



The Kateri Statue

Won't you Help ? . . .

The future bronze statue of Tekakwitha to be erected in her parish, will cost about \$4,000.00. The Rev. Fr. V.-Postulator gratefully acknowledges the following donations:

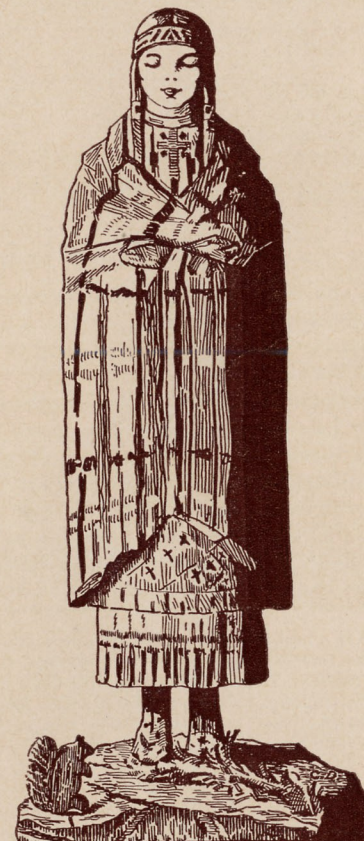
Mrs. Leo Stawinski	\$ 4.00
Mr. Stan Brennan	1.00
Mme Lorenzo Côté	2.00
M. J. R. Désormeaux	2.00
Mrs. Florence Tabuczynski	5.00
Miss Mary Sullivan	5.00
Mrs. W. B. McConnell	5.00
Mrs. W. F. Thurston	1.00
Miss Laurretta Richard	3.00
Mr. Mark Small	25.00
Mrs. William T. Johnson	2.15
Mr. Alexander H. McDonnell	2.90
Mr. & Mrs. Helen & Burney Schultz	2.00
Miss Henrietta Beilman	3.00
Mrs. John Williams	1.00
Mrs. W. J. Gleason	1.00
Miss Mary T. Hambrose	1.00
Pavillon Kateri	10.00
Miss Antoine Vana	5.00
Miss Lorraine Fitzgerald	2.00
	\$ 83.05
Prior donations	77.00
	\$160.05

(Please notify us of any error)

THE KATERI NOVENA !
20c postpaid

American friends of KATERI
may order a statue of her
from : Miss A. Bouvier
39 School St. Brookline, Mass.
20" size : \$5.00
14" size : \$3.00
8½" size : \$1.50

KATERI



Vol. 3

March 1951

No 2

CAUGHNAWAGA, Que.

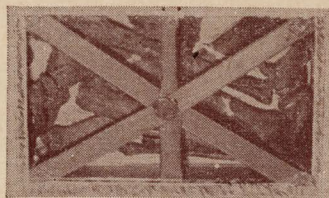


Photo : J. G. Martin

THE RELICS OF TEKAKWITHA

KATERI

Vol. 3

No. 2

Are My Prayers Being Answered ?	The Vice-Postulator	3
Your Opinion Requested !		4
Kateri's Way	T. F. Kramer, C.P.P.S.	5
Our Heroine, Chapter VI	Lorraine Fitzgerald	6
The Mission, an Air-Photo	Roy Montour	8
Attention, Please, Grammarians !	Henri Béchar, S.J.	10
Preliminary Investigation	The Postulator's Handbook	11
Letters to Kateri		12
Interview Without Kateri (Not so fine a day !)	H. B.	14
Calendar Tidbits	The Principal	15

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-François-Xavier.

Published quarterly to spread devotion to the *Ven. Kateri Tekakwitha* by Rev. Réal Lalonde, S.J., at Mission Saint-François-Xavier, Caughnawaga, Que., Canada.
 Editor: Rev. Henri Béchar, S.J., V.-Postulator for the Cause of Kateri Tekakwitha;
 Art Editor: Rev. Camille Drolet, S.J.; Associate Editor: Rev. Albert Burns, S.J.
 Subscription Rate: \$1.00 a year. Copyrighted 1949 by Mission Saint-François-Xavier.
 All subscriptions, remittances and correspondence should be addressed to KATERI, Mission Saint-François-Xavier, Caughnawaga, Que., Canada.
 Published With Approbation of the Ordinary and Permission of Supérieurs.

MARCH, 1951

Authorized as second-class mail. Post Office Department, Ottawa



ARE MY PRAYERS BEING ANSWERED ?

The Vice-Postulator

DR. ALEXIS CARREL, the reputed scientist and much-read author of *Man, the Unknown*, once wrote an interesting article on "Prayer". "The triumphant hosannas of a great oratorio", he explained, "as well as the humble request of the Iroquois asking for a successful hunt, illustrate the same truth : The human being tries to increase his limited strength by turning to the infinite Source of all strength. When we pray, we are linking ourselves with this inexhaustible motive power that makes the universe go round." A consoling thought, don't you think ?

That is why my prayers are *always* answered if :

1- I ask for a supernatural favor (good confession) or a natural favor (instant recovery from poliomyelitis), provided in the latter case that it be useful to my salvation ;

2- I pray with faith : "*Ask and the gift will come ; seek and you shall find ; knock and the door shall be opened to you.*" (Matt., VII, 7) ;

3- I pray with perseverance (Our Lord often keeps me waiting while He teaches me how to better my praying !...).

"What about my prayers *for myself* ?"

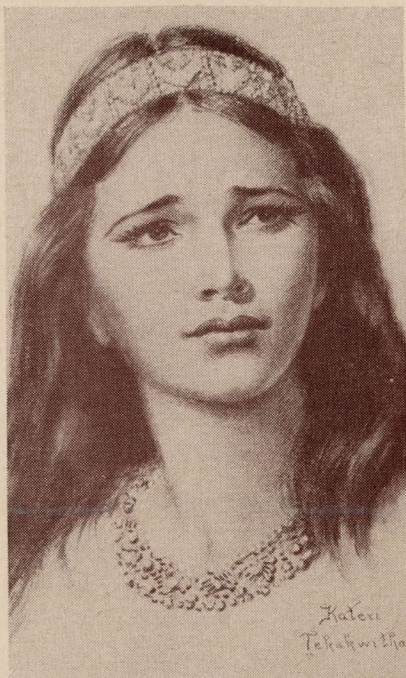
"They are always granted if I am faithful to the above conditions whether I am in the state of grace or not. In the latter case, however, I must be consistent and prepared to respond to the grace I am requesting."

"Does this hold good when my prayers are offered for others ?"

"Indeed it does, the only obstacle being the obdurate will of a soul resisting the grace of God."

In the light of the above principles, the following conclusion is evident : My prayers for the Beatification of the Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha will some day be answered. Our Lord will grant the two miracles required for this blessed event when I pray enough and well enough.

✠ In your spiritual and temporal needs, why not make the Kateri Novena ? ✠



YOUR OPINION REQUESTED !

What do you think of this picture of Kateri ?

Many are quite fond of it.

Others do not think it appropriate.

Write in and tell us what you think about it.

Five free enrollments to the Tekakwitha Guild for one year

if you write the best letter disapproving of this picture !

if you write the best letter favoring it!



✂ Postal Authorities will not recognize you as a *bona fide* subscriber if you do not mention the word, subscription, when you write to "Kateri". ✂

KATERI'S WAY

*Because she fails to rhapsodize
When Indian favors are bestowed,
We feel she does not recognize
Our trudging on the prayer road.*

*She holds her gifts in view divine,
We plead with her for earthly gain ;
Therein she sips no quenching wine,
As she in Christ endured her pain.*

*She sees fain flowers freely give
Their lucent beauties for her fame ;
In that shall trust and glory live
For all enshrined in Christly Name.*

*When we destroy our selfishness,
As Mohawk Maid its urge denied,
She can our futile prayers bless
With answers, altar sanctified.*

T. F. KRAMER, C.P.P.S.

✂ Prayer ! Prayer ! Prayer ! Prayer ! Prayer ! ✂



OUR HEROINE

THE LIFE OF

KATERI TEKAKWITHA

by

LORRAINE FITZGERALD

CHAPTER VI

HER SPIRIT OF PRAYER

Kateri's one thought was to find out what was most agreeable to God. She considered the contrast between the life that one led in her old village and the one at the Sault and feared to fall into the sins of her people. This disposition gave her more courage to continue in the practices she so ardently desired to undertake. She turned more and more to prayer and sacrifice and could often be seen, rosary in hand, going about her daily tasks, carrying wood or doing menial tasks around the lodge.

Much of her time was spent with her instructress, Anastasia, who was a devout Christian. The subject of their conversation often centered on the life and habits of good Christians.

Kateri saw the will of God in all the events of her life. One day she cut down a tree in order to get wood for the fire. The tree, in falling, struck her so violently with one of its branches that it threw her to the ground and so

stunned her that they thought she was dead. Regaining consciousness she said, "My Jesus, I thank Thee for having preserved me from this accident."

Her custom was to go to church at four o'clock in the morning, winter and summer. In winter, she frequently walked barefoot through the snow. Each day she heard two Masses and frequently visited the Blessed Sacrament. She went to Confession weekly, received Holy Communion as often as possible, and made Spiritual Communions frequently during the day. Her great devotion and fervor of spirit qualified her for admission to the Society of the Holy Family almost as soon as she had arrived at Mission Saint-François. She had been exempted from taking the tests which other arrivals and the newly baptized were required to pass before being allowed to receive Holy Communion or before

admission into the Society of the Holy Family.

Being a young Indian of twenty-two or twenty-three years of age, she naturally liked to be well dressed. This consisted in having the hair well greased, parted, and braided in a long plait which hung down the back; it meant heavy necklaces of glass beads, pretty cloaks, dresses, moccasins and pack saddles. Katerine felt that she could give up all these things without seeming peculiar, as the others would only think that she was not seeking a husband. She renounced all the red clothing and ornaments of her people and wore a new and simple blue dress on the days when she received Holy Communion.

As Kateri did all things without vanity and in the spirit of God, she continued the same exercises of devotion in the forest which she had practiced in the village and substituted for those she could not do, some which were suggested to her by the Holy Ghost.

That winter she passed her life as if she were a Religious. In the morning she prayed to God with all the others. This was the custom of those who went to the hunt. After prayers the men ate and went hunting for deer or beaver and did not return to the cabin until evening. While the hunters were eating, Kateri hid herself in order to say a prayer, mental or vocal, or a combination of both. She had erected near a stream, where the people came

to get water, a little shrine consisting of a cross which she made of a tree. There she prayed her Guardian Angel (so she told her companion), to assist at Mass for her and to bring her the graces. When she thought the hunters had left, at about nine o'clock in the morning, she returned to the cabin where the women were. She did what she was told, whether it be to cut wood or make soup, or to perform the ordinary employment of Indian women, that is, the making of collars from deerskin. This she did very skilfully, for she performed all such tasks well. During the work she asked those who knew some hymn of the church to sing it or to tell some life of a saint which they had heard in the sermon on Sunday, and she herself would commence in order to give them a theme. Those around her regarded her as a saintly girl, when they saw her praying with angelic modesty.

While others in the woods thought only of beavers and martens, Kateri thought only of serving God and imitating Our Lord in that poverty which never made her feel that she lacked anything. She was so poor that she had no proper clothing to wear in which to receive the Viaticum, until her companion lent her some. This was the principal reason why some who wished to imitate Kateri did not persevere. They were not enough like her, whose constancy and uniform mode of life they admired — a life which surpassed the comprehension of simple nature. (*To be continued.*)

☞ The Holy Season of Lent — a time of penance ! ☞

☞ Send in the names and addresses of your friends. ☞



(Photo: Roy Montour)

THE "NEW" CHURCH: 1845
JESUIT RESIDENCE: 1719
ST. LAWRENCE RIVER

WALL OF FORT SAINT-LOUIS

TEKAKWITHA INDIAN DAY SCHOOL (Without Cross)
(X) PROPOSED SITE OF FUTURE BRONZE STATUE OF
VEN. TEKAKWITHA



ATTENTION, PLEASE, GRAMMARIANS !

Condensed from *Caughnawaga Lives On!**

THE Marcoux collection, already mentioned, was duly thumbed through and admired. The Grammar, in particular, with its beautiful, legible longhand, they found a masterpiece.

Iroquois is an extremely complex "agglutinative language." This signifies that from a few roots can be produced words that express an infinity of shades and meanings. Take, for instance, KANOOSA, *house*; combine it with the verb KATARIHATHA, *to heat*, and you have KANOOSATARIHATHA: *house-heater*, i.e., *stove*. The same root, KANOOSA, to which you add KAYSERAYS, *to drag*, gives a *light covered cart*. KANOOSADASSY literally signifies "I-walk-around-the (interior of the) house", i.e., *I make the Way of the Cross*.

Iroquois contains only eleven letters, four vowels: *a, e, i, and o*; and seven consonants: *h, k, (g), n, r (l), s, t, (d) and w*. It is essentially a visual language, abstract nouns being unknown. This deficiency gave many a headache to the early missionaries, who were obliged to invent a vocabulary to designate the immaterial and spiritual realities of this world and the one beyond.

There are two genders: the superior or masculine gender, which is applied to men and angels! the inferior or feminine gender which includes women, animals both male and female, devils and inanimate objects. However, in the inferior feminine gender, there exists a superior form reserved to ladies of distinction. This the blackrobe must not forget when he prays to Our Blessed Mother, otherwise he could easily disedify his congregation.

Number or quantity in Iroquois is threefold, the singular, the plural and the dual which is obligatory; there are five plurals, five singulars and five duals too, the whole fifteen to be reckoned with in most of the conjugations...

*Henri Béchar, S.J., *Caughnawaga Lives On!* A Pamphlet published by Mission Saint-François Xavier in 1946, second printing in 1948 and second edition in 1950, 15c. postpaid.

PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION CONCERNING MIRACLES ATTRIBUTED TO THE VENERABLE KATERI TEKAKWITHA*

I — The miracle and its circumstances

A) The condition of the person cured, before the miracle

1. Name, age, etc., of the person cured ?
2. Physical condition of the person cured ? that of parents ?
3. Medical history of said person prior to the cure ?
4. Nature and gravity of the sickness of which the person was cured ?
Cause of the sickness ? Initial stage and development of the sickness ?
5. Particular, general and local symptoms of the sickness ?
6. Progress or regression of the sickness ? Date ? . . . What caused the sickness to become worse ?
7. Visits of physician or surgeon to the sick person : When ? How many times ?
Physician's diagnosis ? prognosis ?
8. Did the physician prescribe certain remedies ? Which ones ? Were they taken ?
With what effect ?

B) The condition of the person cured at the time of the miracle

1. In what condition was the sick person at the time of the cure ?
2. Was this person's condition serious ? Was it considered hopeless ?
3. How long did this serious condition last ?
4. What day, what hour did the cure take place ?
5. What did the sick person experience while the cure was taking place ?
6. Was the cure instantaneous ?
7. Did the cure take place without the help of remedies ?

C) The condition of the person after being cured

1. What changes were felt by the person being cured while passing from sickness to health ?
2. Was the cure complete ? Did any trace remain ?
3. Is the person cured still in good health ?
4. Does the cure still last ? Does the person cured suffer from some other sickness ?
What other (s) ?
5. After the cure, was the erstwhile sick person examined by a physician ? When ?
What was his opinion concerning the case ?

II — Invocation of the Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha

1. Is it proved beyond the shadow of a doubt that the sick person was cured after having invoked the intercession of the Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha ?
2. Who invoked the intercession of the Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha ?
3. How was Kateri invoked : by means of mental or oral prayer ? by means of a novena or a triduum ?
4. Did the sick person apply or have applied to himself a relic or a picture of the Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha ?
5. When was the Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha first invoked ? When was she last invoked ?
6. Did the cure take place immediately or not ?
7. Was the help of other Servants of God or of other Saints invoked ?
If so, why is the cure attributed to the Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha ?

(*) Copies of the "Preliminary Investigation" will be sent to your Pastor on request.

LETTERS TO KATERI

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

Detroit, Mich., Dec. 22, 1950: My son has been called in the office of his employer several days ago about the money long overdue and owed him. They told him it went through, all they've got to do now is figure out how much he has coming, and told him it would probably take a week or two before they get that straightened out. I know with the help of Kateri he will get it... Mrs. E. C. H.

Norfolk, Virginia, Nov. 6:... I prayed to Tekakwitha to watch over my husband in the last war and to send him home to me safely, and she did just that. At times the going was pretty rough too. After appealing to her I was instilled with a great peace of mind where before I had been frantic with anxiety ... I am praying to Tekakwitha now to bring my husband safely thru this new conflict. I hope that this letter reveals how strong my faith is in Tekakwitha, and may direct others to pray to her... Mrs. J. P. M.

Syracuse, N.Y., Dec. 30: Two weeks ago, I wrote to you asking for some help from Kateri for a nervous condition, and I am beginning to feel much better. I promised to send five dollars to Kateri's cause or the mission if something I had to do would be done in the proper manner. Everything came out perfect and I feel it was through prayers alone... Miss K. C.

Philadelphia, Pa., Oct. 19: Enclosed find \$5.00 towards the bronze statue of Kateri, in thanksgiving after a novena

I made to her. I finished it on Saturday and Monday I received the courage to have a dental operation which I have been postponing for a year... I shall pray for Kateri's beatification every day and try to interest others in the same... The R's.

Caughnawaga, Nov. 25: I was sick all summer and in September I was so sick that I could not do my work, and we called the doctor. I did what he told me to do but as I did not get better I took Kateri's picture and medal and said the prayer every day. Now I'm well and doing all my work, thanks to Kateri. Enclosed is an offering. Mrs. J. K. L.

Montreal, Nov. 6: Please find enclosed \$5.00 in thanksgiving to the "Lily of the Mohawks" for a favor received. Miss D. P.

Santal Parganas (Bihar) India, Nov. 1: Many thanks for the September issue of "Kateri", received yesterday. I may as well tell you that whenever I receive your bulletin "Kateri" or behold her picture or turn to her in prayer in my various problems concerning this Mission, I experience a kind of spiritual joy something undescribable... I wish you success in your endeavours regarding the promotion of Kateri's cause... Very Rev. J. P., S.J.

Rock Hill, Mo., Oct. 30: I would like very much to express my gratitude publicly to "The Lily of the Mohawks", for having obtained a very important

favor for me. Though her intercession my husband's job has turned out more successful than we dared hope... Mrs. D. B.

Detroit, Mich., Oct. 31: My daughter-in-law had her operation and it has been very successful, thank dear Kateri for her help. Now Father, I must let you know that my dear son has found a house, and the first meal they had in this house was so wonderful because the whole family could be seated at one table, the children so appreciated it that the oldest son said "Isn't it wonderful we can all be seated at one table now and enjoy our meals." Mrs. E. C. H.

Montreal, Dec. 20: My little girl aged 8 years, came home from the hospital today after being operated on for acute appendicitis. She was not very well and the doctor advised an X-ray. While in the hospital awaiting the X-ray, she was siezed with this attack and the doctor operated at midnight. We had placed her under little Kateri's care and everything turned out very well... Mrs. J. J. K.

Yonkers, N.Y., Nov. 11: For several months I have had a bad patch of eczema on my leg, it did not seem to heal. When I was at the Mission in October with The Redemptorist Pilgrimage I promised I would give \$25.00 to help defray expenses. I am glad to say that the patch has almost healed. I also wish to thank Venerable Kateri for her protection on our homeward journey to New York. We escaped what might have been a serious accident. The engine of our train was derailed... Miss T. de A.

N. D. G., Montreal, Jan. 15, 1951: Enclosed please find \$5.00 in fulfillment of a promise to good little Kateri who has helped me much... Mrs. J. P.

Ville La Salle, P.Q., Jan. 24: It's with the greatest of pleasure that I do accomplish my promise to Our Beloved Kateri, that is \$10.00 towards the statue in Caughnawaga... Without Kateri's intercession, surely our transaction could not have been realized... With the closing of our fiscal year, I needed one thousand dollars to get settled and on my feet and start anew! Where get the money? In spite of our good reputation, asking three different parties, and my own notary, everything seemed in perfect distress. So I had to go to our Bank Manager, one not very easy to convince. How many detours and mayhaps! So many that he kept me anxious and worried for three weeks, until finally I decided to give up and turn to Our Protectress, Kateri. Through the bank the expenses of the loan is cheaper and so much easier... So I just said "Kateri if you really want to stand outside of that school in the Village opposite your own Church, we agree to give Father Béchard \$10.00 in that respect... So it's a real pleasure and a prayer of Thanksgiving to do so to-day. In so many ways she has helped me financially... Mrs. A. B.

Manchester, N.H., Jan. 28: ... Kateri helped us find an important document which had been mislaid and obtained hospitalization for my brother to which he had a right but which had been delayed for some time... I am very grateful to Kateri and am enclosing \$10.00 for her Cause... Miss L. C.

KATERI



(Not so fine a day!)

INTERVIEW WITHOUT KATERI

CLIENT : Waniseriio (It's a fine day !...)
Could I speak to Kateri ?

CHUBBY INDIAN ANGEL (*snappily*) : No,
it's not a fine day! And even if I do get the
dickens, I'll not let you in to see Kateri !

CLIENT : Now, now, what's the matter ?

INDIAN ANGEL : Kateri is far too patient
with you and your sort. I don't see how she
stands it. You're really a good person, devoted
to her and all that, but what comes of it ?
Nothing. Absolutely nothing .Period. No drive.
No decent attempt to make her better known !

CLIENT : But I say the prayer for her Beatification daily... That is, often...
INDIAN ANGEL (*at machine gun speed*) : So you do ; I've got to admit it.
But what about your friends ? Do you get them to do the same ? Does every
girl and boy in your circle of acquaintances pray and receive Holy Communion
for her Beatification ? To how many did you pass on the Kateri Novena ?
Have you found subscribers to the Kateri bulletin ? Did you send in the addresses
of friends who might be interested ? Count on your fingers your friends who know
anything about her ! Don't try to count those who ignore from A to Z about
her !... And that's not all ! Have you sent in a contribution for the bronze
statue of the Venerable to be erected in her parish ? Did you write to Ottawa,
as the last issues of KATERI invited you to, requesting that a Canadian am-
bassador be sent to the Vatican ?...

CLIENT : Pushing devotions into other people's laps is not my style.

CHUBBY ANGEL (*snorting*) : No gumption ! If you had one tenth as much
interest in putting her across as a Communist has about throwing mustachioed
Joe Stalin in the public eye, the Lily of the Mohawks would go places... She
might even attain the honors of the altar before long !...

VOICE (*lilting and tender*) : I believe someone wishes to see me...

ANGEL (*quite disturbed*) : Why, Kateri...

H. B.

☞ \$600.00 are needed at each issue ! ☞

CALENDAR TIDBITS

Dec. 18, 1950. — At the fashionable hour of 8:30, the parents and friends of the boys of
Tekakwitha School filled Kateri Hall.

Rev. Fr. C. Drolet, S.J., promptly mystified the audience with a whole bag of tricks: cards,
Hindoo ropes, rabbits and hats !...

Under a colorful old-fashioned street-lamp, Mr. R. Desmarais, teacher of the 6th and 7th
Grades, then presented a few Christmas carols with a group of boys. This Christmas Card came
alive with Steven Cross as soloist.

Since last September, our Pastor, Very Rev. Fr. R. Lalonde, S.J., has been teaching music
to the boys. Despite a bad attack of laryngitis, he directed his choristers who sang several Christ-
mas hymns in Iroquois.

But the climax of the evening was *The Sausage Maker's Interlude*. Rev. Fr. A. Burns, S.J.,
our High School teacher, directed this play, written by the noted French playwright, Henri Ghéon,
and translated by Marcus and Olive Goldman.

The story features Santa Claus or rather, St. Nicholas, Archbishop of Myra, who died about
the year 342. Three little children go to glean in the fields. A sausage maker, lacking pigs,
throws them into his sausage machine, but good St. Nicholas brings them back to life.

The cast —

Mr. Créon, the sausage maker : Robert Diabo

Celesta, his wife : Jackie Leclaire

St. Nicholas, their Bishop : Ralph Alfred

The Property Man : John Deer

The Devil : Ronald Leborgne

The Three Little Children : Sidney Snow, Winston Delorimier and
Richard Leclaire

The Crowd and what a crowd : Albert Lazare and George Hemlock

Music Effects : Mr. R. Viau, teacher of the 4th and 5th Grades.

The boys really threw themselves into their roles and the evening was a great success. If I
am not mistaken, this is the first time *The Sausage Maker's Interlude*, in its English form, has
been brought to the stage in Canada.

THE PRINCIPAL

