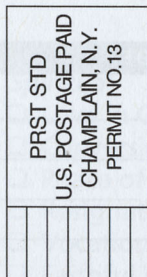


No 241

KATERI
P.O. Box 210
Champlain, N.Y.
12919

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KATERI

No 241

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Your intentions



**LILY OF
THE MOHAWKS**

Kahnawake, Quebec, Canada

WINTER 2009 • SPRING 2010



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

KATERI

No 241

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: \$ 10.00 • International: \$ 15.00 a year), or more, if possible, enrolls you among "Kateri's Friends" for whom:

1. A weekly Mass is offered;
2. A weekly High Mass for deceased friends is offered;
3. The Vice-Postulator prays at the liturgy of the hours;
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 2009 - Spring 2010

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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. Gold colored: 50¢
2. Souvenir Spoons: \$ 4.00

Kateri Prayer Cards and Pictures

1. Sepia (brown), by sculptor E. Brunet (5" x 2 1/2"): 15¢
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1. Small Kateri pictures with silk applied to relics: 50¢

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In the form of a short biography: \$ 2.00

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A sheet of 36 seals: \$ 1.00

PLEASE ADD A LITTLE EXTRA FOR POSTAGE AND HANDLING.

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Books

In English - *Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha*, by Henri Béchard, 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

SPECIAL: In English and French - *Kaïatanoron Kateri Tekakwitha* by Henri Béchard, S.J.: \$ 15.00

SPECIAL: *Whitey 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"

Ten 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 October 26, 2009 to May 7, 2010.

Better Health	5	Safe Trips	1
Cures	3	Successful or Averted Operations	3
Employment Found or Kept	1	Temporal Favors	1
Properties Bought or Sold	1		

Prayer Pledges for Kateri's Canonization

Total pledges to June 30, 2009: 30,696.

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.

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 _____

Listening to the Curé of Ars

There are enough similarities between the time of Curé of Ars and ours to allow us to find in the figure of the patron of all the pastors of the world fresh inspiration for ourselves as Lent begins. The Curé of Ars was born during the French Revolution, a period when, in the words of Benedict XVI, the practice of religion was stifled. By analogy, we can believe that the Quiet Revolution in Quebec, albeit in a very different way, led to a significant decline in religious practice that still affects us.

The Curé of Ars occupied himself first and foremost with the catechesis of children and young people. He devoted much time to worship, to the ministry of forgiveness and to preaching during Mass. He was neither an intellectual, nor an orator of note. Conscious of his limits and confident of the all-powerful love of God, he set himself to show this merciful love of God in his attitudes and his deeds, in the countless hours spent in the confessional and before the Blessed Sacrament. Confession was no more popular in France at that time than it is here today. Yet, with time and patience, the Curé of Ars was soon receiving hundreds of supplicants who came to Ars to have him hear their confession. In this way the faith of the people was reinvigorated.

Faith is a gift of God. It is the individual's response to the Word of God. It is an encounter with the living God. If it is a place where personal encounter with the living God can happen, indeed it is in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. There, God reveals himself in his goodness, and merciful love; He comes to meet us in our frailty, also in our will to make amends, to live in communion with him and with our brothers and sisters. God, revealed in Jesus, wishes to use us to demonstrate his forgiveness. Priests are called, to manifest the merciful goodness of God in receiving us sinners.

In recent months and years I have communicated on several occasions with the priests of the diocese to reflect with them the meaning and the practice of the Sacrament of Forgiveness to ask them to make themselves available to receive penitents by scheduling and publicizing times for receiving them. The faithful have a right to the celebration of this sacrament. The benefits of their participation depend on the faithfulness of priests in celebrating the sacrament in the forms and dispositions the Church has prescribed. The example of the Curé of Ars can serve as an inspiration to priests as well as to the rest of the faithful.

In the letter which Pope Benedict XVI proclaimed the "Year of the Priests", Pope Benedict XVI, inspired by the practice of the Curé of Ars, declared: *"Priests ought never to resign themselves to empty confessionals nor to be content to record the lack of affection to the faithful for this sacrament. At the time of the holy cure, in France, confession was neither easier nor more common than it is in our time... but he did his best in all ways... to bring the meaning and beauty of sacramental Penance to light: by preaching... by his long hours of duty in the church, before the tabernacle, he behaved in such a manner that the faithful began to follow his example, going there to pay a visit to Jesus and being certain of finding their pastor there, disposed to listen and to forgive."*

At the beginning of this Lenten season, I ardently wish for the greatest numbers of the faithful to know the joy of this personal encounter with the living God in the Sacrament of Forgiveness and Reconciliation and so to be brought to the beneficial celebration of the Eucharist with the intention of living as true witnesses of the love of God in the heart of the world.

Jacques Berthelet, C.S.V.
Bishop of Saint-Jean-Longueuil

Rediscover the Resurrection

It was barely fifty years ago that theology rediscovered the central place of the Resurrection in the work of God's salvation. This was made possible by the renewal of biblical, patristic and liturgical studies. The Second Vatican Council celebrated this central character of the Pascal mystery, notably in its great Constitutions and particularly that on the Liturgy.

I remember that at the time of my theological studies we had no 'manual' at our disposal dealing with the development of the Pascal mystery, the Resurrection being discussed only for apologetic purposes. Fortunately, our dogmatic professor introduced us to a work by Father François-Xavier Durrwell, *La Resurrection de Jésus, mystère de salut*, which remains a magisterial work, capable of illuminating all the other areas of theology. Three biblical passages incited his research, so to speak: "*If Christ is not raised, your faith is vain you are yet in your sins*" (1Cor.15:17); "*For us, he is dead and risen*" (2Cor.:5:15); "*He was delivered for our offences and was raised again for our justification*" (Romans 4:25). In the forward to his work the author writes: "*The present book is born of the commotion in our souls that these key texts of St. Paul arouse, and then of the desire to introduce others with us to the salutary knowledge of the Pascal mystery.*"

We cannot be indifferent to a theologian of such contagious faith. He leads us into a "*salutary knowledge*". A passionate believer, firmly situated in the great Tradition of the Church, this great theologian guides us, as on a road to Emmaus, through a reading of the Scriptures that enables us to see the Resurrection of Jesus as a mystery of salvation; as the fulfillment of his incarnation and death; as the effusion of the Spirit; as Jesus who is Christ the Savior, the Son of the Almighty God, the eternal Priest; as the giving of birth to the Church and the Church living in the living Christ; as the Pascal mystery finding its expansion in the Church and in the world as well as in the sacraments before reaching its end in the heavenly consummation.

The liturgies of Lent and the Easter season allow us to have the experience of the Disciples of Emmaus "*Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us Scriptures?*" (Lk. 24:32). This fire within was that of the Spirit already kindled by the Risen Lord when he explained to the disciples "*the things concerning himself in all the Scriptures beginning with Moses and all the prophets.*" (Lk. 24:27).

It is in the Church, again today, by listening, meditating, and sharing of the Word that we can grow in the faith and we can celebrate his Resurrection by recognizing him in the breaking of the Bread.

HAPPY EASTER!

Bishop Jacques Berthelet, C.S.V.

Greetings from the Vice-Postulator

My sincere greetings to you dear friends and benefactors of our Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha. This year, 2010 marks 330 years since the death of Blessed Kateri. It has been 30 years since her Beatification on June 22nd, 1980. I begin by asking your continue prayers that Rome will speed up the canonization of our saint in waiting. Besides your prayers, your petitions should be heard by the Vatican, letting them know that you want Rome to re-examine her Cause.

God chose to call Blessed Kateri home during Holy Week. Why would God glorify her body moments following her death? Is this a coincidence, coinciding with Jesus Christ weeping over Jerusalem just days before his Crucifixion? I have come to believe that God did this for 'our sake and the Church, that in Kateri, **He** was well pleased! The saintly Brother Andre, founder of St. Joseph's Oratory will be canonized on October 17, 2010. Blessed Kateri could be next! For this to happen, the Church must be convinced that there are enough 'followers and believers' dedicated to following her simple way of life. Rome must hear the united voice of all you dear **friends** of Blessed Kateri.

Our late beloved Pope John Paul 11 had a special devotion to Blessed Kateri a 'Woman of the Beatitudes', whom he chose to beatify through her life of holiness, chastity, and her devotion to the Holy Family. Blessed Kateri had taken two vows of perpetual virginity, one on March 15, 1678, after receiving Holy Communion, 'Feast of the Annunciation' promising to take no one but our Lord Jesus to be her spouse She repeated her second vow the following year on Feast of the Assumption. Her life was one of prayer and mercy, caring for the sick, the infirm, the elderly and the needy. She walked only two paths in life, one to church the other to her place of work.

Again, we celebrate the good news that Rome will canonize Brother Andre Bisset on October 17th 2010. With your prayers of faith, it will be Blessed Kateri's turn next. Kateri's canonization depends on our faith, our prayers, prayers and more prayers. God works through unity and consistency. "A house divided will soon collapse. Families and communities that unite in prayer, Jesus is in their midst, He is in the center of **Sacred Circle Gatherings!** In conclusion, let us unite with common goals, to make this year the year that Rome hears our united voice of support and appeal for Blessed Kateri's Canonization.

Ronald Boyer, deacon

Vice-Postulator for Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha's Cause

Blessed Kateri's Cause for Canonization Continues

[Written with permission of the Editor of the Prairie Messenger where this article appeared]

Sr. Kateri Mitchell, executive director of the Tekakwitha Conference National Center in Great Falls, MT, reports that one miracle has been submitted for consideration: the cure of a young boy from the Lummi Nation in Washington State. "And so we are still waiting, but we wait in great hope," Mitchell said.

People from many parts of the world have come to know and love Kateri Tekakwitha, she added, describing how praying for the canonization of Blessed Kateri and sharing the story of her life is one of the goals of the International Tekakwitha Conference.

Founded in 1939 and incorporated in 1979, the non-profit organization strives to empower Aboriginal Catholics in deepening and affirming their Catholic identity and their cultural and spiritual traditions.

For the past 70 years, annual gatherings have been held by The Tekakwitha Conference hosting annually gatherings for the past 70 years with representatives of First Nations from across the continent. In the summer of 2008, the gathering was held in Edmonton.

"The bishops of the North were well represented, and very well respected and appreciated. They were present for the conference for the gathering of nations from Canada and throughout the US," she said, describing how Archbishop Sylvain Lavoie of Keewatin-Le-Pas and Bishop Murray Chatlain of Mackenzie-Fort Smith participated as presenters and presiders and how Bishop Gerard Pettipas of Grouard-McLennan was there each day, all day. Other bishops from Western Canada, including Victoria, Saskatoon and Prince George, also participated. The US people wanted to take the Canadian bishops back with them, said Mitchell, adding, "They have a heart for our people. It is very evident."

This year's Tekakwitha Conference will be held July 28 – Aug.1 in Albuquerque, N.M., she reported. "We gather as a people of faith. We gather honoring and with respect for our traditions, so that enculturation is very much a part of our journey of those four days."

The majority of the presenters are now Aboriginal lay people, Mitchell noted. "We have come more confident, and that is because of the ministry that has taken place among the people. We are seeing the fruit of the work by priests and sisters of non-Aboriginal descent: our people have been empowered, they are learning their faith, are faithful to their traditions and able to share them. A lot has happened in the name of Kateri Tekakwitha."

The extraordinary thing about Blessed Kateri is that she "she was ordinary," said Mitchell, "like us, low key. However, her spiritual life, her relationship with God, is what is so magnificent. Today, can we mirror that holiness, that life of virtue."

My Left Handed Lenten Project

By Ann K. Maloney

Novembre 12, 2003 - I find myself coming out of a slump and becoming more focused. Tonight I was given an awesome thought. I may not be the miracle that will catapult Kateri into canonization but because of all the work I have done for her she may do something for me. Wow! What a thought!! I'm ready, scared and hopeful to make the commitment to maintaining her intervention.

As I reflect back over this journey, I now recognize how extraordinary Kateri was involved in this incident and what she did to lead me, not only through it but in addition, out of it. After the accident happened I needed to journal the event and I wondered how I would start my write up. Kateri knew as she led me to the opening paragraph above, which was on my computer and I had completely forgotten about it. Somehow it seems very appropriate, "Ready to make the commitment to maintaining her intervention".

It was a day like any other day, Thursday 2/22/07 and I was co-facilitating a staff meeting at the office. I had a feeling something was going to happen but I had no idea of what to expect. At break time I went to move my car, which was in the parking lot. I hesitated as it had started to snow and there was slush on the ground but I knew I needed to move it. I went out the back door telling myself to be careful when I slipped on some "black ice" and fell quite hard on the parking lot. From the moment I hit I knew I had injured my left wrist. I started invoking Kateri to help me and began asking the question, "What do you want me to learn from this accident?" I managed to get back up and go inside where I notified the security guard and my supervisor and regional director. Both my regional director and supervisor told me to get medical help right away.

I called my primary care physician and although it was her day off she returned my call. She was able to get me into Ide Radiology where I had an excellent x-ray technician. The x-rays showed I had a broken left wrist; my primary care physician, Dr. Sarwat Malik, referred me to a wonderful orthopedic surgeon, Dr. Stephanie Siegrist. From the moment I walked into her office I knew this was the right place for me to be treated. Again, I really believed my friend Blessed Kateri was strongly involved in "putting things in order" for me and helping me get to the right places with the right to help me.

Fortunately for me Kateri was very busy lining things up for me because I was very busy asking for a miracle. I continued to ask, "What is it you want me to learn from this" followed by "God, I know you have a good reputation to protect and I know Jesus can give miracles. Is there any chance through Kateri's intercession, you would grant me a miracle and heal my wrist now, if not prevent this accident from happening in the first place?" This was followed by I really don't like this and would you hurry up with my healing anyway please! If that wasn't enough here it was 2/22/07 and I distinctly remember sitting on the table in the doctor's office asking the question, "Will I be alright for St. Patrick's Day?" And I don't even think! But I made plans to go to dinner at my church and enjoy the celebration and right then anywhere else was where I would rather be. Talk about denial!

But while I was busy trying to "run away" from my accident, Kateri was busy seeing to it I would have what I needed to deal with it. The preliminary report on my wrist was that there was minimal dislocation. Dr. Siegrist told me that the bones were

in such a position they may come back together on their own. She put my arm in a brace and told me to come back the following Tuesday. At that point they would check me again and if all was well she would put on a long arm cast on for three weeks. If all was not well she would see me the next day in surgery.

Once again I turned to my friend Kateri in prayer asking for help, this time to spare me from surgery. When I returned the following week the nurse, Jackie Tomassetti, told me the doctor was hopeful all would be well. And it was, thank God. She took another x-ray and because everything was settling in to where it needed to be I would not need surgery. I am thoroughly convinced it was Kateri's intercession that spared me from surgery.

After Dr. Siegrist put the cast on my arm my friend Dorothy Gessner and I decided to visit the Carmelite Monastery. This became the beginning of a ritual we would always do whenever we went to the doctor's office or for my MRI or whatever. Afterward we would always go to the Carmelite Monastery and say a prayer. It was during these visits that Sr. Elia, who only knew me by voice, dubbed this "My Left Handed Lenten Project". How appropriate. Actually I need to add that the accident happened the day after Ash Wednesday. While I had always wanted to do something special for Lent, I must admit breaking my wrist was not on my agenda.

Dealing with a long arm cast was an interesting challenge. I had to learn to change the way I did everything in my daily life from driving to dressing to doing daily routines. Once more Kateri assisted me in all these endeavors. No matter what I needed or wanted, she always saw to it I had it.

On 3/27/07 the long arm cast became a short arm cast. That was good news. The not so good news was my hand was swollen causing difficulty to remove the long arm cast. However, I kept praying to Kateri and the doctor and the nurse preserved and off it came. At the time I was having trouble moving my fingers. I was scared and tried to turn my anxiety into hope. Once again Kateri and the Carmelite sisters came to my aid.

I took some material to Sr. Elia that I said I would give her. When I went to the Carmelite Monastery I met a priest named Fr. John and told him about my accident and my anxiety of not being able to move my fingers. He taught me an interesting exercise to try making the sign of the cross with my left hand. By doing that I would be using all the muscles in my hand, wrist, arm and shoulder. I asked about using my left hand, as opposed to my right. I also read Saint Teresa of Avila's prayer: "Let nothing frighten you." When I left the monastery I felt like a weight had been lifted off my shoulders. Somehow I knew I would be ok. Kateri had once again intervened for me. Fr. John's exercise was a tool that helped in my healing.

On 4/1/07 I started a nine-day novena to Kateri. My friend Dorothy Gessner and my cousin Fr. Robert McNamara joined me. The first day an interesting thing happened. My sister and brother-in-law came to visit me for my sister's birthday and an early Easter. My sister touched my arm and cast. That was the first time I had allowed anyone to touch it. On 4/4/07, I kept moving my fingers and the more I moved them the farther I could move them. After that I started moving my fingers more and more.

On 4/4/07, I picked Kateri's relic and began putting it between my fingers. The more I did this the more I realized she was helping me exercise my fingers. At the end of this exercise I could actually see my little finger. This was the first time since the accident I could see it. My journal note entry states that I had prayed to Kateri

earlier and asked her to advocate with the Holy Spirit to give me some power to move my fingers. Kateri had heard my prayer and answered it. Thank you Blessed Kateri. The ninth day of my novena to Kateri coincided with Easter Sunday. I was cognizant of the fact I was moving my fingers more and more and the hand was looking like "a piece of dead fish." All of my friends were trying to tell me to use it to help to bring it back. In fact they all had a concern I was going to lose it.

I started physical therapy on 4/23/07. Kateri was intervening in this process too. I knew I needed a strong but gentle person who had patience. She led me to Nick Nana at Hartman & Hand. Nick was the man for the job. After the first session, Nick told me I had a long road back and I was discouraged. Again Kateri was there for me. I had an appointment with my spiritual director Sr. Jody Kearney, RSM. I spoke I about my discouragement and frustration. She helped me work through it took my hand between her two hands and prayed over my hand. She prayed with me that I would be able to move on. After this session my hope was restored.

On 4/24/07 I was at Dr. Malik's and spoke with her nurse, Bill. He told me not to be discouraged that it was a long road back. This also bolstered my spirits and hope.

Patience has never been strength of mine. When things don't happen fast enough for my liking, I tend to try and expedite situations as opposed to allowing God and nature do their job. So it was with my hand. On 4/25/07 I was praying to Kateri and asking if there was some "little" miracles he could get for me to get my hand moving and regain all the strength I had lost. On 5/2/07 I was praying to Kateri again asking for help when out of my mouth came, "How can I help heal myself?" The answer was, do your physical therapy exercises and "keep on keeping on". I really increased my attention to the exercises and came up with a couple of my own. One was to work on my sore fingertips. So I sat in my car and used my fingers to move the windows up and down. I made myself sit there and do this until I could use all my fingers on the buttons and the tips were not sore anymore. I also made myself open and close doors, both at home and at work, to strengthen my shoulder and arm. The exercises worked and the hand began looking much better and the movement returned.

Although my hand was looking better there was still concern about the swollenness and so Dr. Siegrist ordered an MRI for my hand to be certain everything was ok. Once again Kateri intervened. She gave me the strength to handle the MRI. As one who is claustrophobic I was scared about being placed in the MRI machine. However the person who arranged the test saw to it I had a machine that was open at one end so I could see some light. The technician I had was an angel. All during the test whenever I would get scared or want to stop it I prayed to Kateri. She helped me through. She was such a good help that the technician told me the pictures were awesome, I didn't move my hand once. The test results were fine.

On 9/4/07 I saw Dr. Siegrist again. She and Jackie were very pleased with my hand, the way it looked and how well I was moving it. Both she and the nurse gave me a lot of credit for being so determined. When I returned to my office I was telling my regional director who said, "That is what persistence can do for you." It was then I realized that two things I was supposed to learn from my accident were determination and persistence. I'm also happy to say physical therapy ended for me on 9/23/07. I can safely say the therapy was successful. My success in therapy was based in part on Nick's patience and his helping me believe in myself that it would be successful.

Kateri however, was not content to just work with my regaining the use of my left hand. She also wanted to expand my spiritual life. So she led me to meditation. One Saturday morning, as I was exercising my hand, I distinctly heard her tell me to put my left hand in a jar of holy water from her National Shrine in Fonda, NY. When I first heard it my thought was if Kateri really wants me to do this she will persist. The third time I heard it I got up and got the book, *Conversations with "Christ the Teaching of Saint Teresa of Avila about personal prayer"* by Peter Thomas Rohrbach. As I sat there with my hand in the jar with holy water I began to read this book about mediation and began to implement in my daily life. Ironically, my physician, Dr. Malik, had on several occasions encouraged me to use meditation. I learned later from Sr. Elia that this is the Carmelite's "bread and butter" book about meditation. Meditation is a tool I still use today and find very helpful.

Kateri also granted me a very special favor. The Carmelites are a cloistered order and rarely see the public. I had asked Sr. Elia at one point if we could ever meet. So, on 7/14/07, Kateri's feast day, I was given the privilege of meeting Sister Elia and Mother John of the Cross their superior, face to face. I have written about this beautiful experience in another chapter. Then 11/17/07 I found out.

I was at the Carmelite Monastery and spoke with Carol Payne, who works for them. Carol told me that she had been so concerned about my hand that she had gone to Sister Elia and said, "I know you have never seen Ann but you need to pray for her hand." Carol was concerned that my hand was not returning to normal and was concerned that I might lose use of it. Then I understood the reason Kateri had arranged the meeting for me. She knew how much the Carmelite sisters had prayed for me and asked her intervention in regaining the use of my hand. Their prayers were answered.

I'm happy to say I have regained the use of my left hand. Any impediment that is left over from the break is nothing that will ever impact my life. I know that Lent will be starting soon. Again this year I want to talk with Jesus and Kateri about doing something special and different for Lent. I also ask if we could do something a little less strenuous than a broken wrist!

On 2/4/08 I saw Dr. Seigrist for the last time. It was my yearly check-up. Both she and her nurse Jackie Tomassetti were thrilled at how my hand had come back. Jackie then told me when Dr. Seigrist faces a challenging situation she often asks, "What do you want me to learn." The light bulb went on in my head. That was the first thing I said. She also told me that some people, who have these experiences, get into a "victim mode," I will live off Workmen's compensation. I thank Kateri and those who supported me with their in prayers. I give myself credit that I chose not to go that road.

What did I learn from my experience? I believe, several things. First, God gave me a glimpse of how knowing and loving He is. He foresaw my accident, seeing to it I was taken care of. Second, I realized my devotion to Kateri and how she is to me. Who could ask for a better friend? She knew of my situation and was hard at work dealing with it before I even fell. Third, I realize Jesus gives miracles in many forms. Having what you need when you need it is miraculous. Fourth, I realized how many friends I have and now no longer take them for granted. Most important I learned; how to rise and deal with adversity, and how facing that adversity can strengthen my faith.

The Story of the Saint John the Baptist Parish Center in Ludlow, Massachusetts

This article was written by Mr. Richard Coache, a resident of Ludlow Massachusetts and an ardent promoter of Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha. He takes his ministry to the surrounding towns and villages in Massachusetts. He is often invited to give talks and presentations on Kateri's life, and in so doing, many Christian believers have become supporters for Cause of Canonization through their promises to pray daily to and for Blessed Kateri. Mr. Coache will one of the recipients of the Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha Awards on her Feast celebration on April 17, 2010 at Blessed Kateri's Shrine here in Kahnawake.

In May 2003, our Pastor Father Homer Gosselin and the Parish Council of the Saint John the Baptist Church in Ludlow, Massachusetts decided to build a Parish Center.

Our Parish of 115 families and a Catholic School of 400 students had wanted one for many years. We had fundraisers and asked for donations from local businesses and from our parishioners also.

At the end of the second year we had only raised \$500,000. We needed two and a half million to build the building.

Father and the Parish Council decided to stop raising money and return the money collected to the people. Our Bishop had only given us three years to raise the money and at this time it looked like we could not do it. Father Gosselin heard of Blessed Kateri and decided to place a statue of her on the altar.

We distributed Blessed Kateri prayer cards to all the Parishioners and the entire school and asked them to pray. Before the third year had arrived we had achieved our goal. We received donations, labor and equipment to build our center.

On May of 2006 we broke ground for our building. The Bishop was there for the blessing and work began. On November 2007 we opened the doors to our new Parish Center and it was completely paid for in full. By then Father Gosselin had been promoted to Msg. Gosselin. We owe it all to Blessed Kateri.

Thank you Blessed Kateri.

- The 23rd Psalm - An Indian Translation

The Great Father above is a Shepherd Chief, and I am his, and with Him I want not.

He throws out to me a rope, and the name of the rope is Love.

He draws me, and He draws me and He draws me to where the grass is green and the water is not dangerous.

And I eat and lie down satisfied. Sometimes my heart is very weak and falls down, but He lifts it up again, and draws me into a good road. His name is Wonderful.

Sometimes, it may be very soon, it may be longer. It may be a long, long time that He will draw me into a place between mountains.

It is dark there, but I will not draw back; I will not be afraid. For it is in there between these mountains that the Shepherd will meet me. And the hunger I have felt in my heart all through this life will be satisfied.

Sometimes He makes the Love rope into a whip, but afterwards He gives me a staff that I may lean on. He spreads a table before me with all kinds of food. He puts His hand upon my head and all "tired" is gone.

My cup He fills until it runs over. What I tell you is true. I lie not. These roads that are a way ahead will stay with me through life and afterwards I will go to live in the Big Teepee, and sit down with the Shepherd Chief forever.

"Let peace encircle the world. Let men walk hand in hand, a living bond of brotherhood, a voice from land to land."

A Little Boy's Explanation of God

8-year-old Danny Dutton, who lives in Chula Vista, CA. wrote it for his third grade homework assignment to explain God. I wonder, could have done as well. And he had such an assignment, in California, and someone published it. I guess miracles do happen!

Explanation of God: God's main job is making people. He makes them to replace the ones who die, so there will be enough people to take care of things on earth. He doesn't make grownups, just babies. I think because they are smaller and easier to make. That way he doesn't take up his valuable time teaching them to talk and walk. He can just leave that to mothers and fathers.'

'God's second most important job is listening to prayers. An awful lot of this goes on, since some people, like preachers, pray at times beside bedtime. God doesn't have time to listen to the radio or TV because of this. Because he hears everything, there must be a terrible lot of noise in his ears, unless he has thought of a way to turn it off.'

'God sees everything and hears everything and is everywhere which keeps Him pretty busy. So you shouldn't go wasting his time by going over your mom and dad's head asking for something they said you couldn't have. Atheists are people who don't believe in God. I don't think there are any in Chula Vista. At least there aren't any who come to our church.'

'Jesus is God's Son. He used to do all the hard work, like walking on water and performing miracles and trying to teach the people who didn't want to learn about God. They finally got tired of preaching to them and they crucified him. But he was good and kind, like his father, and he told his father that they didn't know what they were doing and to forgive them and God said O.K.'

'His dad (God) appreciated everything that he had done and all his hard work on earth so he told him he didn't have to go on the road anymore. He could stay in heaven. So he did. And now he helps his dad out by listening to prayers and seeing things which are important for God to take care of and which ones he can take care of himself without having to bother God. Like a secretary, only more important.'

'You can pray anytime you want and they are sure to help you because they got it worked out so one of them is on duty all the time.'

You should always go to church on Sunday because it makes God happy, and if there's anybody you want to make happy, it's God! Don't skip church to do something you think will be more fun like going to the beach. This is wrong because the sun doesn't come out on the beach until noon anyway.'

'If you don't believe in God, besides being an atheist, you will be very lonely, because your parents can't go everywhere with you, like to camp, but God can. It is good to know He's around you when you're scared, in the dark or when you can't swim and get thrown into real deep water by big kids.' But...you shouldn't just always think of what God can do for you. I figure God put me here and he can take me back anytime he pleases. And, that's why I believe in God.

The Pinetree Crosses

Last April on a Sunday we took one of our "nowhere" drives. My husband was quietly driving on a back road. I was occupied in the front passenger seat watching the scenery.

I noticed out of the corner of my eye that my husband was straining to look out the window. This startled me, since his eyes should be on the road in front of him. I asked what he was looking at out the windows, and he quietly replied, "Nothing." His eyes went back to the road in front of him.

After a few minutes, I looked over at my husband and noticed a tear running down his cheek. I asked him what was wrong. This time he told me, "I was just thinking about Pop and a story he had once told me." Of course, because it had to do with his Pop I wanted to know the story, so I asked him to share it with me.

He said, "When I was about 8 years old, Pop and I were out fishing and that's when he told me that the Pine trees know when it is Easter."

I had no idea what he meant by that, so I pressed him for more information.

He continued on... "The Pine trees start their new growth in the weeks before Easter – if you look at the tops of the Pine trees two weeks before, you will see the yellow shoots. As the days get closer to Easter Sunday, the tallest shoot will branch off and form a cross. By the time Easter Sunday comes around, you will see that most of the Pine trees will have small yellow crosses on all of the tallest shoots."

I turned to look out the window and I couldn't believe my eyes. It was a week before Easter, and you could see all of the trees with the tall yellow shoots stretching to Heaven.

The tallest ones shone in the sunlight like rows of golden crosses.

Author unknown

What Love Means for Childrens 4 to 8 years old

SLOW DOWN FOR THREE MINUTES TO READ THIS. IT IS WORTH IT. TOUCHING WORDS FROM OUT OF THE MOUTH OF BABES.

What does love mean?

A group of professional people posed this question to a group of 4 to 8 year-olds. The answers they got were broader and deeper than anyone could have imagined. See what you think?

'When my grandmother got arthritis, she couldn't bend over and paint her nails anymore. So my grandfather does it for her all the time, even when his hands got arthritis too. That's love. - Rebecca – age 8

'When someone loves you, the way they say your name is different.. You just know that your name is safe in their mouth..' - Billy – age 5

'Love is when a girl puts on perfume and a boy puts on shaving cologne and they go out and smell each other..' - Karl – age 5

'Love is when you go and eat and give somebody most of your French fries without making them give you any of theirs..' - Chrissy – age 6

'Love is when my mommy makes coffee for my daddy and she takes a sip before giving it to him, to make sure the taste is OK..' - Danny – age 7

Love is when you kiss all the time. Then when you get tired of kissing, you still want to be together and you talk more. My Mommy and Daddy are like that. They look gross when they kiss..' - Emily – age 8

'Love is what's in the room with you at Christmas if you stop opening presents and listen..' - Bobby – age 7 (Wow)

If you want to learn to love better, you should start with a friend who you hate. - Nikka – age 6 (*we need a few million more Nikka's on this planet*)

'Love is when you tell a guy you like his shirt, then he wears it every day.' - Noelle – age 7

'Love is like a little old woman and a little man who are still friends even after they know each other so well.' - Tommy – age 6

'During my piano recital, I was on a stage and I was scared. I looked up at all the people watching me and saw my daddy waving and smiling.' He was the only one doing that, I wasn't scared anymore.' - Cindy – age 8

'My mommy loves me more than anybody. You don't see anyone else kissing me to sleep at night.' - Clare - age 6

'Love is when Mommy gives Daddy the best piece of chicken.' - Elaine - age 5

'Love is when Mommy sees Daddy smelly and sweaty and still says he is handsomer than Robert Redford.' - Chris - age 7

'Love is when your puppy licks your face even after you left him alone all day.' - Mary Ann - age 4

'I know my older sister loves me because she give me all her old clothes and has to go out and but new ones.' - Lauren - age 4

'When you love somebody, your eyelashes go up and down and little stars come out of you.' (what an image) - Karen - age 7

'Love is when Mommy sees Daddy on the toilet and she doesn't think it's gross.' - Mark - age 6

'You really shouldn't say 'I love you' unless you mean it. But if you mean it, you should say it a lot. People forget.' - Jessica - age 8

And the final one, the winner was a four-year-old child whose next-door neighbor was an elderly gentleman who had recently lost his wife. Upon seeing the man cry, the little boy went into the old gentleman's yard, climbed onto his lap, and just sat there.

When his mother asked what he had said to the neighbor, the little boy said, 'Nothing. I just helped him cry.'

WHEN THERE IS NOTHING LEFT BUT GOD THAT IS WHEN YOU FIND OUT THAT GOD IS ALL YOU NEED IN YOUR LIFE.

Testimonies of favors obtained

✿ Kateri's smile upon you, Mrs. A.N.!

Please find enclosed a Money Order for subscription renewal for past and present "Kateri subscriptions" than I have received over the years. They have always arrived just when my sipirits needed a little lift. Thank you so much.. I continue to pray for Kateri's Canonization and for her daily blessings on my family and friends. (Manitouwadge, ON)

✿ Kateri's smile upon you, Mrs. C.J.!

In thanksgiving to Blessed Kateri for safe trips and for a subscription to the Kateri publication. (Valhalla, MY)

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

Please accept this twenty dollars for prayers answered by Blessed Kateri, she is always in our prayers, we love her. Our son is doing fine now, thanks to Blessed Kateri. (New Minas, NS)

✿ Kateri's smile upon you, Mrs. C.L.!

Again and happily I am acknowledging the power of Kateri. Early in the year I had a fall coming home from church that kept me from going out. I'm doing well now, Kateri has blessed me and my family with favorable results. Pray to Kateri for me and my family... Enclosed is a donation of fifty dollars to Kateri's Cause. Please keep on praying for us. (Melbourne, Australia)

✿ Kateri's smile upon you, Mrs. B.B.!

In thanksgiving for our son's successful surgery. Please pray for his complete recovery. (Champlain, NY)

✿ Kateri's smile upon you, Mrs. L.M.!

The enclosed ten dollar check is for Kateri's Cause. Again, I have received a favor. An error was corrected in some papers and it saved money and much aggravation. (Biddeford, ME)

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

I promised Kateri this donation for the many times she has helped our family in times of need. We wait with anticipation for the day we can call her "Saint Kateri". (Cinnaminson, NJ)

✿ Kateri's smile upon you, Mrs. A.H.!

Enclosed is a cheque promised to Kateri in thanksgiving for favors received. We continue our prayers toward her cause for canonization, which we hope will be soon. (Etobicoke, ON)

Testimonies of favors obtained (...following)

❁ Kateri's smile upon you, Ms. V.S.!

Enclosed is a check for Kateri in thanksgiving for another favor. I always pray to her for help when I need it. She has been very good to me.

(Catonsville, MD)

❁ Kateri's smile upon you, Mrs. A.E.!

I'm sending you fifty dollars for a promise I made if everything went well with my account and it did.

(Gaspé, QC)

❁ Kateri's smile upon you, Mrs. D.L.!

I am writing this letter to say thank you. A few months back I wrote you concerning a bad time that my son was going through. Since then he has been doing much better. He is still not out of the woods but he is surely on a right path. If you could keep him in your prayers for a while longer I am sure he will find his way back. Depression is a sickness that affects the entire family and not just the individual. He is doing much better. Thank you so much for your prayers.

(Gaspé, QC)



The Joseph Rontagarha Roll

In 1677, Joseph Rontagarha, then twenty-five years of age, came to live at the Mission of St. Francis Xavier. He had already been to France and had showed himself a fairly good Christian after his return. Following a hunting expedition with Touastreskon, a Mohawk brave, member of the Holy Family Association, he became a devout church-goer. The conversations with his friend led him to a personal love of Christ. He often collected the children of the neighborhood in his longhouse and taught them the Creed and other prayers that were sung at church, much to the satisfaction of the Blackrobes.

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Mrs. Berthe Prémont | 22. Mrs. Denise Dion | 43. Mr. Louis Bélanger |
| 2. Miss Irène Gagné | 23. Mrs. Catherine Thibodeau | 44. Mr. Denis Lacroix |
| 3. Mr. Alexandre Richardson | 24. Mr. Guy Lecavalier | 45. Mr. Maurice Petrin |
| 4. Mr. Stanley J. Poczatak | 25. Miss Suzanne Doucet | 46. M. Gilbert Constantineau |
| 5. Mr. Claude Labre | 26. Mrs. Colette Dans | 47. Mr. Leslie Pinto |
| 6. Mr. Roger Buddy Laroche | 27. Mr. William Fitzgerald | 48. Mr. Ron Dengler |
| 7. Mrs. Henriette Ishpatao | 28. Mr. Roger Buddy Laroche | 49. Miss Ghislaine Langlois |
| 8. A Soul in Purgatory | 29. Mrs. Gisele Bouchard | 50. Mrs. Anita Allain |
| 9. Mr. Arthur Poirier | 30. Mrs. Florence Bouchard | 51. Mrs. Thérèse Vallée |
| 10. Mrs. Alvera Gheduzzi | 31. Mrs. Rita St. Laurent | 52. Mrs. Marie-Anne J. Denis |
| 11. A Soul in Purgatory | 32. Mrs. Edith Allain | 53. Mrs. Huguete Lapiere |
| 12. Mrs. Eva Roussel | 33. Dr. Fernand Charest | 54. Mrs. Dorota Echavarry |
| 13. Mr. Thomas Marino, Sr. | 34. Mrs. Liane Killiany | 55. Mrs. Gabrielle Paris |
| 14. Mr. Lorain Weston | 35. Mr. André G. Levasseur | 56. Mr. Raymond Demers |
| 15. Mr. Frank Joseph Wool, Sr. | 36. Mr. Edmond Thibodeau | 57. Mr. Louis Demers |
| 16. Mrs. Marceline Richardson Brideau | 37. Mrs. Anne-M. Malec-Merstkoshko | 58. Mrs. Marie-Jeanne Boucher |
| 17. Mr. Roland Levesque | 38. Mrs. Edith Thibodeau | 59. Mr. Mario Leonardo |
| 18. Mr. Chester J. Brooks | 39. Mrs. Desilda Maticotte | 60. Mr. Yvon-Marie Albert |
| 19. Miss Kathleen Brooks | 40. Mr. Phacas Roussel | 61. M. André Raisin |
| 20. Mrs. Doris Scopa | 41. Mr. Arthur Aumais | |
| 21. Mr. Alphe Masse | 42. Mr. Roland Lavoie | |



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!

4 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.

1. A Mass is offered each week for the members of the Guild.
2. A High Mass is sung each week for the deceased members of the Guild.
3. Annually a Novena of Prayer, ending on April 17, Feast of Blessed Kateri.
4. Daily remembrance of all the Guild members in the Vice-Postulator's Liturgy of the Hours.

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

One dozen cards: \$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. _____
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Street _____
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Province or State _____
- (3) Name M. _____
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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 (\$50.00), I now inscribe free of charge, the name of one deceased person dear to me on the Joseph Rontagarha 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.