

No 234

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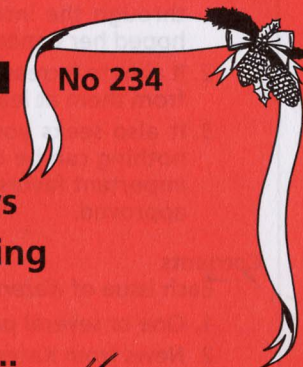


Compliments
of the
**KAHNAWAKE
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CLUB**



KATERI

No 234



*Merry
Christmas!*

*Happy
New Year!*

**Katerina
Kateri Center News
My Christmas Greeting
The Huron Carol
Pope John-Paul II ...
Testimonies
Faith First**

**Goodness and Kindness
The Minister's Sermon
A Loving Grandmother
A Judge's Decision**

**The Catherine Ganneaktena Roll
Christmas Greetings to All
Christmas – Feast of Love**

Once More

**LILY OF
THE MOHAWKS**

Kahnawake, Quebec, Canada



WINTER • 2007-2008



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

KATERI

No 234

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.

Winter 2007-2008

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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

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

1. In hydrocal, bronze finish (6 1/2"): \$ 12.00
2. Colored (6 1/2"): \$ 15.00
3. In hydrocal, 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

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 September 29 to December 19, 2007.

Articles Found	2	Peace at work	1
Better Health	8	Properties Bought or Sold	4
Cures	4	Safe Trips	3
Employment Found or Kept	8	Successful Studies	4
Lodgings	2	Successful or Averted Operations	6
Peace in the Family	2	Temporal Favors	3

Prayer Pledges for Kateri's Canonization

Total pledges to November 28, 2007: 30,611.

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.

Help Spread Devotion to Blessed Kateri

Send in the names and addresses of relatives and friends and we will send them information on Blessed Kateri.

A very Merry Christmas and a miracle during 2008!

2008 - Liturgical Year - 2008

January	1: New Year's Day - Mary, Mother of God 3: Holy Name Of Jesus 6: Epiphany
February	2: Presentation of Jesus 5: Mardi-Gras 6: Ash Wednesday
March	16: Ash Wednesday 23: Easter
April	17: Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha
May	1: Ascension 11: Pentecost - Mother's Day
June	15: Father's Day
July	1: Canada Day 4: United States Day 31: St Ignatius of Loyola
August	15: Assumption of Mary
September	10: Grandfather's Day 26: North American Martyrs
October	13: Thanksgiving Day (Canada)
November	1: All Saints Day 2: All souls Day 30: Christ, King of the Univers
December	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 _____

My Christmas Greetings to friends of Blessed Kateri

As we celebrate the birth of the Child Jesus may you and your family be blessed with peace, happiness, health and joy. Together we can make this Christmas season a most memorable one by praying in unity for peace and unity around the world.

Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ promises that "where two or more gather in My Name, whatever you agree upon in prayer, you shall receive." Just imagine the impact our prayers could have upon our world. "Faith can move mountains" says the Lord.

The International Eucharistic Conference will be held in Quebec City in June, 2008. Also, in April, 2008, the Holy Father is scheduled to visit in the U.S. One of the places he will be visiting is Washington, D.C. where he will be celebrating Mass on Blessed Kateri's Feast Day, April 17th, at the National Basilica. In Canada, it is our hope that the Pontiff would be able to attend the International Eucharistic Conference in Quebec City, but it would be too much strain on his health to make another trip to North America so soon after his visit to the U.S. in April.

I ask you dear friends that we agree upon in prayer that something wonderful will happen this year, that an unquestionable miracle be granted through the intercession of our dearest Lily, Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha who has been called by God to shine upon all the people of the world.

"O God, who among the many marvels of Your Grace in the New World, did cause to blossom on the banks of the Mohawk and the St. Lawrence, the pure and tender Lily, Kateri Tekakwitha, grant we beseech You, the favor we beg through her intercession; that this Young lover of Jesus and of His cross may soon be counted among the saints of Holy Mother Church, and that our hearts may be enkindled with a stronger desire to imitate her innocence and faith. Through the same Christ Our Lord." Amen.

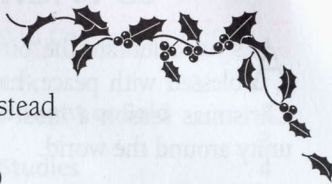
Our Father, Hail Mary and Glory be to the Father (3x's)

You will be remembered in prayer in a special way during all the Christmas and New Years' Day Masses. Through the intercession of Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha may the blessings of our Lord Jesus be upon you and your family throughout the holiday and the New Year.

Deacon Ronald Boyer
Vice-Postulator

The Huron Carol

Composed by Jean de Brébeuf



T'was in the moon of winter time
When all the birds had fled
That mighty Gitchi Manitou sent angel choirs instead
Before their light the stars grew dim
And wondering hunters heard the hymn: (Chorus)
Jesus, your King is born, Jesus is born. In excelsis Gloria.

Within a lodge of broken bark
The tender Babe was found
A ragged robe of rabbit skin
Enwrapped His beauty round;
But as the hunter braves drew near
The angel song rang loud and clear: (Chorus)
Jesus, your King is born, Jesus is born. In excelsis Gloria.

O children of the forest free, O people of Manitou,
The holy Child of earth and heaven
Is born today for you.
Come, kneel before the radiant Boy,
Who brings you beauty, peace and joy: (Chorus)
Jesus, your King is born, Jesus is born. In excelsis Gloria.

To Jesus, from the ends of earth,
Three wise men came this day.
To him they brought their precious gifts,
Before Him they did pray.
Like them we come to Thee, O Son:
Like them with joy, we kneel before Thee: (Chorus)
Jesus, your King is born, Jesus is born. In excelsis Gloria.

All praise to Thee, O son of God,
All glory to Thy Name!
Over all this world Thy people sing,
Thy blessed birth acclaim!
With them, we come to Thee, O Son;
Like them, with joy we kneel before Thee: (Chorus)
Jesus, your King is born, Jesus is born. In excelsis Gloria.

RECALLING POPE JOHN PAUL II'S SPEECH ON HIS PAPAL VISIT TO THE MARTYR'S SHRINE AT MIDLAND Ontario, September 15, 1984



I greet you in the name of Jesus Christ who loves you and who has called you out 'of every race, language, people and nation' (Rev. 5:9) to be one in his Body, the Church. It gives me great joy to pray with you at this holy place, *the Martyr's Shrine*, which stands as *a symbol of the unity of faith in a diversity of cultures*. In a special way I greet the Native peoples, the descendants of the first inhabitants of this land, the North American Indians.

Nothing can come between us and the love of Christ. Enriched by the Gospel Native People are able to give an original expression of Christian life. The love of Christ overcomes all obstacles. The Gospel message strengthened and enriched the worthy traditions of the Indian tribes.

Through the Gospel Native People are able "to bring forth from their own living traditions original expressions of Christian life, celebration and thought."

In the members of his Body, Christ is himself Indian. True Indian values are to be maintained; the Revelation of Jesus Christ purifies and enables them. In the Eucharist Christ offers all cultures to his Father. This means that we are called to reconciliation and peace.

A young woman of Algonquin and Mohawk ancestry also deserves special recognition today: Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha. Who has not heard of her outstanding witness of purity and holiness of life? It was my personal joy, only four years ago, to beatify this woman of great courage and faith, known by many as the 'Lily of the Mohawks'. To those who came to Rome for her beatification, I said: "Blessed Kateri stands before us as symbol of the heritage that is yours as North American Indians" (June 22, 1980). We wish to pay tribute as well to all those who joyfully embraced the faith, like Blessed Kateri who remained faithful despite many trials and difficulties.

Of great importance to the church of Huronia despite many trials and difficulties. Of great importance is Joseph Chiwatenwa, who together with his wife Aonnetta, his brother Joseph and other family members lived and witnessed to their faith in a heroic manner. Their fidelity is yet another testimony to the truth attested to by the Apostle Paul: "Nothing can ever separate us from the love of Christ". A statue now commemorates the life and mission of Joseph Chiwatenwa.

Particularly striking is the testimony of Saint Charles Garnier on the inscription: "It was in this Christian that we had our hope after God". These men and women not only professed the faith and embraced Christ's love, they became evangelizers and provide even today eloquent models for lay ministry.

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

Today, we are grateful for the part that the Native Peoples play, only in the multicultural fabric of Canadian society, but in the life of the Catholic Church. Christ himself is incarnate in his Body, the Church. And through her action, the Church desires to assist all people "to bring forth from their own living tradition *original expressions of Christian life*, celebration and thought" (Catechesi Tradendae, 53).

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

The revival of Indian culture will be a revival of those true values which they have inherited and safeguarded, and which are purified and ennobled by the Revelation of Jesus Christ. Through his Gospel *Christ confirms the Native Peoples* in their belief in God, their awareness of his Presence, their ability to discover him in Creation, their dependence on him, their desire to worship him, their sense of gratitude for the land, their responsible stewardship of the Earth, their reverence for all his great works, their respect for their elders. The world needs to see these values – and so many more that they possess – pursued in the life of the community and made incarnate in a whole people.

In *the Eucharistic Sacrifice* that Christ, joined with his members, offers up to his Father all that makes up their lives and cultures. In his Sacrifice he consolidates all his people in the unity of his Church and calls all to *reconciliation* and *peace*. As we go forward, let us commend ourselves to the intercession of the North American Martyrs, to Blessed Kateri and all the Saints. Let us all proclaim by the witness of our own lives that "neither death nor life, or any created thing, can ever come between us and the love of God made visible in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Rom 8:38-39).

Deacon Ron Boyer
Vice-Postulator



Testimonies of favors obtained

❁ Kateri's smile upon you, Mrs. J.M.!

Please find enclosed a money order for twenty-five dollars. Two dollars to be used for the Sympathy Enrollment, five dollars for the renewal of my subscription to the Kateri magazine and the rest is to be used in thanksgiving to Kateri for the sale of our property and being able to buy the house we wanted in town... (Humboldt, SK)

❁ Kateri's smile upon you, Mrs. B.A.!

Enclosed please find my check for twenty-five dollars in thanksgiving to Kateri for helping me find my car keys. After much grief and petitions to Kateri, they were found. Thanks be to God. (Grand Rapids, MI)

❁ Kateri's smile upon you, Mrs. M.M.!

Please accept this check as a promise to Kateri for prayers answered. I had prayed for my daughter to receive a teaching job and she did. Bless you Kateri. (Fairview, PA)

❁ Kateri's smile upon you, Mrs. C.D.!

I promised Kateri fifty dollars if I sold my house. Please use it as you wish. Also included is five dollars for my membership. (Regina, SK)

❁ Kateri's smile upon you, Mrs. B.J.!

Thank you Kateri for favors granted. I hope and pray that you continue to grant me more rentals before the year ends and in the New Year. Thank you again. Enclosed is a twenty dollar cheque. (Trinidad & Tobago, WI)

❁ Kateri's smile upon you, Mrs. L.Z.!

I am sending twenty dollars in thanksgiving for a favor received. My son and daughter-in-law sold their house. Thank you Blessed Kateri. (Winnipeg, MB)

❁ Kateri's smile upon you, Mrs. R.M.!

I had a cancer operation in 1988. It was colon cancer and I was told I had two months to live. I went to the cancer clinic and they wanted me to take treatments. I said I would think about it. I came home and thought about it and I decided to pray. I prayed to Kateri morning, noon and night. I am well and 84 years old. I know I should have written before this, but I am a poor writer. (Ottawa, ON)

❁ Kateri's smile upon you, Sr. M.B.!

Please find enclosed a small offering for Masses to be offered in thanksgiving to Blessed Kateri for continued good results from cancer tests... (Estevan, SK)

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

Please accept this Money Order for five hundred dollars in praise and thanksgiving to Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha for favors received. I have been praying to her and promised her an offering of five hundred dollars in thanksgiving for giving my son a job. He was unemployed for 2 years. He sent in applications; was called for a couple of interviews but nothing happened! The previous employer seemed to be blocking his every move. In despair I prayed to Kateri! He obtained a job and is working since July 2007... (Markham, ON)

✿ **Kateri's smile upon you, Mr. A.K.!**

I have a very disabled friend and I asked Kateri to help him. He is back working and his blood tests improved. Also my daughter had health problems and seems better now. I also had a problem that I asked Kateri for help with and it turned out right. Enclosed is a check for seventy-five dollars. (Amsterdam, NY)

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

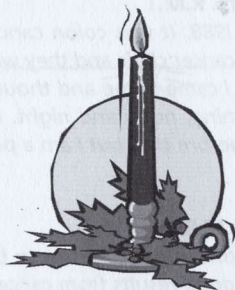
I'm thanking Kateri for having answered my request. Tests showed that there was no trace of breast cancer. This little saint makes miracles. I ask our Lord that she be canonized as soon as possible. (Mascouche, QC)

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

A donation to the cause of Kateri Tekakwitha for and object found. (Westmount, QC)

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

I'm sending fifteen dollars for Kateri's cause. A promise for a successful operation. I have great confidence in little Kateri. (Le Goulet, NB)



"Faith First" comes to Kahnawake

by Alex Rice Deer

We began the catechetical program "Faith First" at our St. Francis Xavier Mission in Kahnawake, home of Blessed Kateri. This program is geared for children and their parents. Faith First has been implemented in our Diocese as well as in Greater Montréal has been around for several years. It has been very successful in all parishes applying it in their religion curriculum, in Canada and the U.S. It is a great means of teaching the Catholic Faith to school age children and to their families.

With the introduction of this program, Sacramental preparation and faith education is integrated into a Catechetical preparation that involves bringing Church teaching into the family setting. The program not only gives children and their parents the required information for receiving the Sacraments, but more importantly, prepares them spiritually and practically.

The children receive a workbook that they complete at home with their parents each week. In the book there is also a section about Blessed Kateri. The children attend Mass with their families and attend a monthly activity session where they participate in group activities reviewing and reinforcing lessons from their workbook.

Through Faith First, the parents, family members, pastors and catechists are all involved in the faith formation of the children in the Church community. Team members are; Pastor Fr. Alvaro Salazar, George Ryder, Alex Rice Deer, Debbie Brisebois and Alzira Cooper, Lidith and Miguel Robles.

Approximately 30 children in three levels participate; 5 to 12 yrs of age. We are very proud of our Faith First Kids and parents. Many have shown great enthusiasm and commitment to the program. We have many little helpers who enthusiastically attend and participate at Mass liturgies.

We celebrated our first Children's Christmas Supper Party thanks to the Kahnawake K. of C. who gave us free use of their hall and kitchen for this joyous event. The Lord provided volunteers too numerous to name.

The children had a wonderful time singing Christmas carols and playing Bingo, exchanging gifts and breaking open a piñata. Santa even stopped by to read them a story. He must have known how good they have been. Our next project will be the Nativity Story read by the children for the Christmas Eve Mass.

Looking ahead in the New Year, Faith first children from other parishes will be making pilgrimages here to our Sanctuary of Blessed Kateri to visit and to learn more the life of Kateri. God bless!

First Communion ...



... on Christmas Day

*Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha
Made her First Communion
On Christmas Day, 1677,
At the Mission of St. Francis Xavier
(Kahnawake, Quebec).*

*Throughout the coming year,
May she share with you and yours
The great joy which was then hers!*

On the humor side of **' Goodness and Kindness '**

A mom was concerned about her kindergarten son walking to school. He didn't want his mother to walk with him. She wanted to give him the feeling that he had some independence but yet know that he was safe. So she had an idea of how to handle it. She asked a neighbor, Mrs. Goodnest, if she would please follow him to school in the mornings, staying at a distance, so he probably wouldn't notice her.

Mrs. Goodnest said that since she was up early with her toddler anyway, it would be a good way for them to get some exercise as well, so she agreed. The next school day, Mrs. Goodnest and her little girl, Marcy, set out to follow behind Timmy as he walked to school with another neighbor boy he knew. She did this for the whole week.

As the boys walked and chatted, kicking stones and twigs, Timmy's little friend noticed the same lady was following them as she seemed to do every day all week. Finally he said to Timmy, "Have you noticed that lady following us to school all week? Do you know her?" Timmy nonchalantly replied, "Yeah, I know who she is". The friend said, "Well, who is she"? "That's just Shirley Goodnest", Timmy replied, "and her daughter is Marcy."

Shirley Goodnest? "Who the heck is she and why is she following us"? "Well", Timmy explained, "every night my Mom makes me say the 23rd Psalm with my prayers, cuz she worries about me so much". And in the Psalm, it says, 'Shirley Goodnest and Marcy shall follow me all the days of my life, so I guess I'll just have to get used to it'!

May the Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you; the Lord lift His countenance upon you, and give you peace. Numbers 6:22-26.

May Shirley Goodnest and Marcy be with you today, and always.

The minister's sermon using visual demonstration

A minister decided to use a visual demonstration to add emphasis to his Sunday sermon.

He placed four worms into four separate jars.

He put the first worm into a container of alcohol.

He put the second worm into a container of cigarette smoke.

The third worm he put into a container of chocolate syrup.

The fourth worm was put into a container of good clean soil.

At the conclusion of the sermon, the minister reported the following results:

The first worm in alcohol - Dead.

The second worm in cigarette smoke Dead.

The third worm in chocolate syrup Dead.

Fourth worm in good clean soil - Alive.

What can you learn from this demonstration?

Maxine who was sitting in the back, quickly raised her hand and said, "As long as you drink, smoke and eat chocolate, you won't have worms! "

That pretty much ended the service.



A loving Grandmother... and the Forgiving Father

There was a little boy visiting his grandparents on their farm. He was given a slingshot to play with out in the woods. He practiced in the woods but he could never hit the target. Getting a little discouraged, he headed back for dinner. As he was walking back he saw Grandma's pet duck. Just out of impulse, he let the slingshot fly, hit the duck square in the head, and killed it. He was shocked and grieved. In a panic, he hid the dead duck in the wood pile, only to see his sister watching! Sally had seen it all, but she said nothing.

After lunch the next day Grandma said, "Sally, let's wash the dishes." But Sally said, "Grandma, Johnny told me he wanted to help in the kitchen." Then she whispered to him, "Remember the duck?" So Johnny did the dishes. Later that day, Grandpa asked if the children wanted to go fishing and Grandma said, "I'm sorry but I need Sally to help make supper." Sally just smiled and said, "Well that's all right because Johnny told me he wanted to help." She whispered again, "Remember the duck?" So Sally went fishing and Johnny stayed to help. After several days of doing both his chores and Sally's, Johnny could stand it no longer. He went to Grandma and confessed that he had killed the duck. Grandma knelt down, gave him a hug and said, "Sweetheart, I know. You see, I was standing at the window and I saw the whole thing, but because I love you, I forgave you. I was just wondering how long you would let Sally make a slave of you."

Reflection:

Whatever is in your past, whatever you have done... and the Devil keeps throwing it up in your face (lying, cheating, debt, fear, bad habits, hatred, anger, bitterness, or whatever it is, you need to know that God is standing at the window and He sees everything. He sees your whole life. He wants you to know that He loves you and that you are forgiven. He's just wondering how long you will let the devil make a Slave of you. The great thing about God is that when you ask for forgiveness, He not only forgives you, but He forgets. It is by God's grace and mercy that we are saved. Make the difference in someone's life today. Share this with a friend and always remember: *God is at the window.*

* * *

A Judge's Decision

So the story goes...

In Florida, an atheist became incensed over the preparation of Easter and Passover holidays. He decided to contact his lawyer about the discrimination inflicted on atheists by the constant celebrations afforded to Christians and Jews with all their holidays while atheists had no holiday to celebrate.

The case was brought before a judge. After listening to the long passionate presentation by the lawyer, the Judge banged his gavel and declared, 'Case dismissed!'

The lawyer immediately stood and objected to the ruling and said, 'your honor', how can you possibly dismiss this case? The Christians have Christmas, Easter and many other observances. Jews have Passover, Yom Kippur and Hanukkah... yet my client and all other atheists have no such holiday!'

The judge leaned forward in his chair and simply said, 'obviously your client is too confused to even know about, much less celebrate his own atheists' holiday!'

The lawyer pompously said, 'Your Honor, we are unaware of any such holiday for atheists. When might that holiday be, your Honor?'

The judge said, 'Well it comes every year on exactly the same date--- April 1st! Since our calendar sets April 1st as 'April Fools Day,' consider that Psalm 14:1 states, 'The fool says in his heart, there is no God.' Thus, in my opinion, if your client says there is no God, then, he is a fool, and April 1st is his holiday! Now have a good day and get out of my courtroom!'



The Catherine Ganneaktena Roll

Catherine Ganneaktena, an Erie Indian, was the co-founder of the Mission of St. Francis Xavier. Captured and inducted into the Oneida nation in 1656, she later married a Christian Huron, Francis Xavier Tonsahoten. In 1667, she and her husband were invited to settle down at la Prairie, an invitation that they gratefully accepted. On November 6, 1673, Catherine died, and her spiritual director, Fr. Frémin, affirmed that she had always preserved her baptismal innocence.

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Mr. Gérard Beaudin | 32. Mrs. Lucienne Néron | 63. Mr. Mario Aubin |
| 2. Mr. Yvon Tapp | 33. A Soul in Purgatory | 64. Mrs. Marie-Ange Lefebvre |
| 3. Mr. Jean-Louis Prévoist | 34. Miss Rose Toupin | 65. Mr. Donald Chevalier |
| 4. Mrs. Palm Marion | 35. Mr. Ben Rousselle | 66. Mr. Roger Rivard |
| 5. Mr. Jacques Boudreault | 36. Mrs. Florence Cloutier | 67. Mrs. Nicole Rivard |
| 6. Mr. Sylvain Tremblay | 37. Miss Florence Forget | 68. Mr. Bernard Lavoie |
| 7. Miss Julianne Gardner | 38. A Soul in Purgatory | 69. Miss Marian Fisher |
| 8. Mr. Armand Lafleur | 39. Mr. Thomas Burke | 70. Miss Rachel Kozlusk |
| 9. Mr. René A. Ouellette | 40. Mrs. Desneiges Simard | 71. Miss Mary Liz Miller |
| 10. Mrs. Lillian Puza | 41. A Soul in Purgatory | 72. Mr. Francis Edward Heckert |
| 11. Mrs. Eva Boucher-Martin | 42. Mrs. Ceceilia Haw | 73. Miss Lena Miller |
| 12. Mr. Raoul Roussel | 43. Mr. Leopold Lachaine | 74. Mr. Denis Beck Regudon |
| 13. Miss Marie-Rose-Aimée Philibert | 44. Mr. Raymond Desjardins | 75. Miss Naomi Rose Ebersol |
| 14. Mrs. Yvonne Blanchard | 45. Rev. Arthur Deveau | 76. Miss Anna Mae Stoltzfus |
| 15. Mr. George Campeau | 46. Miss Germaine Girard | 77. Capt. Myles Standish |
| 16. Mrs. Eglantine Proulx | 47. Mr. Christopher Holoka | 78. Mrs. Erminé Ophelia Weston |
| 17. Miss Hélène Landry | 48. Miss Florida Cloutier | 79. Mr. Ellis Drummond Weston |
| 18. A Soul in Purgatory | 49. Mr. Léon Bugnet | 80. Mr. Will Swank |
| 19. A Soul in Purgatory | 50. Mr. Charles Pagé | 81. Mrs. Elizabeth Brooks Swank |
| 20. A Soul in Purgatory | 51. Mr. Earl Giesler | 82. Mr. John Benjamin Weigle |
| 21. A Soul in Purgatory | 52. Mrs. Elizabeth Cardiff | 83. Mr. Michael Prendergast |
| 22. Mrs. Pierrette Laberge | 53. Miss Kathleen Schindler | 84. Mr. Clifford O'Neil |
| 23. Mrs. Marie-Jeanne Allain | 54. A Soul in Purgatory | 85. Mr. Charles Rohart |
| 24. Mr. Daniel Powers | 55. Mr. Alphonse Doré | 86. Mr. Jersse S. Bell |
| 25. A Soul in Purgatory | 56. Miss Ipierrette Laflamme | 87. Mrs. Mary Frances Neubold |
| 26. Mr. Raymond Breton | 57. Mrs. Jacqueline Thibault | 88. Rev. Fred Jordan |
| 27. Mrs. Yvonne Pagé | 58. Miss Ipaticia Westerman | 89. Mr. Noël Paris |
| 28. Miss Rachelle Roy | 59. Mr. Henri-Paul David | 90. Mr. Roméo Nowlan |
| 29. Miss Dawn Marie McComber | 60. Mr. Roland Boucher | 91. A Soul in Purgatory |
| 30. Mr. Oscar Lemaire | 61. Mr. Mathieu Roussel | 92. Mrs. Ada Brazeau |
| 31. Mr. Isaïe Bouchard | 62. A Soul in Purgatory | |

Christmas Greetings to all and to all a Blessed and Holy New Year



In late spring 2006 the Bishop of St-Jean-Longueuil, Jacques Berthelet, encouraged the inclusion of our Aboriginal Catholic members as part of the Regional evangelization project of the diocese. We asked Deacon Ron Boyer to act as ambassador to introduce the Mission of Saint Francis Xavier to the different parishes of the Anglophone Region. Deacon Ron accepted our challenge to bridge the cultural divide between us and visited the parishes of St. Gabriel in St-Hubert as well as St. Raymond in Candiac. The parishioners welcomed Ron with open arms and he spoke of the contributions of our First Nations brothers and sisters especially the pride of Kahnawake, Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha, with whose shrine the mission is entrusted.

In the New Year, Deacon will continue visiting several more parishes in the Diocese as well as his receiving visitors who will be returning to Blessed Kateri's Sanctuary as a result of Ron's visit to their communities. Ron reminds us that we are all called to go beyond our borders and build bridges. Ron is also visiting parishes on the Island of Montreal Francophone and Anglophone, spreading the Good News of Blessed Kateri.

The Faith First Catechetical program has also been expanded to include the community of St. Francis Xavier and the response has been very positive, with several dozen families enrolled.

In the coming New Year, the children enrolled in Faith first from several parishes of our Diocese of St-Jean-Longueuil are planning pilgrimages to the Sanctuary to visit and to learn more about the life of Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha.

If the enthusiasm of the group leaders and the obvious dedication of Deacon Ron is any indication of the spirit of this Native community, the success of our diocese's plan is assured! God Bless.

Susan Gardner
Coordinator of the Anglophone Region
Diocese of St. Jean Longueuil



Christmas... Feast of Love

"The child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God" (Luke 1:35). Equal to the Father and the Spirit, Jesus is holy. He is God, the Incarnation of Love. This is why Christmas is called the Feast of Love. The Old Testament refers to God many times as being indeed very holy. He was then understood to be completely another. It would require a long wait, and finally the coming of the Messiah, teaching us the holiness of God and his infinite love is in dissociable and we are called to participate in it.

The entire fifth chapter of the Constitution '*Lumen Gentium*' on the Church is devoted to 'the universal call to holiness'. This chapter begins, "***the Church is indefectibly holy because Christ has loved her as his spouse. The Church is one with his Body and filled with the gift of the Holy Spirit.***" As a consequence of this holiness, the Church all her members are called to holiness. This holiness is given to us in baptism. At the same time it is something to be realized, that it remains ***a call, a mission.***

Every according to his function in the church, is called to cultivate this holiness with the help of the Holy Spirit, the Sanctifier. It is with the pastoral charity of pastors, mutual assistance of spouses in the faithfulness of love, that helps to make society more human and that 'all those who believe in Christ, whatever be the conditions, duties and circumstances of their lives, indeed through all these, will manifest to all people, in this temporal service, the love with which God so loved the world.'

Again, holiness is the love of God in our hearts freely given us by the Holy Spirit. That is what enables us to love God and love our neighbour: it is what makes the Church the Sacrament of Unity with God and with all of humanity. We are called to respond to this appeal to holiness, the Word of God, the Sacraments, and service to our brothers and sisters. St. Paul tells us that '***Charity is the seat of perfection!***' Joy is a fruit of the sanctifying Spirit. In this sense, let us wish ourselves a '***Merry Christmas***'. He who does not cease to come to us, the beloved Son of the Father, in whom the Father has bestowed all his love, is whom we celebrate at Christmas. To receive him into our lives is to receive the holiness of God. Let us respond to the appeal He extends to us to be holy as he himself is holy.

I wish you one and all, a good, happy and holy year 2008!

Bishop Jacques Berthelet, C.S.V. Diocese of St-Jean-Longueuil, Quebec

Once More

by Fr. Alvaro, fmm. Pastor, St. Fr. X. Mission

Once again we are in this special season when we celebrate the birthday of JESUS and now looking at the garden, I was thinking the way Blessed Kateri walked on the snow just to go to meet with her LORD, probably in those winter days must have been really hard for her.

I was thinking, she didn't have a Cadillac, Mercedes, or any other kind of car to transport herself anywhere, but for her it was a challenge to go to meet with her lover "JESUS CHRIST." But for us it is really difficult to get to Church and have a very special encounter with the ONE WHO IS THE REASON OF THE SEASON.

There weren't many stores for Kateri to buy presents, she wanted just one that she had within in her heart, "her love for JESUS". In these days there are a lot of commercials inviting us to buy different things which is good, but I wonder "what I bought for the newborn Child?" He is asking me for only one thing: "to be in peace with myself and with the people around me; this is something really difficult for me, poor JESUS cannot receive from me. Is He receiving this special present from you?"

I'm thinking that it was easier for Blessed Kateri because she always tried to be close to the LORD. She knew the way to be poor. As a native from Guatemala Central America, snow is something new, I like it. I think that many people suffer because they have no means to protect themselves from the weather, and also since I arrived here, some young men died from snow shovelling. They had heart failure. Think; no one knows the moment GOD the Father will call us to be with Him. As you know, Blessed Kateri was also called during late winter. Since she was close to GOD, He let her receive the Sacraments, and she went to meet Him with special graces.

Do you know that you can be a saint also? It is something really easy to do. The only thing necessary is to try to live in the Grace of GOD every single moment of your life. So please, once again, I invite you to participate in the Sacraments. Try to imitate Blessed Kateri in her footsteps following GOD the Father and asking our Blessed Lady to intercede for us. During these special holidays I wish you a very blessed holiday season.

May the presence of GOD OUR FATHER, MARY OUR MOTHER AND BLESSED KATERI be with you and your family!

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
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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. The Treasury of the many Masses read each month for the benefactors of the Society of Jesus is opened;
3. A Share in the good works of the Jesuits throughout the world is assured;
4. 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

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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.