

**No 231**

KATERI CENTER  
BOX 70  
KAHNAWAKE QC J0L 1B0

MAIL  POSTE

Canada Post Corporation/Société canadienne des postes

**Post Publication**

40011771



Compliments

of the

**KAHNAWAKE**

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CLUB**



# KATERI

**No 231**

**Katerina**

**Kateri Center News**

**The Pierre Assendassé Roll**

**49<sup>th</sup> International Eucharistic Congress**

**Blessed Kateri Who Was She**

**Happy Easter Kateri Style**

**Testimonies**

**Letter of Fr. Claude Chauchetière**

**Your Intentions**



**LILY OF  
THE MOHAWKS**

Kahnawake, Quebec, Canada

**SPRING • 2007**





The Kateri Center  
Box 70  
Kahnawake, Quebec J0L 1B0  
Tel.: (450) 638-1546 ou 632-6030  
Fax: (450) 632-6031

KATERI

No 231

#### 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 (Canada: \$ 5.00 • International: \$ 10.00 by 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.

#### Spring 2007

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, J0L 1B0. U.S.: Third class postage paid at Champlain, NY 12919.

## Katerina



obtainable from the  
The Kateri Center  
Box 70  
Kahnawake, Quebec J0L 1B0  
Tel.: (450) 638-1546 or 632-6030  
Fax: (450) 632-6031

#### Medals

1. Mat silver-plated: 50¢
2. 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 (5 3/4" x 2 3/4"): 50¢
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
5. Colored, by McCauley (18 1/2" x 15 1/2"): \$ 4.00

#### 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: \$ 2.00

#### 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., \$ 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 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 - *Kaïatanoron Kateri Tekakwitha* by Henri Béchar, S.J.: \$ 15.00  
SPECIAL: *Witey from Heaven the Wondrous Cat* by Marlene McCauley: \$ 18.00  
In English - *Song of Kateri: Princess of the Eucharist*, by Marlene MacCauley (at the Kateri Center): \$ 14.95

#### Subscription to "Kateri"

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



## KATERI CENTER NEWS

### Favors

registered at the Kateri Center from November 27, 2006 to March 16, 2007.

Articles Found	2	Properties Bought or Sold	7
Better Health	14	Safe Pregnancy	1
Cures	7	Safe Trips	2
Employment Found or Kept	9	Successful Studies	1
Financial Aid	1	Successful or Averted Operations	6
Lodgings	1	Temporal Favors	5
Peace in the Family	1		

### Kateri's Feastday April 17

This year will be celebrated on Sunday April 22 at a Solemn High Mass sung in Mohawk by the Kahnawake Mixed Choir at 10:30 a.m. We expect, as usual, many friends of Kateri at the Shrine.

### How to Prepare for the Kateri's Feastday

Make the novena

Pay a visit to Kateri's Shrine

Pray for Kateri's Canonization.

### Prayer Pledge for Kateri's Canonization

Total pledges to November 17, 2006 : 30,587.

### Pilgrimage to Kateri's Shrine

Choose a lovely day in the summer. Notify the rectory of your coming, tel. (450) 632-6030 for a guide to lead you.

### 2007 - Liturgical Year - 2007

<b>January</b>	1 : New Year's Day - Mary, Mother of God
	3 : Holy Name Of Jesus
	6 : Epiphany
<b>February</b>	2 : Presentation of Jesus
<b>March</b>	1 : Ash Wednesday
<b>April</b>	1 : Palm Sunday
	8 : Easter
	17 : Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha
<b>May</b>	13 : Mother's Day
	17 : Ascension
	27 : Pentecost
<b>June</b>	18 : Fathers' Day
<b>July</b>	1 : Canada Day
	4 : United States Day
	31 : St Ignatius of Loyola
<b>August</b>	15 : Assumption of Mary
<b>September</b>	10 : Grandfather's Day
	26 : North American Martyrs
<b>October</b>	8 : Thanksgiving Day (Canada)
<b>November</b>	1 : All Saints Day
	2 : All souls Day
	26 : Christ, King of the Univers
<b>December</b>	8 : Immaculate Conception
	25 : Christmas
	31 : Holy Family

Please send yours to: **The Kateri Center, Box 70, Kahnawake, Québec 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 \_\_\_\_\_



## The Pierre Assendassé Roll

This influential Mohawk chief was on in years when he became a Christian. Ever after, his life was a love song to Jesus and Mary. Rather than deny them, he did not hesitate to offer his life for them.

- |                                   |                                     |                                     |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Mr. André Marti                | 37. Mrs. Joan D'Arcy                | 73. Mrs. Georgina Weston McNaughton |
| 2. Mr. Dennis Falk                | 38. Miss Claire Constantineau       | 74. Mr. Norman Frank Weston         |
| 3. Mrs. Marie Acciani             | 39. Mrs. Elmer Caule                | 75. Mr. William McNaughton          |
| 4. Mr. Daniel Acciani             | 40. Mrs. Mary Ann Kinsby            | 76. Mr. Donald William McNaughton   |
| 5. Mrs. Eva Savard                | 41. Mr. René Martin                 | 77. Mr. Edmond Blanchard            |
| 6. Mr. Jean-Paul Lamarche         | 42. Mr. Gilles Robillard            | 78. Mr. Bernard Lavoie              |
| 7. Mrs. Madeline McLaughlin       | 43. Mr. George A. Miller            | 79. Mr. Samuel London               |
| 8. Mr. Jean-Paul Dallaire         | 44. Mr. René Watier                 | 80. Mr. René Watier                 |
| 9. A Soul in Purgatory            | 45. Mr. Marcel Beauchamp            | 81. Sr. Julienne du Rosaire         |
| 10. Mrs. Sybil Camilla Seguin     | 46. Mrs. Françoise Caza             | 82. Mr. Jean-Marie Vaillancourt     |
| 11. Mr. Jeannot Gagnon            | 47. Mrs. Gabrielle Brien            | 83. Mr. Francisco G. Parreira       |
| 12. Mrs. Albina René Ouellette    | 48. Mr. Christopher Holoka          | 84. Mr. Benoît Élément              |
| 13. Mrs. Flore Miner Lafleur      | 49. Mr. Lucien Boucher              | 85. Mr. Marvin Green                |
| 14. Mr. Ernest Lafleur            | 50. Mr. Robert Sarno                | 86. Mr. James Arthur Davis          |
| 15. Mr. Normand Moss              | 51. Mr. l'Abbé Leo Raymond          | 87. Mr. Aurèle Dénommé              |
| 16. Mr. William Pendergast        | 52. Colonel Marcel Breault          | 88. Mr. Roger Lafleur               |
| 17. Miss Jacqueline Richard       | 53. Mrs. Alberta Prémont            | 89. Mr. André Chartray              |
| 18. Mr. Albert Langlois           | 54. Mrs. Catherine J. Beverly-Smith | 90. Mrs. Caroline D'Souza           |
| 19. Mrs. Madeline Chénier         | 55. Mrs. Irène Langlois             | 91. Mr. Donald Chevalier            |
| 20. Mrs. Cécile Lafleur Krznarich | 56. Mr. Lionel St-Laurent           | 92. Mrs. Desange Dugas              |
| 21. Mr. Michel Jr. Genest         | 57. Mr. Jérôme Hébert Lafond        | 93. Mr. Louis Doiron                |
| 22. Mrs. Marie Haché              | 58. Miss Margo Nitsche              | 94. Mr. Gilles Trudel               |
| 23. Mr. Alexandre Richardson      | 59. A Soul of Purgatory             | 95. Mr. Gaitain Mercier             |
| 24. Mrs. Marie Alix Bidoc         | 60. Miss Ernestine Kingsby          | 96. Miss Anita Allain               |
| 25. Mr. Joseph Lamy               | 61. Mr. Eusebe Breau                | 97. A Soul in Purgatory             |
| 26. Mrs. Sarah Anne Lamy          | 62. Mr. Ralph Swank                 | 98. Mr. Yvon Amede Synnott          |
| 27. Mr. Roland Lafleur            | 63. Mr. Paul Revels                 | 99. Mme Anne-Marie Chretien         |
| 28. Mr. Frank Attardi             | 64. A Soul of Purgatory             | 100. Mlle Elizabeth Burel           |
| 29. Mr. Jason C. White            | 65. Mr. Michael Languett            | 101. Une âme du purgatoire          |
| 30. Mrs. Pauline C.W. Marino      | 66. Mr. Wilbert Boudreau            | 102. Mlle Mary Alice Otto           |
| 31. A Soul of Purgatory           | 67. Mr. John Kaal                   | 103. M. Lee Andrew Riggles          |
| 32. Mrs. Pauline Malo Bujold      | 68. Mrs. Louise Hart                | 104. Mlle Kande Green               |
| 33. Mr. TerryKehnl                | 69. Mr. Pierre M. Robichaud         | 105. M. Paul James Revels, fils     |
| 34. Mr. Dave McDonald             | 70. Mrs. Madeleine McLaughlin       | 106. M. JoeFerence                  |
| 35. Mr. Mario Casista             | 71. Mrs. Loretta Weston Swank       | 107. Mme Dorothy Feese Wool         |
| 36. Mr. Clarence Henning          | 72. Mrs. Virginia Clinton           | 108. Mme Jessamyn Manning           |

continued on page 6...



## The Pierre Assendassé Roll

- |   |                                 |                                     |
|---|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 109. Mrs. Carolina L. Kapawan           | 140. Mr. Alfred Caza            | 171. Mr. Gérard Lesage              |
| 110. A Soul of Purgatory                | 141. Mrs. Carmen Reyes Directo  | 172. Mr. Maurice Pagé               |
| 111. Mrs. Sylvia Cote                   | 142. Mr. Joseph David           | 173. Mr. Antoine Roussel            |
| 112. Mr. Côté                           | 143. Mrs. Margaret David        | 174. Mr. Maurice Bruyère            |
| 113. Mr. Raymond Thibodeau              | 144. Miss Zeyner Barnes         | 175. Mrs. Yvonne Rheume             |
| 114. Mrs. Philomene Poirier             | 145. Mrs. Marie-Rose Daigneault | 176. Mr. Roger Lapointe             |
| 115. Mr. Richard Donald Kloc            | 146. Mrs. Claire Constantineau  | 177. Mr. Maurice Tremblay           |
| 116. Miss Marie Eve Roussel             | 147. Mrs. Lena Thereault        | 178. Mr. Irenée LeBlanc             |
| 117. Mr. Niol Paris                     | 148. A Soul in Purgatory        | 179. Mr. Albain Roussel             |
| 118. Mr. Evariste Francoeur             | 149. A Soul in Purgatory        | 180. Mr. Roger Comeau               |
| 119. Mrs. Dorothy R. Cain               | 150. Mr. Larry Pangman          | 181. Mrs. Patricia O'Dea Anderson   |
| 120. Mr. Irvin E. Nelms, fils           | 151. Mr. Gerard Ross            | 182. Mrs. Dorothy Stupendeick       |
| 121. Mr. Mickey Snow                    | 152. Miss Mary C. Brennan       | 183. Mr. Dwayne Kieluk              |
| 122. Mrs. Lottie Snow                   | 153. Mr. Elie remblay           | 184. Mr. Tom Langlois               |
| 123. Mrs. Alexandre Benoit              | 154. Mr. Thomas Carduff         | 185. Mr. John Lisanti               |
| 124. Mrs. Albina Ouellette              | 155. Mrs. Helen Jolibois        | 186. Mr. John A. Whippen            |
| 125. Mr. Rodolphe Letourneau            | 156. Mrs. Juliette Fredercik    | 187. Mr. Bernard Lavoie             |
| 126. Mrs. Marielle Caron                | 157. Mr. Theodore Mallet        | 188. Mrs. Alice Simoneau            |
| 127. Mrs. Gertrude Jalbert              | 158. M. Gille Robillard         | 189. Mr. Robert Gagné               |
| 128. Miss Pierrette Laberge             | 159. A soul in Purgatory        | 190. Mr. René Watier                |
| 129. Mr. Gilles Page                    | 160. Bro. Fernand Bibeau, S.M.  | 191. Mr. Ovide Joseph               |
| 130. Mr. Gérard-Louis Landry            | 161. Mr. Elmer Caule            | 192. Mrs. Mary Jessie Campbell      |
| 131. Mr. Léon Bugnet                    | 162. Mr. George Richard         | 193. Mr. Samuel London              |
| 132. Mr. Eric Roy                       | 163. Mrs. Lola Meluso           | 194. Mr. Bernard Tremblay           |
| 133. Mr. Sévère Lachance                | 164. Mrs. Ruth M. Lyons         | 195. Mr. Roger Buddy Laroche        |
| 134. Mr. Mathieu Roussel                | 165. Mrs. Bertha Haché          | 196. Mrs. Louise Raymond            |
| 135. Miss Marie-Eve Roussel             | 166. Mr. Albert Hamelin         | 197. Mr. Méderic Roussel            |
| 136. Mr. Osaire de Montgny              | 167. Mr. Donald Duguay          | 198. Mr. James Crossan              |
| 137. Mrs. Aline Leblanc Richmond        | 168. Mr. André Michaud          | 199. Mrs. Barbara McDonald          |
| 138. A Soul of Purgatory                | 169. Mr. René Watier            | 200. Mrs. Donna Catherine Van Every |
| 139. Mrs. Desneiges Bellefleur Ménécapa | 170. Mr. Ildag Leblanc          |                                     |



## 49<sup>th</sup> International Eucharistic Congress QUEBEC, CANADA 2008

### Shedding Some Light on the International Eucharistic Congress of Quebec 2008

#### Answers to frequently asked questions

#### 1 What is an International Eucharistic Congress?

It is a gathering of the universal Church, in order to celebrate Jesus living and present in the Eucharist, the source and summit of evangelisation and centre of the life of the Church. A diocesan Church invites other Churches, with the approval of the Pope, to this time of prayer, of reflection and of commitment.

#### 2 Have there been many Eucharistic Congresses in our country?

Only one other International Congress took place in Montreal in 1910. However, parochial, regional or national Eucharistic Congresses have been held frequently until the early 1960s; our memories therefore are from a period before the II Vatican Council. After the Council, the program of a Eucharistic Congress has emphasized catechesis, continuity between Eucharistic adoration and celebration, the participation of the entire Christian people and the bond between the Eucharist and involvement in the world. These are the points to be stressed at our congress and that is our challenge.

#### 3 Does a Eucharistic Congress require a long preparation?

It is important to insist on spiritual preparation if the Eucharistic Congress is to be fruitful. This preparation includes deepening our understanding of the Eucharistic mystery through catechesis, a fervent celebration of the Liturgy and the search for initiatives of solidarity and sharing that will foster fraternal relations.

#### 4 What happens during a Eucharistic Congress?

- Each day, a solemn Eucharistic liturgy is celebrated and a catechesis helps to develop the theme of the congress.
- Congress delegates are separated according to language and meet in parochial churches where they exchange views and pray with parishioners.
- Public celebrations take place, including a procession of the Blessed Sacrament and an event for young people.
- Artistic and cultural activities are scheduled.



# ...49<sup>th</sup> Eucharistic Congress...

- A social work, destined for the needy, is inaugurated during the congress.
- A family activity is planned for our congress.
- In addition, religious heritage will be emphasised by pilgrimages and by guided tours.

## 5 Will the Pope be coming?

In 1964, Paul VI initiated the custom that the Pope comes to conclude the Eucharistic Congress by a solemn Mass. John Paul II continued along the same lines, despite health problems that prevented him from participating on two occasions. Benedict XVI has told Archbishop Ouellet that he hopes to come to the congress. The final decision should be made in 2007.

## 6 What are the dates and the sites of events?

- The Eucharistic Congress will take place from June 15 to 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2008.
- The central venue for activities will be the Fair Centre at Expocité, the capacity of which will be increased before 2007.
- The closing mass will be celebrated on the Plains of Abraham.
- Linguistic groups will meet in various churches in the heart of the city.

## 7 What is the theme?

THE EUCHARIST, GIFT OF GOD FOR THE LIFE OF THE WORLD

- The logo is formed by a cross, which divides the body of Christ into four parts, whence the notion of the Eucharistic sharing, of bread broken as well as a reference to the four cardinal points of the earth.
- In its form, the logo represents a stylised boat, symbol of the universal Church, and also symbol of Quebec City, since it was via the river that faith was implanted in Quebec.
- The lines refer to water, mixed with wine.

## 8 Who is responsible for the organisation of the event?

- By rights, the Archbishop is president of the Eucharistic congress.
- An organising committee oversees, with him, its general orientation and major decisions.
- The general secretariat, responsible for its implementation, is presently composed of six persons and collaborates with six principal committees.
- A team of sixty volunteers who offer their various talents is already at work.

# ...49<sup>th</sup> Eucharistic Congress...

## 9 How is all this financed?

- The principal sources of revenue are: registration fees of participants, donations from communities, religious movements and institutions, contributions from three levels of government and a public fundraising campaign.
- A corporation has been formed to control the budget strictly and efficiently.
- Canadian bishops have agreed to hold a special collection in each parish for the Feast of Corpus Christi in 2007 and 2008.
- In addition, the Supreme Council of the Knights of Columbus has donated one million dollars. This constitutes a strong encouragement and we are very grateful to them. Religious communities and organisations have generously contributed as well.

## 10 Web Site?

- Yes, consult < [www.cei2008.ca](http://www.cei2008.ca) >.
- News bulletin will be regularly published by 2006.

## 11 Where can we find the most recent information?

Each diocese has also appointed a diocesan delegate whom you may reach, or communicate with the Secretariat of the Eucharistic congress:

**Jean Picher**, priest, p.h. (418) 688-1211-268  
Secretary General

**Doris Lamontagne**, p.f.m. (418) 688-1211-294  
Assistant Secretary General

**Claudette Vallières** (418) 688-1211-201  
Secretary

**Registration for the  
Eucharistic Congress  
should begin in  
January 2007.**

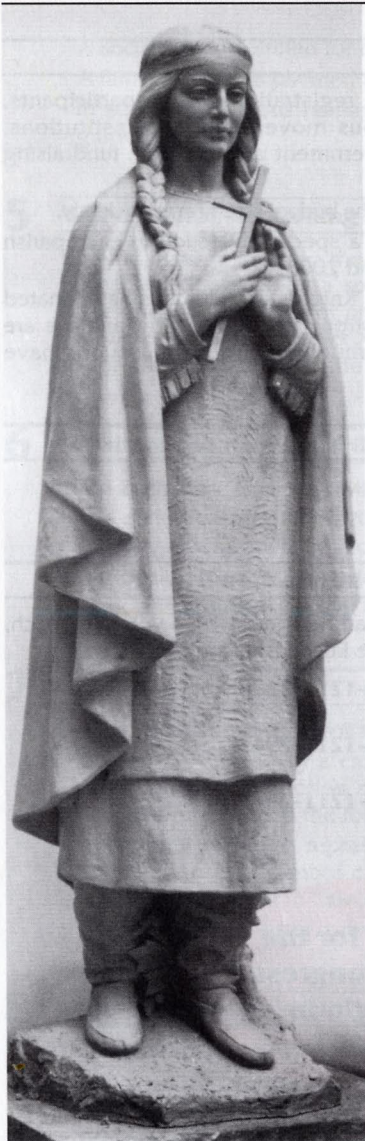
## Question:

How could you prepare for the Eucharistic Congress in your diocese, your parish, your group?

Quebec, March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2006



## Who Was She? What Did She Do?



**BLESSED  
KATERI TEKAKWITHA**

### **BLESSED KATERI TEKAKWITHA**

**BLESSED KATERI TEKAKWITHA** was born of a Christian Algonquin mother and of a Mohawk father in 1656 at Auriesville, N.Y. Her importance is significant as she, an Indian, was baptized a Christian and devoted her life to the Faith.

In 1660, an epidemic of smallpox deprived Tekakwitha of her parents, but spared her, although she had been stricken. Even after her recovery, the usual disfigurement and weakening of the eyes remained.

Together with the other survivors, she moved to a new settlement a little to the west and eventually to still another village just west of present day Fonda, N.Y. When she reached the age for Indian maidens to think of matrimony, Tekakwitha's uncle, now a great chief, along with her aunts began to select a brave for her.

To their dismay, she announced that she had no intentions of becoming the wife of any man. That decision brought the wrath of the family upon her, but their attempts to deceive and force her into the state for which she had no desire were futile. She was only interested in a *Christian baptism*.

#### **Tekakwitha's Baptism**

In 1675, Father James de Lamberville, S.J., took charge of St. Peter's Mission at Caughnawaga. It was to him that Tekakwitha opened her heart and expressed the ardent desire for baptism. However, while Father de Lamberville admired her simplicity and faith, he made her follow the rigid rule established for catechumens. Six months later, on Easter Sunday, 1676, Father Lamberville gave Tekakwitha baptism. It was a great day for Caughnawaga. The whole village crowded in and around the church when Tekakwitha was baptized. For they all loved her, she was so quiet, gentle, and kind.

## ...Who Was She? What Did She Do?...

#### **Her New Name**

When she entered the chapel, she was simply Tekakwitha, but when the solemn ceremony had been completed, she became known as Kateri or Catherine Tekakwitha. Born a non-Christian at Ossernenon (Auriesville), Tekakwitha was destined to be reborn in Christ at Caughnawaga (Fonda).

#### **Kateri's Flight to Canada**

It was during the autumn of 1677 that she fled from the Mohawk countryside to the Mission of St. Francis Xavier on the St. Lawrence. Father James de Lamberville, who had baptized her in her homeland when she was 20, gave her a note for Father James Frémin, superior of the Mission: "I'm sending you a treasure," he wrote. "Guard it well!" The latter soon found out she was a treasure. Her unfailing gentleness, her wholesome humility, her innate kindness, her good humour and wit soon won the hearts of the population.

Every morning she attended Mass at four o'clock and again at seven. In all things, she was as faithful as the stars in the sky. Out of ignorance, though, she practiced excessive penance until her confessor toned it down. He well understood that she was motivated by an intense personal love of Jesus, of His Blessed Mother and of her neighbour, whoever that might be. The great delight of her life was prayer, especially before the Blessed Sacrament: in those days, it was safe to leave churches unlocked. However, she never indulged in contemplation when it was her duty to work, either in her longhouse or in the cornfields.

A few months after her arrival, on Christmas Day 1677, Kateri Tekakwitha was allowed to receive her first communion. From that time onwards, her spiritual progress came by leaps and bounds. This young unlettered Indian woman even achieved here below what theologians call "union with God." With a few friends, she thought of founding a community of Indian nuns, but was dissuaded from doing so by her spiritual director, who judged she was too new a

Christian for such an undertaking. Forty years or so later, the story of her life helped to organize the first Convent of Indian Poor Clares in Mexico City, among them a descendant of Montezuma. On March 25, 1679, Father Frémin allowed Kateri to pronounce a private vow of virginity and to consecrate herself to Our Blessed Mother, whom she dearly loved.

#### **Kateri's Holy Death**

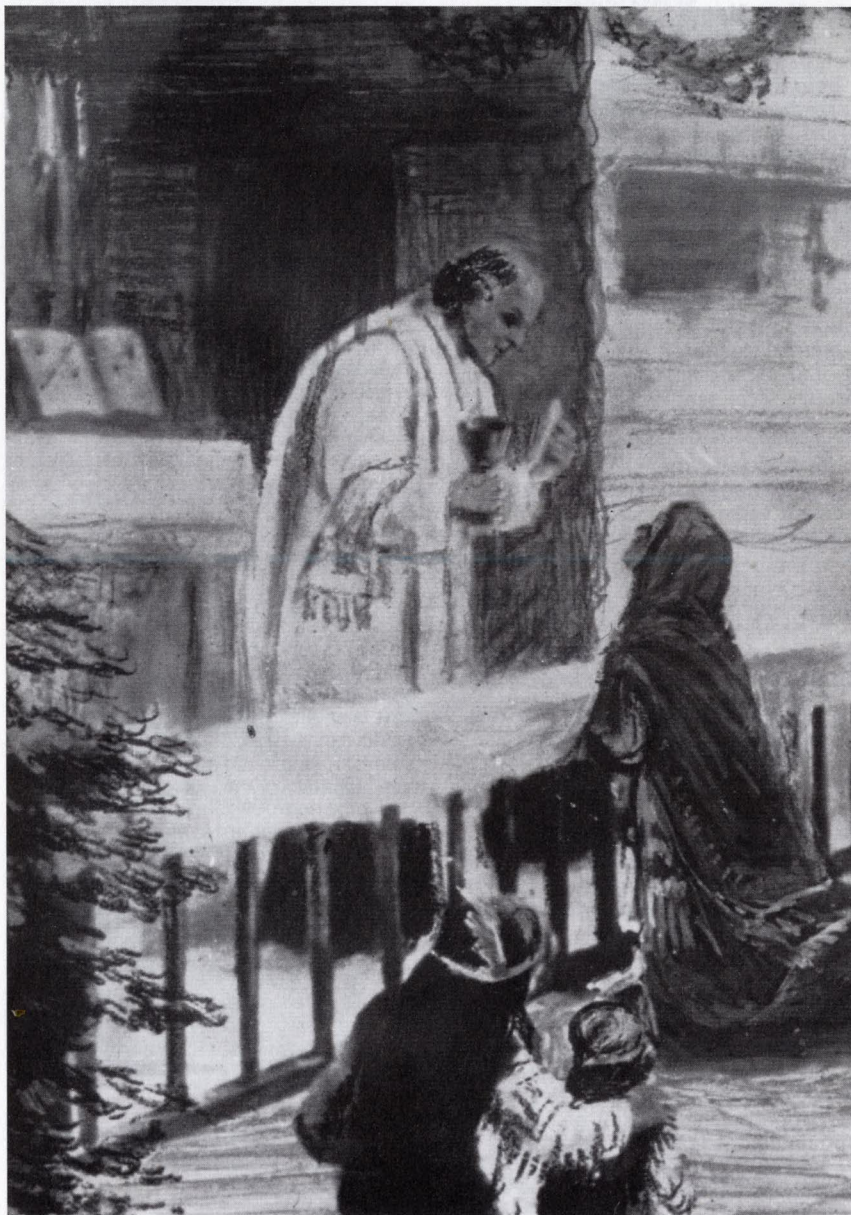
At the beginning of 1680 her health, which was never very good, took a bad turn after she accompanied a companion to Laprairie, several miles downstream from the Mission on a bitter cold winter day. On Tuesday of Holy Week, she received Holy Viaticum, dressed in borrowed attire, having none, which she thought appropriate to receive her Beloved with. On the following day, she told her friends they could gather firewood, for she would not die until they returned. And so it was. Shortly after the three o'clock, as she whispered, "Jesus, Mary," her Lord came to get her. She was not quite twenty-four years old.

Favours and miracles obtained through her intercession began almost immediately. No wonder then that biographies of Kateri Tekakwitha have appeared in fourteen different languages and that she is known throughout the world. On January 3, 1943, Pope Pius XII solemnly approved the decree declaring her "Venerable," thus proclaiming that she had practiced all Christian virtues to a heroic degree. Interest in the young maiden continued to spread in the intervening decades until 1980, the tercentenary of her death, when Pope John Paul II decided the time had come to advance her to the ranks of the "Blessed".

Cause of Kateri, C.P. 70, Kahnawaké, QC J0L1B0, Canada



## Kateri's Second Communion



## Happy Easter *Kateri Style*

... Easter was drawing near; and those who were not far from the village, on the hunt, returned to the mission according to their custom, to celebrate the great day. It was the first time Kateri celebrated it with us for the great good of her soul. She assisted at all the services of Holy Week, and admired all these solemn ceremonies, receiving from them a new esteem for religion. She was so touched by sweetness and consolation that she shed many tears, especially on Good Friday during the sermon on the Passion of Our Lord. Her heart melted at the thought of the suffering of the Divine Savior; she thanked Him a thousand times for it, she adored and kissed His cross with feelings of the most tender gratefulness and the most ardent love. She attached herself to the cross that day with Him, taking the resolution to repeat on her virginal body the mortifications of Jesus Christ for the rest of her days, as if she had done nothing until then. On Easter Sunday she received Holy Communion for the second time, and did so with the same disposition and ardor and spiritual fruits she had on the feast of Christmas...!

Pierre Cholenec, S.J.

*In 1678, at the Mission of St. Francis Xavier.*



## Testimonies of favors obtained

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

*I'm sending a cheque of twenty dollars for a favor obtained thanks to Blessed Kateri. I recently went through surgery and came out fine. I still pray to her daily to keep me healthy and strong... I pray that Blessed Kateri will be canonized soon.*  
(Sudbury, ON)

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

*A very special thank you to Kateri for protecting my daughters. Please remain their guardian angel throughout their lives.*  
(Naas, Ireland)

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

*Enclosed is fifty dollars in thanksgiving to Kateri for keeping our family united, safe and happy.*  
(Champlain, NY)

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

*I am so sorry that I have neglected your Center for so long but my husband and I pray to Kateri every day. Am enclosing ten dollars in thanksgiving for our daughter. We prayed to dear Kateri so that she would be accepted on a medical study for her illness and she was accepted. We thank her and Jesus for their goodness to us.*  
(Victoria, BC)

### ✿ Kateri's smile upon you, Mrs. T.P.!

*Enclosed is a check in appreciation for favors received. Please pray for me and my family. We have received so many miracles from Kateri. Health wise, job wise and family wise. Thank you.*  
(Staten Island, NY)

### ✿ Kateri's smile upon you, Mr. and Mrs. J.J.!

*This check is in thanksgiving for Kateri's intercession in health and work related matters.*  
(Scarborough, ON)

### ✿ Kateri's smile upon you, Miss. M.W.!

*I wish to acknowledge a tremendous blessing! While vacationing at the lake I suffered a stroke. My niece drove me to the nearest hospital and was transferred to Owen Sound Hospital and received the T.P.R. medication within the three hours for it to be effective. The paralysis cleared entirely – thanks be to God.*  
(Walkerton, ON)

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

*Enclosed is twenty dollars thanking Kateri for everything she granted me during the year.*  
(Laverton, Australia)

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

*I'm sending a cheque of twenty-five dollars. Five dollars for my subscription and twenty dollars for a favor received. Employment found for my grand-son.*  
(Dalhousie, NB)

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

*Enclosed is twenty-five dollars for a favor received, my son obtained work.*  
(Big Bras d'Or, NS)

### ✿ Kateri's smile upon you, Mrs. W.H.!

*Please accept this little donation of twenty dollars for prayers asked of Blessed Kateri to help us during a long winter journey to Montreal... I prayed to Blessed Kateri and we had no problems, the roads and weather were good...*  
(New Minas, NS)

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

*Enclosed is a check promised to Kateri in thanksgiving for helping me find a lost article. She has always been helpful to me and am asking her assistance one more for which I will send an additional donation... My husband and I keep praying for Kateri's canonization and may it be soon.*  
(Grand Rapids, MI)

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

*Please accept this small donation. Since the death of my husband, I've worn his ring on a chain. Last Saturday I noticed the ring and chain missing. On my return home I found the chain on a bedroom floor and after much searching found the ring in the kitchen. I believe it was Kateri that led me in the right direction. Thank you.*  
(Bell, FL)

### ✿ Kateri's smile upon you, Mr. B.G.!

*You probably get letters similar to this one all the time, however sometimes you just have to take things on faith. In the summer of 2005 my wife and I planned a trip to Auriesville, NY. My wife wanted to go to the North American Martyrs Shrine and I was interested in the history of the area. We were vaguely familiar with Kateri Tekakwitha's story as we had some research for our trip. Once there we were impressed with the Shrine, we stayed a couple of days and then decided to complete the trip with a visit to Kahnawake, her burial place before returning to Ottawa. Now I'm not an overly religious person but I thought it wouldn't hurt to pray for my youngest daughter and her husband who had been trying to have a baby. We asked Kateri and the Martyrs to intercede on her behalf. In the spring of 2006 my daughter had Invitro Fertilization performed and became pregnant. That summer she was placed on bed rest and in October gave birth to a 24-1/2 week baby boy only 1 pound 14 ounces. I now began to pray to Kateri and the Martyrs in Earnest. Young J. has had a heart operation, eye operations, pneumonia and 1-1/2 inches removed from his intestines. We almost lost him several times. He is now 6-1/2 lbs and will be coming home shortly after 4 months in the hospital. He will have a colostomy bag for about 6 months before corrective surgery but other wise will be a typical little baby. I am certain our prayers were answered. I asked Kateri to hold J.'s hand and comfort him. I asked Kateri to be his patron and guide during his life. The doctors and nurses tell us they are certain prayer works as they have seen many such miracles for no apparent reason. It's generally up to the baby to survive after they do all they can. I would like to make a donation and receive the newsletter.*  
(Richmond, ON)

### ✿ Kateri's smile upon you, Sr. L.D.!

*I'm sending you a small donation to thank Kateri for protecting my brother in an accident. Kateri is part of our family and I pray her every day and ask for her protection.*  
(Sherbrooke, QC)



---

# Letter of Fr. Claude Chauchetière

---

## Respecting the Iroquois Mission of Sault St. François Xavier, near Montreal

*At Sault St. François Xavier  
this 14<sup>th</sup> of October 1682*

My Reverend Father,  
**Pax Christi!**

In answer to Your Reverence's letter respecting what you have asked me, I will say that we are in a part of the country where the climate is not as good as in France, although, thanks be to God, I am in very good health. We are in a very high and beautiful location, with a fine view, sixty leagues distant from Quebec, — which is called "the Iroquois mission." It is the finest mission in Canada, and, as regards piety and devotion, resembles one of the best Churches in France.

The river St. Lawrence here forms a lake two leagues wide; and the place where we are is so high that the waters of this great river fall here with a loud roar over many cascades, which frighten one to look at. The water foams as you see it do under a mill-wheel. We nevertheless readily pass over it every day in our bark canoes; and I cannot help saying that one must be crazy to run the rapids as we do, without fear of being drowned...

We have here a large farm, on which we keep oxen, cows and poultry, and gather corn for our subsistence. It is sometimes necessary to take charge of all temporal as well as spiritual matters, now that Father

Frémin has gone down in an infirm condition to Quebec, as well as Father Cholenec.

Some Indians get their land plowed and harvest French wheat instead of Indian corn. It is impossible to describe their joy when they can harvest twenty or thirty minots of French wheat and are able to eat bread from time to time. But as this sort of grain costs them too much labor, their usual occupation is to plow the soil in order to plant Indian corn in it. The men hunt in order to obtain a provision of meat; the women go to the forests to obtain supplies of wood. If the Indians were fed, they would work much more than they do.

Our village grows larger every year, while the Lorette mission where Father Chaumonot is, steadily diminishes. That of the Mountain does not decrease, neither does it increase much, but ours grows continually. We think that in two or three years all the Mohawks will be in this place. More than eighty have settled here recently.

We have a chapel twenty-five feet wide and nearly sixty feet long. We have three bells with which we produce a very agreeable carillon, and the Indians will soon have another bell weighing two hundred livres to

complete the harmony. The usual exercises of our mission are as follows: in the early morning, the bell is rung at four o'clock, which is the hour at which we rise, as in our houses in France. Many of our Indians, through a spirit of devotion, come at once to the church to adore the Blessed Sacrament; and they remain there until the first Mass, which is said in winter at quarter to seven, and in mid-summer at five o'clock. While they are saying their prayers, I withdraw to my room, which is six feet long and five feet wide, to meditate. After this, I say the first Mass, at which many are present although the bell is not rung for it. The second, which is the Mass for the Indians, is said at half past five. I am present at it; the whole village also attends it every day without a single person being absent and the prayers are said aloud. Afterwards the third Mass, which is for the children, begins, at which I also am present. We make them pray all together, after which I give them a short instruction on the catechism. Such is my daily occupation.

In addition to this, the Indians come frequently during the day to visit the Blessed Sacrament when they go to the fields and when they return from them. From eight o'clock until eleven, which is the hour of our meal, my occupation consists in visiting the people or in working to make books for them (because, as their nature is quite changeable — of which they themselves complain, — they must be often visited either to give them suitable encouragement or to prevent and appease their disputes or to

prepare the newcomers for receiving the Sacraments). There are sixty cabins — that is to say, from one hundred and twenty to one hundred and fifty families, as there are at least two in each cabin.

To perform these visits with profit demands all the time of one missionary; another would be required for the children, and one for those who are more advanced, who need to be instructed in virtue. My work is much easier in this way: I sketch upon paper the truths of the Gospel and the practices of virtue invented by Monsieur de Nobletz. Another book contains colored pictures of the ceremonies of the Mass applied to the Passion of our Lord, another contains pictures showing the torments of hell, another the creation of the world. The Indians read these with great pleasure and profit and these books are their mute teachers. One of our catechists, with the assistance of these books, preaches long sermons; and I experienced much pleasure yesterday when I found a band of Indians at the door of the cabin, learning to read in books of this kind.

To return to the manner in which our time is employed and to our usual occupations: at eleven o'clock the bell rings for our examination of conscience and, at the same time, the Angelus is rung, which the Indians recite with great devotion. Our afternoon is spent teaching in the cabins. For my part, I visit the sick who would keep one man occupied. I have also charge of a parish, consisting of a hundred French houses. With regard to Father Bruyas, — who is the superior of the entire



mission, and with whom I remained alone here during the whole last year, he attends to the temporal and spiritual wants of the Indians and he is a father to them for both their bodies and their souls.

You will be pleased to hear from me respecting the austerities practiced by certain Indian women although there may be some indiscretion in their doing so, but it will show you their fervor. More than five years ago, some of them learned, I known not how, of the pious practices followed by the nuns in Montreal, who are hospital sisters. They heard of disciplines, of iron girdles and of hair shirts. This religious life began to please them very much, and three of them formed an association in order to commence a sort of convent, but we stopped them because we did not think that the lime had yet come for this. However, even if they were not cloistered, they at least observed chastity, and one of them died with the reputation of sanctity three years ago next spring. They, and some others who imitated them, would be admired in France, if what they do were known there. The first who began made her first attempt about Christmas in the year 1676, when she divested herself of her clothing and exposed herself to the air at the foot of a large Cross that stands beside our cemetery. She did so at a time when the snow was falling, although she was pregnant, and the snow that fell upon her back caused her so much suffering that she nearly died from it – as well as her child, whom the cold chilled in its mother's womb. It was her own idea to do this – to do penance for her

sins, she said. She has had four companions in her fervor, who have since imitated her. Two of them made a hole in the ice, in the depth of winter, and threw themselves into the water, where they remained, during the time that it would take to say a Rosary slowly and sedately. One of the two, who feared that she would be found out, did not venture to warm herself when she returned to her cabin, but lay down on her mat with lumps of ice adhering to her shoulders. There have been several other inventions of similar mortifications, which men and women have discovered for the purpose of tormenting themselves, and which constitute their usual exercise of penance. But we have made them give up whatever was excessive.

During the past two years, their fervor has greatly augmented since God has removed from this world one of these devout Indian women who live like nuns, and she died with the reputation of sanctity. We cease not to say Masses to thank God for the graces that we believe we receive, every day, through her intercession. Journeys are continually made to her tomb, and the Indians, following her example, have become better Christians than they were. We daily see wonders worked through her intercession. Her name was Catherine Tegaskouita.

During her lifetime, she had made an agreement with a friend to make each other suffer, because she was too weak to do so by herself, owing to her continual illness. She had begged her companion to do her the charity of severely chastising her with blows from a whip. This they did for a year

without anyone knowing it, and for that purpose they withdrew every Sunday into a cabin in the middle of the cemetery; and there, taking in their hands willow shoots, they mingled prayers with penance. Finally, when one of the two saw that her companion had fallen sick at the end of the year, she was pressed with scruples to reveal the matter and to ask whether she had not sinned in what she had done.

At that time, people here used only willow shoots or thorns, which here are very long, but since they have heard of disciplines, or iron girdles and of similar instruments, the use of these daily becomes more general. And, as the men have found that the women use them, they will not let themselves be outdone and ask us to permit them to use these every day, but we will not allow it.

The women, to the number of eight or ten, began this practice; the wife of the dogique - that is to say of him who leads the singing and says the prayers - is among the number. She it is who, in her husband's absence, also causes the prayers to be said aloud and leads the singing; and in this capacity she assembles the devout women of whom we have spoken, who call themselves sisters. They tell one another their faults and deliberate together upon what must be done for the relief of the poor in the village - whose number is so great that there are almost as many poor as there are Indians. The sort of monastery that they maintain here has its rules. They have promised God never to put on their gala-dress (for the Indian women have some taste and take pride

in adorning themselves with porcelain beads, with vermilion, which they apply to their cheeks, and with earrings and bracelets). They assist one another in the fields; they meet together to incite one another to virtue; and one of them has been received as a nun in the hospital of Montreal.

There are married people here who have for a long time lived as brother and sister. There are aged women, veterans in the faith, who instruct the others, as missionaries would do, and God thereby supplies the want of these, which we experience. There are women who have shared their fields, thus, as it were, taking the bread from their mouths to give it to the newcomers, - who are not yet in a position to do anything in return, - in order to win them to God.

When there are widows or sick persons, the Captains make their families work for the love of God at building cabins for those who have none. Some live in the woods in the same state of innocence, as do those in the village; and they return with consciences as pure as when they went away. And I may state, without exaggeration, that when they return we do not find in many of them matter for absolution. And yet, they are sufficiently enlightened to accuse themselves of the least imperfections, - such as slight distractions during their prayers, petty acts of impatience, some instance of forgetfulness and things, which, in their case, are often virtues. Modesty is natural to them. When they pray or sing in the Church, they do so with so much devotion that all



the French settlers here who see them are impressed by it and say that they are more devout than we allege. I was forgetting to tell you that, when they are in the woods, they have the Sundays and feast days marked by small lines to the number of seven, one for each day of the week; we mark Crosses upon the lines that indicate feast days and the Sundays, and they observe these very exactly.

There is an Indian woman who says the beads fully twenty times a day; and another who says it six times in her day, by dividing it in a very ingenious fashion. They find out all their devotions by themselves, for they call one Rosary that "of the five wounds," another, "the Rosary of the ten virtues of the Blessed Virgin," as the Blessed Jeanne invented it; another, "the Rosary of twelve beads," invented by Sister Marguerite du S. Sacrement, a Carmelite; another, "the chapelet of St. Joseph; and all these are recited while they are going to or returning from their fields. Here is also something very touching. While making my rounds in the village at eight or nine o'clock in the evening, I have heard the air resound on all sides with voices issuing from all the cabins. All were saying their prayers aloud before retiring to rest; and this is done every night, not a single person failing to do so. . .

We have no other demon to contend against than liquor and drunkenness, which make a hell of all the Iroquois villages, wherein life is a continual suffering. The French are the cause of its giving us much trouble here; for, in order to strip the Indians to their very shirts, they follow them

everywhere to make them drink and become intoxicated.

It is admirable to see how some of our Christian Indians distinguish themselves in repressing this evil. They spill the liquor; they break the bottles with incredible courage, exposing themselves to insults and to blows of which some still bear the marks. And, in spite of all this, they do not lose courage. I know three or four who would endure martyrdom to prevent anything being done to offend God. They are no longer guided by the French whom they had hitherto considered good Christians, but who they now see very plainly are not such.

When they return from the land of the Dutch, they relate to us with much pleasure their success in the disputes that they have had with the Dutch on points of religion.

War is blazing in the country of the Outaouaks. The Iroquois, especially those of Oneida, continue to bear ill will against the Outagamis and the Illinois. For that reason, they have not forborne to take many captives from the Illinois, a nation allied to us, after having slain a very large number of them. In the year 1681, they killed or carried into captivity a thousand of those people. Among the captives of this year, 1682, is an Englishman whom they will no doubt burn. All this makes us hope that God will continue to preserve Canada from their cruelty. They bear us malice in earnest and we were in danger of having a war with them. For four years, we have heard nothing but threats, but God ever preserves us,

working miracles of his providence in our favor as He did last autumn when we expected to be attacked by them. But the storm went elsewhere.

If you wish me to tell you something about the manner in which the Indians dress – although, had I time, I would have preferred painting some for you – you must know that it is not wanting in taste, especially on feast days. The women have no other headdress than their hair, which they part over the middle of the head, and then tie behind with a sort of ribbon, which they make out of eelskin painted a bright red. I myself have often been deceived and have taken it for a real ribbon. They grease their hair which thereby becomes as black as jet. As for the men, they are ridiculous in dressing their hair, and there is not one who does not do it up in a special fashion. On Sundays and feast days, the men and women wear fine white chemises; and the women take wonderful care to clothe themselves so modestly that there is nothing indecorous or uncovered about them, for they closely fasten the chemise. This falls over a petticoat consisting of a blue or red blanket, a brasse or more square, which they fold in two, and simply gird about the waist; and the chemise which falls over this sort of petticoat reaches only to the knees. The Indians have often asked us if there were any vanity in their dress. They are not accustomed to wear these except in going to church on communion and feast days. On the other days they are poorly but modestly clad.

I would like to give you a more exact description of their consciences,

of which you may have a fair idea from what I have said. But, besides the fact that it would take too long and that I shall send something about it to one of my brothers, I would fear that it might perhaps be thought somewhat exaggerated

The Indian women sometimes propound to us doubts in spiritual matters as difficult as those that might be advanced by the most cultured persons in France. The knowledge of the cases of conscience often renders us good service here; without it we would be in danger of making many mistakes respecting proximate occasions, the baptism of adults, and marriages. In truth, the working of the Holy Spirit seems admirable in these minds which have been trained amid the forests and the woods.

When I read them your letter one Sunday, as I preached to them, they wept while listening to me; and the dogique [ catechist ] then spoke to them in a very pathetic manner. They often ask me whether any prayers are said for them in France and I assure them that there are. From time to time, they deplore the misfortune of their birth, and, after they become Christians, they live like angels, fearing to fall into the evil ways from which faith and Christianity have withdrawn them.

A slightly modernized version:  
*Jesuit Relations and Allied Documents*,  
Thwaites Edition, LXII, pp. 166-182.



## 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 \_\_\_\_\_

### 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, Quebec J0L 1B0*

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

## 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

## Please renew your subscription;

send gift subscriptions to:

PLEASE INDICATE MR., MRS. OR MISS AND CODE

- (1) Name M. \_\_\_\_\_  
Street \_\_\_\_\_  
City or Town \_\_\_\_\_ Code \_\_\_\_\_  
Province or State \_\_\_\_\_
- (2) Name M. \_\_\_\_\_  
Street \_\_\_\_\_  
City or Town \_\_\_\_\_ Code \_\_\_\_\_  
Province or State \_\_\_\_\_
- (3) Name M. \_\_\_\_\_  
Street \_\_\_\_\_  
City or Town \_\_\_\_\_ Code \_\_\_\_\_  
Province or State \_\_\_\_\_
- (4) Name M. \_\_\_\_\_  
Street \_\_\_\_\_  
City or Town \_\_\_\_\_ Code \_\_\_\_\_  
Province or State \_\_\_\_\_
- (5) Name M. \_\_\_\_\_  
Street \_\_\_\_\_  
City or Town \_\_\_\_\_ Code \_\_\_\_\_  
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 (\$20.00), I now inscribe free of charge, the name of one deceased person dear to me on the Frances Tiouateskon 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.