a half centuries after Chikaba's death. many priests and laity from Africa make the pilgrimage to the cloistered Dominican convent of Las Ducfias in Salamanca to pay tribute to this remarkable woman. Fragments of her letters are conserved there, along with her few possessions and her remains.

Chikaba's influence, however, extends beyond West Africa. This African princess, uprooted from all she had ever known and loved, is a source of hope for the millions of refugees who flee oppression, war, famine, and disease and who are perpetually adrift in a world often unwilling to give them shelter.

Many miracles have been attributed to Chikaba's intercession, and the people of Africa, together with Dominicans around the world and the citizens of Salamanca, pray for the day when Servant of God Teresa Chikaba is proclaimed a saint of the Church.





FAVORS registered at the Kateri were higher. Moreover two weeks Center from November 8, 1999 to February 11, 2000 Articles Found Better Health

Cures **Employment Found or Kept** 11 Financial Aid Lodaina Peace in Families Properties Bought or Sold Safe Trips Spiritual Favors Successful Studies Successful or Averted Operations

Help us to help you.

Temporal Favors

If you plan moving to a new address. please let us know in advance, so we can forward you our little magazine at the proper place. Many magazines have been returned, especially from the U.S. and we are waiting for the new address. This will major the cost of re-mailing and you will receive "Kateri" late. So please help us to help you.

Thank you in advance.

The Kateri Center has its offices in a very old house and some old windows had to be replaced. The house being historical, the windows had to match the style, so the prices after this clean job was finished, a stone found its way in one of them. so it had to be replaced again. Now the Center is warm and good looking, but our treasurer has to dia deep in our savings. If any one wishes to make us a gift on Kateri's Feast day, we would suggest CND 400, per window. Thank you in advance.

April 30: Kateri's Feast day Celebration.

As Kateri's Feast falls during the Holy Week, it has to be displaced. So it will be held on April 30. Mass at 15.00, the reception in the Hall of the Knights of Columbus. This year we will add an award presentation during the Mass. All are welcomed. If you have any special intentions, please send these to the Center before April 31st . The V.P. takes on himself to make the Novena including all your demands.

Pilarimages

If you wish to make a pilgrimage to Kateri's Shrine, individually or in. group, please notify the Rectory in advance: 450-632-6030. For the groups there will be a guide. If you come all by yourself, information will be on hand

A Relic of Kateri in Notre-Dame Basilica

The pastor of the Notre-Dame Basilica in Montreal decided to place a lovely reliquary containing the relics of all the founders of he Church in Canada, under the main altar. So last November 21st, delegated representing every Hounder came up the aisle to remit to the Superior General of the Sulpicians a lst Class relic of every saint and blessed.

Representing Blessed Kateri, was Joe Two Rivers from Kahnawake. Now when you visit the Basilica you can admire not only the beautiful stained-glass window of Kateri but also her relic under the main altar, remembering that twice, during the 17th C. Kateri saved the Church of Canada from enemies intent on its destruction.

Testimonies of favors obtained

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

Enclosed -please find a check for twenty-five dollars to Kateri in thanksgiving for her help. My daughter made a successful move to Seattle, WA. She started a new job two months ago and was very happy but it seems her supervisor does not have enough confidence in her. I'm praying to Kateri to help her solve this problem.

(Baltimore, MD)

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

Please find a seventy-five dollars check enclosed in thanksgiving to Kateri for favors received. A mammogram that I had taken had showed something in the left breast. I was sent back for a second mammogram. The second mammogram showed nothing suspicious. She always helps me in difficult situations. Thank you Kateri.

(Cinnaminson, NJ)

* Kateri's smile upon vou. Mr. J.P.!

This check is sent in thanksgiving in honor of Blessed Kateri for her help in selling my nephew's home, which was very difficult to sell. Many clients had viewed the home and one offered to buy, but that deal fell through for several reasons. Our intense prayers brought a buyer who wanted possession as soon as possible. After several weeks the deal was finalized. Our thanks again to Blessed Kateri. The price was moderate but the condition needed a face lift. No profit materialized from the sale, but no loss either.

(Broadview Heights, OH)

☆ Kateri's smile upon you, Mr. F.D.!

Enclosed is a contribution for Kateri's help in solving several health problems.

(Waterbury, CT)

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

I promised Blessed Kateri one hundred dollars for her intercession in a serious situation involving a loved one. Here is the first instalment of ten dollars. Blessed Kateri, once again came through, as she always does without fail, and things are moving in a positive direction. I will send ten dollars per month to help support Blessed Kateri's Cause.

(Media, PA)

Kateri's smile upon you, Mrs. B.H.!

Enclosed please find a cheque which I promised if my children had a safe trip — which they did. I ask Blessed Kateri's guidance and protection for all my grandchildren in their individual needs. Thank you Blessed Kateri, Jesus and Mary for always being there for me. I pray every day for Kateri's canonization in 2000.

(Hamilton, ON)

* Kateri's smile upon you, Mrs. R.E.!

... I began praying to Kateri for her intercession in earnest when I was diagnosed with lung cancer. The doctor's prognosis was not very good at the time, but I'm still here as you can see. My lung cancer surgery was in September 1988 — over eleven years ago! Thank you Kateri, Kchi megwetch. Nishingwa (Life is good). Enclosed is a donation plus a little to renew my subscription for the quarterly Kateri publication.

(Ludington, MI)

% Kateri's smile upon you, Mrs. R.T.!

Enclosed please find my Christmas donation to our Blessed Kateri for her answering my prayers to help us in our financial aid. I hope Blessed Kateri will soon become a Saint

(High Level, AB)

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

I am enclosing a money order in the amount of one hundred dollars to cover my order and the rest in thanksgiving to Kateri. My family and I are very grateful to Kateri for her advocacy. My husband was sick for 15 years and the doctors told us at the time that they couldn't do anything except give him pills for the pain and blood thinness. He had blockages in his heart. I wrote a letter to the Kateri Centre for prayers for my husband at that time 15 years ago with the help of an old priest here in our community. Then two and a half years ago, my husband had a quadruple by-pass. He is well and has gone back to work. After his recuperation my husband and I went on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. This was possible with the help of Kateri. Many thanks to her...

(St. Therese Point, MB)

* Kateri's smile upon you Mrs. N.R.1

... I had been very ill for five months which I spent in three hospitals and I had four operations for brain surgery. Thanks so much to Kateri, Our Lord, the Blessed Virgin and all the Saints interceding for me to regain my health. Blessed be Kateri and I am praying for her canonization.

(Pointe Claire, QC)

* Kateri's smile upon you, Mr. W.V.!

... After you sent us the third class relic of Bl.Kateri Tekakwitha, we placed the relic on our fireplace mantle. My wife and I praved a Novena to Bl. Kateri, who is the patroness of "order", which what was needed in my daughter's life. My daughter had been out of permanent work for 14 months. About a week or two after we finished the Novena, our daughter was offered a job as an internet librarian at the Environmental Protection Agency in Washington, DC. So, some much-needed order came her way in the form of a job. It is very interesting that Bl. Kateri is also a patroness of the environment, and that our daughter received a job at the EPA! This ordeal also brought our daughter to her knees and back to an active practice of the Catholic faith, which is even better than the job. After she was made the initial job offer, she went to pray before Our Lord exposed in the Blessed Sacrament. My wife and I feel strongly that the intercession of Bl. Kateri was instrumental in our daughter obtaining her job, and in obtaining some of the needed order in her life. Thank you again for sending us the relic and prayer cards. We are so grateful. Please accept the enclosed check of twenty-five dollars as a thanksgiving donation to the Kateri Centre. Use it in any way that you see fit.

(Metairie, LA)



Little Sister wants to know...





...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 29,412 pledges have come in after ten years' effort.

Marie Kateri Langdon Born January 26, 1998; Baptized May 2, 1998. Parents: Lisa Marie Stegman and Kirk Langdon. Godbarents: Dean and Joan Langdon, House Springs, MO

Please send yours to: The Kateri Box 70 Kahnawake, Québec JOL 1B0	Center	
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	self are no mer ent becelo	
Province or State	Code	
Country	Telephone	

Why God made little girls

God made the world with the towering trees
Majestic mountains and restless seas
Then paused and said, "It needs one more thing Someone to laugh and dance and sing
To walk in the woods and gather flowers
To commune with nature in quiet hours;"
So God made little girls
With laughing eyes and bouncing curls With joyful hearts and infectious smiles Enchanting ways and feminine wiles And when He completed the task He'd begun,
He was pleased and proud of the job He'd done;
For the world when seen through a little girl's eyes
Greatly resembles Paradise.

Author unknown

Send in your Intentions now

Spiritual	Temporal
☐ Love in God	□ Positions
☐ Conversions	☐ Health
☐ Peace of Soul	☐ Lodgings
☐ Resignation in Trials	☐ Financial Aid
□ Vocations	☐ Happy Marriages
☐ Faithful Departed	☐ Good Friends
☐ Happy Death	☐ Success in Studies
☐ Obedience to the Holy Father	☐ Peace in the World
Other Requests	2. Colored, by Mother Neath (4 72 x 2

Would you like to help Kateri's Cause?

When making out your last will and **testament**, why not reserve a share for the Cause in view of Kateri's Canonization and for the upkeep of her sanctuary. Simply make your request to:

Kateri Tekakwitha Center

Mission St. Francis Xavier

P.O. Box 70, Kahnawake, Ouebec 101 180

Kateri will then take good care of you and your beloved ones on earth as in heaven.

The Kateri Sympathy Cards!



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;
- 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;
- 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 JOL 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 JOL 1B0

Tel.: (450) 638-1546 or 632-6030

Fax: (450) 632-6031

Medals

1. Mat silver-plated: 50¢

2. Gilded: \$3.00

3. Souvenir Spoons: \$4.00

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 (24 1/2" x 18 1/2"): \$5.00

Touch Relics

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

Kateri Plaques

1. Plague, 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: \$2.00

Kateri Seals

A sheet of 36 seals: \$1.00

PLEASE ADD A LITTLE EXTRA FOR POSTAGE AND HANDLING.

T-shirt: Small and Big: \$8

Statues (Postpaid)

1. In hydrocal, ivory or bronze finish (6 ½"): \$12.00

2. Colored (6 1/2"): \$15.00

3. In hydrocal, ivory or bronze finish (8 ½"): \$15.00

4. Colored (8 1/2"): \$18.00

5. Kateri kev chain: \$1.25

6. One inch statuette in plastic case: \$1.00

Books (Postpaid)

In English - Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha, by Henri Béchard, S.J., 20 pp., \$2.50

In English - Adventures with a Saint, by Marlene McCauley, 210 pp., \$12.00

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 Spanish - Kateri Tekakwitha, by Fr. F.X. Weiser, translated by Sr Emilia Schug C.S.A.: \$10.00

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

SPECIAL: In English and French - Kaiatanoron Kateri Tekakwitha by Henri Béchard, S.J.: \$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"

Five dollars a year. Please renew your subscription yearly. WHEN ORDERING, PLEASE ALLOW THREE WEEKS FOR DELIVERY.

ISSN 0315-802

inscribed instead.

Please renew your subscription; send gift subscriptions to:

	PLEASE INDICATE MR., MRS. OR MISS AND 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)
FRC	DM: Name
	Address
Kat	I am sending the names of FIVE new subscribers and their addresses to the teri Center (\$20.00), I now inscribe free of charge, the name of one decease son dear to me on the Frances Tiouateskon Roll.
	Mr. 🗆 , Mrs. 🗆 , Miss 🗆
0	/hen the Roll is complete with the names of 200 deceased, 100 Masses shall be ffered for the repose of their souls.
• If	no name is submitted for the Roll "A Suffering Soul of Purgatory" shall h