



HOLES IN THE TOM-TOM!...



The new Vice Postulator for the Cause of the Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha, is striking so hard that soon there will be holes in the tom-tom... Obviously, he is trying to draw someone's attention!

The V. P. realized, when he received his new appointment, that not enough Whites knew enough about this wonderful little Indian maiden who will some day be, please God, North America's first native-born Saint.

Now, Christmas is not far way. Kateri made her First Communion on Christmas Eve, 1677, at Mission Saint-François-Xavier...

On Christmas Eve, 1949, the V.P. makes two requests (the first is vital). To the butcher, the baker, the candlestick maker, to Claire Luce Booth, to Loretta Young to Bing Crosby and to YOU...

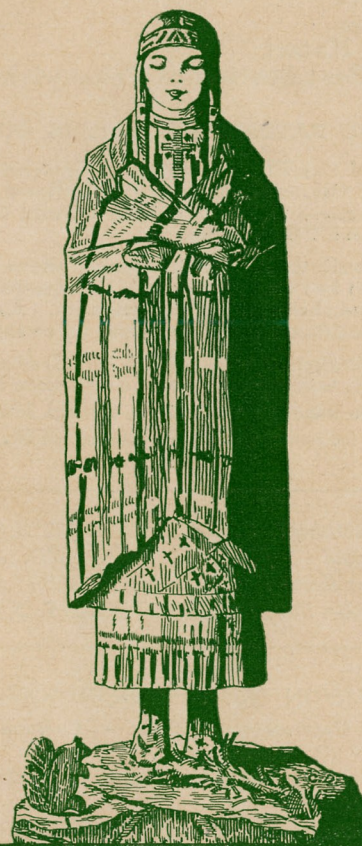
1o Subscribe or renew your subscription or subscribe for somebody else (\$1.00)!... Please!... Each issue of Kateri costs around \$600.00 — and the Mission, which up to the present has existed on charity, simply can't carry the expense...

2o Statues of Kateri are scattered over the continent. But, in her own home town, there is none. Our new Indian School, TEKAKWITHA SCHOOL, recently built by the Canadian Government, is the proper background for a bronze life-size statue of Kateri. A well-known sculptor is willing to undertake the work next Spring on his return from Europe. Won't you help?...

That is why the V.P. is tom-tomming so hard. He also wishes you a Christmas as happy as the one Kateri enjoyed over two centuries ago...



KATERI



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No 1

CAUGHNAWAGA, Que.

KATERI Vol. 2, No. 1

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THE KATERI TEKAKWITHA GUILD

The sodalists of the Blessed Virgin of Caughnawaga, Quebec, who are descendants of the earliest Christian Indians in Canada and New York State, have formed themselves into a Guild to spread devotion to the Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha.

Our quarterly bulletin KATERI intends, above all, to tell her tale, to foster devotion to her and to record the favors both spiritual and temporal you receive through her intercession. As a result, it is hoped the cause of her Beatification will progress more rapidly.

A one year subscription to KATERI (\$1.00) or any other offering, no matter how modest, will enroll you as a member of the Kateri Tekakwitha Guild for one year, to share in a special Mass offered each week for your intentions in the old Mission church of St. Francis Xavier.

Publisher : RÉAL LALONDE, S.J.
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CAUGHNAWAGA, P.Q. - CANADA

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A SCHOOL CALLED "TEKAKWITHA"

Kateri's latest favor to her Mission, her Christmas gift to her fellow Iroquois brothers and sisters, is undoubtedly this new school building which will be blessed at Christmas and most fittingly christened after her, TEKAKWITHA SCHOOL.

Presenting this latest development of education in Caughnawaga, leads us in retrospect, to its humble beginnings and slow evolution.

EARLIEST EFFORTS

Besides the zeal of former Missionaries in preparing their children for First Holy Communion, the earliest efforts to organize education can be traced back approximately to the year 1865, when the Federal Government started paying a teacher's salary to Mr. John Fletcher (1865-1880). His pioneer pupils still evoke the heroic times when they would bring their own fuel—a few sticks of wood to feed the stove of the modest school room. It had been opened in the former storehouse of Fort St. Louis, which later became the Indian Agent's Office.

His successor, Mr. Roy, taught for twelve years under the same trying conditions. Needless to say that school attendance was low.

It was only in 1892 that a Caughnawaga Indian, Mr. F. Jacobs, was first hired as teacher, at the request of his fellow tribesmen. The attendance went up at one time to 133 boys, tightly crowded into a room normally large enough to accommodate 50 to 60 at the most. Something had to be done. He started lobbying at the House of Commons. Two years of relentless efforts brought results in the unprecedented visit of Mr. Habor Reid, the Deputy Superintendent of Indian Affairs himself. The visit resulted in the addition of a second storey to the building. One problem was solved.

Mr. Jacobs then determined to remedy the distressing situation of a school attendance ever fluctuating between high, medium and low. Children would come when they felt like it or when their parents would not need them at home. There seemed to be but one cure: compulsory education; such was the oft repeated suggestion of the teacher to the Members of Parliament, such also was their conclusion. The measure was passed in 1896 and was to be applied to all the Indians of Canada.

Naturally enough, this restriction of their liberty did not please the majority of the Indians here, who obtained Mr. Jacobs' dismissal as teacher.

Mr. Omer Plante took over for the year 1897, until two other local Indians, Mr. P. Delisle and Mr. P. Williams, who had studied at the Mohawk Institute in Ontario, were available. They taught until 1914.

KATERI SCHOOL

It was during this period that two fine schoolhouses were erected by the Department of Indian Affairs—Kateri School, just opposite the Catholic Church, for girls, and the boys' school in the East end of the town.

In the course of those years, many ladies also were added to the teaching staff: an Indian, Mrs. A. Beauvais, who taught for 36 years; the Misses Parent, Miss Heudin, Miss Fitzgibbons, the Misses Burke and others.

In 1914, Mr. Frank Jacobs was elected Mayor of Caughnawaga. His main concern was the fostering of education on the Reserve through an organized programme of studies. This could best be attained by a group of well trained teachers who would guarantee continuity of purpose and discipline.

Thanks to the concerted co-operation of the Pastor, Rev. Fr. Gras, S.J., and the Councillors, the Sisters of Sainte-Anne from Lachine, accepted to come. They were immediately put in charge of both schools by the Federal authorities.

Things did not run too smoothly at the start, possibly because compulsory education was being enforced. But as the parents gradually noticed that their children took to the Sisters, greater sympathy developed towards the new teachers; these favorable sentiments have been constantly on the increase with the general progress of studies, especially since the first generation of the Sisters' pupils began to send their children to school.

The constant growth of the population of the Reserve forced the Department to erect a third building in 1928. It was named the Senior School and housed the boys and girls of the higher grades; it also afforded an adequately equipped section for domestic arts. This valuable asset to education went up in smoke in the short space of two hours at the end of 1941.

Most trying conditions, both for the teachers and pupils ensued. War conditions made it impossible to consider the immediate reconstruction of the *Senior School*.

TEKAKWITHA SCHOOL

But patience and sacrifices were finally rewarded. Thanks, no doubt, to the intercession of Kateri, thanks also to the munificence of the Federal Government, not only has the *Senior School* been replaced, but it has been enlarged to almost twice its original size and equipped with the most up to date facilities. Its twelve spacious classrooms easily accommodate the 350 boys and girls now attending the Catholic school. Provision has also been made for domestic arts in Tekakwitha School. The manual training courses will be attended to in the former Kateri School, soon to be fitted and equipped to that effect.

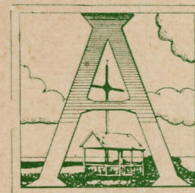
Another new feature of Tekakwitha School is that the older boys, since the beginning of the school year, have been confided to the care of two Jesuit Fathers and two laymen. They fully appreciate the fine work being done by the Reverend Sisters and are making their task easier by taking care of the arduous work of enforcing discipline among the older boys. And boys' games and sports fall more naturally into a man's sphere of action. The general spirit of the Mission should gain by this closer co-operation of all concerned.

Kateri's latest favor to the Mission, her 1949 Christmas Gift to her fellow Iroquois, we firmly trust will not have been in vain.

RÉAL LALONDE S.J.

A Canadian businessman discovers Kateri

SIGNAL FAVOR



L T H O I have resided in Montreal for the past twenty years, I had never heard of Saint François Xavier Mission until last March when I received a copy of *Kateri*.

Being impressed with the publication and its aim, "The Beatification of Catherine Tekakwitha", I sold to twenty of my friends subscriptions to *Kateri* and was pleased to receive with your acknowledgement of the subscriptions an invitation to visit the Mission.

My visit to the Mission and the opportunity to view the many objects of piety dating back hundreds of years left me with a deep impression of the Mission, for altho I had visited a number of Missions across Canada, no Mission which I had visited offered so much to a visitor as Saint François Xavier in historical data and priceless objects of art.

My visit to the Mission was not made with the intention of asking Kateri for any special favors, however a month after visiting the Mission, I developed a severe pain in my back and upon entering the hospital and being X-rayed the X-ray disclosed a stone lodged in my right kidney.

After a five day period, the doctor performed a cystoscopy on October 5th and advised that he felt the stone would dislodge from my kidney. The evening of October 5th, I asked little Kateri's help and for the first time in ten days I went to sleep and slept until five a.m. October 6th. The stone passed from my kidney the morning of October 6th with absolutely no pain of any description and I left the hospital for my home October 8th.

I am convinced after my personal experience that a great number of people would receive the special favors that they desire if they would pray to Kateri and work and pray for her Beatification.

WALTER J. TARDIFF

PAGING ALL CATHERINES !..

Miss Catherine X., Miss Katherine Y., Miss Kate Z! . . . Mrs. C. A., Mrs. K. B., Mrs. K. C.! You at least, should help: subscribe to KATERI; have your name enrolled in the Tekakwitha Guild; become a promoter of devotion to the Lily of the Mohawks! . .

"They spoke only good of her . . ."

OUR HEROINE

The Life of Kateri Tekakwitha

Chapter II.

HER BAPTISM

(Easter Sunday, 1675)

The little Iroquois orphan had been a pagan for eighteen years when God sent her an illness which was to be the turning point in her life.

It was a bright spring day when Father de Lamberville, passing through the village, felt compelled to enter the lodge of Kateri's uncle. He hesitated to do so because he knew that the man did not like the French of Montreal and also because it was a time at which the people would surely be at work in the fields. Still feeling a compulsion to enter he did so and found Kateri alone. A sore foot and her usual ill health had forced her to remain at home. She eagerly told him of her desire to speak to him but that she did not

dare to go to see him for fear of what her uncle would do to keep her from being baptized.

Father de Lamberville encouraged her to come to the chapel to pray. She accepted this advice so completely that it was soon known that anyone who wished to speak to Kateri should seek her out either in her lodge or in the chapel, as they were the only two places she frequented. No one prevented her from visiting the chapel and the villagers believed that the family had become used to seeing Kateri's mother at prayer and thus were not disturbed by her daughter's interest in Christianity.

Before baptizing the young Indian maiden Father de Lamberville inquired into her life and customs and found that those of her lodge and indeed the whole village spoke only good of her. His decision to baptize her was a cause of



rejoicing amongst the Christians. When news of his decision reached her she was exceedingly happy. She had learned her prayers with a quickness and eagerness which was truly marvellous, out of fear that Baptism might be refused her due to lack of knowledge.

The day chosen for her Baptism was Easter Sunday, 1675, the place, the village chapel. Together with two others she was baptized with all the ceremonies of the Church and given the name Katherine.

Father Chauchetière, who was present at her death, writes of her: "The Holy Ghost, entering into Katherine at baptism, made her His beloved spouse, placed her among the souls of the elect and raised her in four years to a high degree of holiness. He allowed her to remain for two years in the lodge to triumph over the unbelief of the Iroquois, to serve as an example for the new church of the Mohawks, and to increase her merit by many trials".

One of the great trials of the Missionaries was that the Indians, very often became indifferent almost as soon as they had been baptized. Sometimes they became worse than they were before baptism because they did not have the courage to disregard the human respect which is a common fault of these people. No doubt the devil was hard at work on these new Christians to make

them lose grace as soon as they had received it. It was not easy to lead a good Christian life in the country of the Iroquois. Not only did Katherine practice her religion in such a way as to evoke the praise of her confessor but her extraordinary virtue was remarked by everyone, Christian and heathen alike.

The little Lily of the Mohawks observed faithfully the rules of life which the priest had prescribed: to go to morning and evening prayer every day; to assist at mass on Sunday, and to avoid the following: assistance at the 'dream feasts', dances or at other gatherings which were contrary to purity; and the liquor debauches of the heathens. These general rules held for others but Katherine had done all that before baptism, so the priest gave her more particular directions and regulated the prayers which she should say and the practices of virtue she should adopt.

Following her death he declared that, after careful examination, he had not noticed one point in which she had relaxed since she became a Christian. It hardly seems possible that Kateri acted only from natural goodness. She had for two years, the first after her baptism, a very hard novitiate during which she displayed great virtue.

LORRAINE FITZGERALD



THE RELICS OF TEKAKWITHA

(Photo D. BIER)

THE VICE POSTULATOR TO YOU...

The purple-clad season of Advent . . . The deep joy of Christmas !
New Year's Day pregnant with divine hope . . .

All of which were days full of spiritual depth for the Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha in 1677, during her first winter in the Christian village among her Indian brethren "who-made-the-sign-of-the-Cross" at Mission Saint-François-Xavier ! . . .

On New Year's Eve, Father Béchard, the Vice Postulator for the Cause of her Beatification will pray beside the chest containing the precious remains of Tekakwitha at Mission Saint-François-Xavier.

1950, he hopes, will be an important year for the Cause of Kateri. Thousands of people who practically ignore her today must be brought face to face with the full lesson of her saintly life — a lesson of love and sacrifice, correlatives that cannot be separated.

1950, he hopes, will see thousands of people who never heard of her before, praying to her and obtaining through her intercession, favors both spiritual and temporal, miracles irrefutable . . .

1950, he hopes, will witness the expansion of the Tekakwitha Guild to a 10,000 membership — friends and clients of Kateri from every walk of life, who will pray for her Beatification. (Until now, a Mass was offered each month at the Mission for the Members of the Guild ; each day their intentions, after they had been placed upon the relics of Kateri, were recommended at the Memento of the Living. Henceforth a Mass will be celebrated EACH WEEK for the Members of the Guild and the daily remembrance will be maintained.)

1950, he hopes, will assist at the growing of the modest 16-page-quarterly, KATERI, devoted to the sole interests of the Lily of the Mohawks and to those of her kin, the Iroquois of Caughnawaga, into a 22-page booklet. (Father Béchard, who draws no salary for editing KATERI, trusts that you will not begrudge him your dollar for his work for the one whom His Holiness, Pius XII desires, some day, to canonize as North America's first native-born saint.

1950, he hopes, will be a red-letter year for the Mission; the noted sculptor, Mr. Emile Brunet, is ready to prepare a statue of Kateri, for the school grounds.

1950, Father surmises, will be a busy year. He begs your prayers for the success of his work as Vice Postulator and as principal of the Iroquois Day School (Tekakwitha School) erected during the past year by the Federal Government at Caughnawaga.

In return, as he stands beside the relics of the Lily of the Mohawks, he will ardently pray that the sweet odor of her virtues and of her love pervade your every hour and every day during the coming year ! . . .

LETTERS TO KATERI

(When acknowledging favors to Kateri, be sure to indicate details.)

Marblehead Neck, Mass., Oct. 14: We have been praying awfully hard (as have many other folks for a person who needs God's help in a serious and difficult situation). Each circumstance, as it has arisen, has been met with seeming success. (I might add here, there will be many more steps before the case is completed.) For sometime, everything seemed to be at a standstill . . . I gave the prayer to Catherine Tekakwitha to another girl, and asked that she and I would say it for nine days, with the hope that something would happen within those nine days to give the folks who are helping this person something to work on . . . My goodness! In one week, so many things happened, Catherine Tekakwitha had us exhausted and frightened. Yesterday we heard another circumstance had been met successfully . . . The donation enclosed is small (*Editor's note: No it isn't!*), but sent with a grateful heart. Mrs. M. L. T.

St. John's, Nfld., Oct. 8: Father, the reason why I am writing this letter is that we are now living outside of St. John's. We had lived in the city all our lives. But the place where we had stayed for 27 years was rented to others. This nearly broke my mother's heart. So she said the Prayer for the Beatification of Kateri for nine days. Thanks to Tekakwitha we are going back to the city to live on Oct. 13 . . . Mr. R. S.

Cleveland, Ohio, Oct. 11: This little story of The Power of Prayer to Kateri impressed us so deeply that we should like to pass it on thru your hands. Living next door to us is an eight-year-old girl whose eyes have been very badly crossed since birth or soon after. The parents of this youngster have refused to have the condition remedied despite pressure brought to bear by friends, relatives,

doctors and school authorities. It has been a case of one excuse after another. The child would outgrow the condition; they could not afford an operation; the child was too young; the child was too frail. All of these excuses were without foundation. Helen and I are very fond of the child because she is just as sweet as our Kateri must have been at a like age. We made every possible effort to encourage the parents but all to no avail. When we planned our visit to Caughnawaga, Helen said that we would place the matter in Kateri's hands and that the operation would be performed. When you, Father Béchar, allowed us to kiss the Relic of our Kateri, we pleaded with her to bring about our request. We returned to Cleveland *forty-eight* hours after our visit and as we drove into our driveway this is what happened. Our little girl-friend dashed up to our car, and without one single word of greeting to either one of us said, "I went to the eye-doctor yesterday and I have to put drops into my eyes for a few days and then the doctor is going to fix my eyes". There are no words which can describe how amazed we were. We knew the Power of Prayer to Kateri—but when you get this sort of ACTION! Mr. J. B.

Sault Ste Marie, Ont., Oct. 17: Enclosed please find Money Order for \$7.00. I promised Kateri \$2.00 if I were cured of a bad pain in my foot. The pain has left my foot, thanks to Kateri. I also prayed for another favor. I have a growth on the back of my neck, which at times gave me great pains. The pain has left, but the growth is still there. I am thankful for that. I had promised \$5.00, so I am sending it along . . . Would you send me pictures (of Kateri) with the Prayer to give away to people. I pray every day

to Kateri for her Beatification . . . Mrs. C. B.

St. Louis, Mo., Nov. 7: This (\$10.00) is for a favor received from Kateri and the Blessed Virgin through her. I thought I needed an operation for gall bladder. Three X-rays pictures show function O.K. . . . Thanks to Kateri again . . . Mr. E. A. W.

Buffalo, N.Y., Nov. 1: This past summer, my husband, daughter and I visited Caughnawaga and were greatly impressed by our visit. Kateri is no stranger to us as we have made repeated visits to Auriesville over a period of ten years or more. However, our recent visit to the Reservation was impressive as we had the chance to venerate her relics . . . My reason for writing this letter is this: a month ago, I broke out with a rash which covered my hands, arms, face and neck. Within a few days my face and hands swelled to enormous proportions, so much so, that I was unable to close my hands and my eyes were completely closed. So-called miracle-drugs had very little effect and I was very much afraid that my eyesight would be greatly impaired . . . I appealed to Kateri, knowing she suffered from poor eyesight and I applied a relic containing ground from her grave. My eyes burned so terribly and with the swelling so great, I was sure I would never see again. However, later that day, when the swelling was the worst, the doctor gave me some eyedrops which began to take effect with remarkable speed. I continued applying the relic whenever I thought of it and within a week, I was almost completely cured . . . I realize this was not a miracle which would convince authorities that Kateri should be canonized, but I feel I was cured thru her intercession . . . I promised to write to you when my eyes cleared up and I am now fulfilling that promise. Enclosed find \$1.00 in thanksgiving . . . Mrs. A. M. J.

New York, N.Y., Oct. 17: Enclosed herewith is \$1.00 for subscription for one year to *Kateri*, and thank you for the prayers offered for my intentions.

I am happy to state that I offered special prayers to Kateri Tekakwitha and today my request was granted and I am deeply grateful. Mrs. A. M. B.

Prescott, Ont., Oct. 31: Enclosed, you will find one dollar for one year's subscription to *Kateri* in thanksgiving for a favor received from her. Mrs. G. B. P.

Pawtucket, R.I., Nov. 2: I am sending you a small donation for *Kateri*. I have been praying to Kateri and have received many favors . . . Mrs. J. P.

Swanton, Vt., Sept. 11: In thanksgiving for a nearly complete cure of hernia, caused at the age of twelve by an accident, I have made this pilgrimage to Mission Saint-François-Xavier, where the relics of Kateri Tekakwitha are kept. For two years now, practically all pain has disappeared. Mr. E. B.

Orillia, Ont., Oct. 23: About six months ago, I promised a small donation to Catherine Tekakwitha's fund if she would obtain a very special favor for me. This, she has *almost* completed, but now, I am stuck to know just whom I am to send it to. If you will set me right on this I will fulfill my promise to her. I am very confident she will finish obtaining for me the rest of my request . . . Mrs. G. C.

Winnipeg, Man., Oct. 21: I am enclosing two dollars for your mission, with thanks to Kateri for hearing my prayers. My husband started taking violent epileptic fits five years ago, and despite all the medicine he took, he was getting worse. He would take an attack every two months, but such a bad one, that he had to remain in bed a whole day after each attack. Around Christmas last year, I received your first copy and immediately after, sent for a medal. I also begged Kateri to help my husband. He took his last attack on March 1st and has not taken one pill since June sometime. I am grateful to Kateri for this great favor and speak of her to all my friends . . . Thanking you, for letting us know of Kateri. Mrs. M. A.

CALENDAR TIDBITS

Sept. 12, 1949.—Our new school, built by the Canadian Government, and bearing the name of 'Tekakwitha', opened its doors to 340 of our Indian children. Their eyes gleaming with curiosity, the descendants of Venerable Kateri's contemporaries, entered the brand-new edifice. Awaiting them were the Sisters of St. Ann, who, for over thirty years, have been successfully devoting their lives in promoting Christian education among our Indians. Miss Bush, an Iroquois girl, one of their erstwhile pupils, is on the teaching staff. A newcomer to the school, whom the children met on their arrival, was the editor of *Kateri*, Fr. Béchard, newly appointed principal. With his collaborators, Fr. A. Burns, Mr. R. Desmarais and Mr. R. Viau, he will devote his time and energy to the education of the boys. Noteworthy is the percentage of daily attendance during the past two months: 92.27% in Sept. and 94% in Oct.

Oct. 3.—Great news came in from Rome today: the appointment of our editor, Fr. Henri Béchard, S.J., to the post of Vice Postulator for the Cause of the Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha.

Oct. 25.—If the good friends of the Mission were to visit our premises just now, their attention would be drawn to the steepleless church. Today, a group of our Indian steel workers finished demolishing the century-old steeple. It will be rebuilt in the near future and care will be taken not to



alter its original form.

Today the Mission was honored by the visit of Mr. Emile Brunet, the sculptor. Mr. Brunet won high honors in Canada, the United States and in France. In a contest held in Paris, comprising 202 competitors, he came out on the top, outdistancing his closest rival by 82 points. He was awarded the equivalent of the Grand Prix de Rome, reserved exclusively to French artists. Mr. Brunet, who is spending the winter in France, has enthusiastically accepted to prepare a statue of Tekakwitha, which, we hope, will soon stand in front of the new Tekakwitha School.

Oct. 30.—Feast of Christ the King. An impressive flambeau procession through the streets of the town, took place in the evening, to honor the King of kings.

Nov. 12.—Had it not been for the heroic efforts of Fr. Lalonde, our Pastor, of Mr. R. Desmarais, teacher at Tekakwitha School, of the Mission personnel and of the parishioners, the 231-year-old Rectory and the 104-year-old adjoining church would be a heap of smoking ashes. The fire started in the upper story of the building. The community was at dinner when the fire broke out. Brother Hallé, our cook, gave the alarm about 12:20 p.m. As there is no water-system in the town, nor regular firemen, the tocsin was sounded and dozens of our Mohawks with pails, ladders and axes, rushed to save their old church.

Very Rev. Fr. Provincial, who, at the time, was making his annual retreat, and Fr. Burns brought to safety the relics of the Ven. Tekakwitha and other precious souvenirs of the first years of the Mission. Indians could be seen everywhere, in every door and window, on the gables and on the top of the roof. A half an hour later, they came down with legitimate pride in their hearts: they had saved the old Mission buildings! FATHER BURNS.



Rev. Fr. Antonio Poulin, S.J.

Fr. Antonio Poulin was the first Canadian to be Vice Postulator for the Cause of the Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha (1937-1949). During this period, he worked tremendously to make the Lily of the Mohawks known and loved by all. To achieve this purpose, he spared no efforts. As editor of the French Canadian *Messenger of the Sacred Heart*, he wrote many articles on Kateri, published several pamphlets, novenas and pictures, and had touch-relics and small packets containing earth from her tomb spread by the thousands. Today no French Canadian child of school age ignores Kateri. For all this and much more, Kateri, we feel, will bless him and his work at his new post as Superior of Villa Manrèse, the House of Closed Retreats in Quebec City.



Kateri, smiling, receives her Client . . .

INTERVIEW WITH KATERI

— No. 2 —

CLIENT: In timeless heaven, Kateri, you will celebrate Our Savior's earthly Birthday . . . Just think! Mary and Joseph will be there also! . . . Here below, there will be shopping for me, plenty of Christmas cards, some giving and receiving of presents, Midnight Mass and a turkey dinner with all the fixings . . . Which leaves me dissatisfied! . . .

KATERI: The joy of my first Christmas at Mission Saint-François-Xavier could be yours . . .

CLIENT: Tell me how, Kateri, and I'll cut you a bouquet of snow-covered fir branches to which I'll add a few twigs of bright holly. And the pungent odor of

the fresh sap will envelop your picture like my love. . .

KATERI: God and His Blessed Mother, in their great mercy, always kept me from serious sin, but it is at Saint-François-Xavier on Christmas 1677, that my whole being, my entire life definitely veered in the direction of Our Savior! . . .

CLIENT: (Quite literary!) The frosty night . . . cold stars glistening . . . The pad of moccasins on the soft purple snow . . . Kateri muffled up in her long blue shawl . . . Kateri going to her rendez-vous with God! . . . Such a pretty picture!

KATERI: (Rather sternly.) Not just a picture, child, but an act which changed my existence and which could change yours . . .

CLIENT: Oh, Tekakwitha! I'm so sorry! . . .

KATERI: Your Christmas Communion must be a *total surrender*.

CLIENT: That will be difficult, won't it? . . .

KATERI: Look at the Manger! Our Savior's surrender was complete, wasn't it? . . .

(Enter the two little Indian angels, mentioned in the last issue, bearing the Life of Tekakwitha written by Fr. Cholenec, her confessor. With silver voices they read:

"Kateri was too well disposed and desired with too great an eagerness to receive Our Lord, to be deprived of this great grace, so she was promised some time before the feast that she might receive Him on Christmas . . . She received the good news with all imaginable joy, and prepared herself for the great event with an increase of devotion suitable to the exalted idea she had of it. It must be admitted however, that it was at this First Communion that all her fervor was renewed . . . She approached or rather *surrendered* herself to this furnace of sacred love that burns on our altars, and she came out of it so glowing with its divine fire that only Our Lord knew what passed between Himself and Kateri during her First Communion. All that we can say is that from that day forward she appeared different to us, because she remained so full of God and of love of Him . . ."

H. B.

PRAYER

FOR THE BEATIFICATION OF CATHERINE TEKAKWITHA.

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O GOD who, among the manifold marvels of Thy Grace in the New World, didst cause to blossom on the banks of the Mohawk and of the St. Lawrence, the pure and tender Lily, Catherine Tekakwitha, grant, we beseech Thee, the favor we beg through her intercession — (Insert request) that this Little Lover of Jesus and of His Cross may soon be raised to the honors of the altar by 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 and Hail Mary, once, and Glory be to the Father, three times.

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April 1st, 1927.

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