



## The Kateri Statue

Let's Not Take Twenty Years :

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 :

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Mrs. Eloi V. Thériault	1.00
Mrs. Eveleen Hennessey	2.00

\$168.00

Prior donations 604.75

\$772.75

\$ 1000.00 for September ?...

(Please notify us of any error)

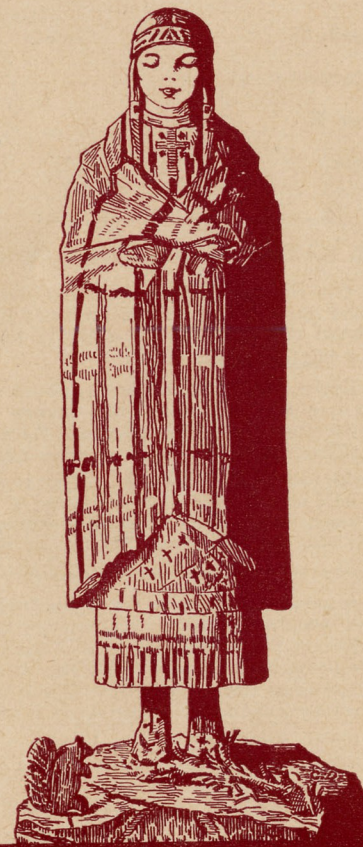
THE KATERI NOVENA !

20c postpaid.

8 copies: \$1.00

A GOOD PENANCE ANY TIME OF YEAR: SIT DOWN AND WRITE IN BLOCK LETTERS THE NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF 20 OR MORE OF YOUR FRIENDS: THEN SEND THEM IN TO KATERI.

# KATERI



Vol. 4

June 1952

No 3

CAUGHNAWAGA, Que.



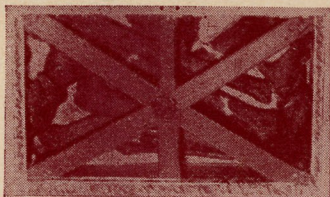


Photo: J. G. Martin

## THE RELICS OF TEKAKWITHA

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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-François-Xavier.

Published quarterly to spread devotion to the *Ven. Kateri Tekakwitha* by Rev. George Brodeur, 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 Superiors.  
 JUNE, 1952

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



1552 - 1952

by Jacques Bruyère, S.J.

Four hundred years ago, a giant died on the small Island of Sancian in the South China Sea. So small was the island that it could not hold his ambitions, his burning desires. His eyes were lifted towards the great kingdom of China.

This giant was Francis Xavier. So, today, his name is known all over the world. He is the patron saint of all the missions and the model of all missionaries.

This 400th Anniversary will be celebrated all over the world. The whole year, in fact, is dedicated to St. Francis Xavier. It may be timely then to recall an interesting bit of history: in 1667 was built in Laprairie the first chapel in honor of St. Francis Xavier in Canada.

The documents tell us that Fr. Raffex invited many Iroquois families to establish themselves beyond the Sault or Rapids of Lachine at Laprairie. Then the chapel was moved along the shore four times until it finally was transplanted to Caughnawaga which is still known as the Saint Francis Xavier Mission.

We can be very sure that Xavier's interest in Kateri is something quite personal when we reflect that this great pioneer missionary of the Orient, in whatever country he won souls, cherished especially his first converts. And Kateri is the first fruit of the apostolic labors of our missionaries in Canada.

In celebrating the Xaverian Year, this relation between the Saint and Venerable Kateri is to be remembered, and since he is closer to God, why not beg him to intercede more for Kateri's Cause?

1552-1952. Xavier could make it 1656-1956 — to commemorate Kateri's tercentenary and to celebrate at the same time Kateri's beatification!

The above cut of St. Francis Xavier belonged to the Rev. G. Forbes, Pastor of the Mission from 1892-1903, and, later, Archbishop of Ottawa.



# THERE KATERI BELONGED !

(A yearly account of the foundation of the Mission of the  
Sault up to 1685)

by

CLAUDE CHAUCHETIÈRE, S. J.,

*Spiritual Adviser of the Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha.*

1667 A.D.



HE time of the wars which took place between the French and the Iroquois being over..., the Iroquois were seen coming in quest of the goodwill of the French ; the French were seen going on a mission to the lands of the Iroquois. Time was running on and everyone was thinking of inhabiting the lands of New France. Montreal, which used to be the big theater of war, became fertile ground. Even the St. Lawrence was

crossed, and, opposite Montreal, was established the Seigniory of Laprairie, a spot chosen by God to become one of the finest missions ever seen in Canada. The French prepared the place, having moved there to build a village which began in 1667.

While Father Raffeix was busy having the ground cleared and inviting new inhabitants to follow him, God was also inviting the Indians to come there. This invitation was made when He ordained that Tonsahoten with a few others would offer themselves to come down from the Oneidas to Montreal as the guides of a missionary who was to return over the ice-covered land. Seven Oneidas laid the foundations of the entire Mission Saint-François-Xavier. The aforesaid Tonsahoten was obliged to come down in search of the medecine that he could not find in his own country ; he was a Christian and was called Peter Allan Aguerrie...<sup>1</sup> He

N. B. In the "T" initial, a reproduction of a crucifix belonging to the Mission.

(<sup>1</sup>) Last name, illegible.

✂ Do you say the official prayer daily for Kateri's beatification ? ✂

told his wife to take care of Father Bruyas who had just arrived and told her to learn the prayer (religion).

The illustrious Gandiakteua, wife of the one I called Tonsahoten, belonged to the Cat nation, destroyed by the Iroquois ; she was a slave, but she was of very good character and quite a suitable candidate for Christianity. She served as a guide to the six persons who were coming to Montreal. She said her prayers though she was not yet baptized. She thereafter did such great things for God that an account of her accomplishments has been made, particularly in the Relations ; they will also be rewritten elsewhere. This small group arrived in Montreal over the ice. There Father Raffeix met them, a short time after their arrival and invited them to come to his place. These poor folk, who knew neither what a priest was, nor the Church, nor a ceremony, having entered into the Montreal church, were so delighted, and particularly Gandiakteua, that they thought no longer of the Iroquois whence they came. Gandiakteua instantly took the resolution to win over her husband so that he would remain there, and she became attached to the French for the rest of her days.

These holy thoughts grew during the rest of the winter, and while waiting for complete instruction on the mysteries of our holy faith and for the grace of baptism, she spent the winter with the five others at Laprairie, living under the same roof as the French. It was only a simple shed made of straight planks, leaning one against the other in the form of shelving.

When it was known that all was at peace, many Indians came to hunt in the vicinity of Montreal and to tarry in different parts of the Island without any set purpose. This they did every year for the space of four years. They consequently were scattered through the woods, while the land was being prepared at Laprairie, where the Spirit of God was conducting them all. Being assembled there, the same thing was again seen which had happened in Jerusalem when the Church was formed of all the nations gathered together. In this small number of Indians were seen men speaking different languages : one from the Cat nation, another from the Huron, a few downright Iroquois, some Onondastagues<sup>1</sup>, and now, the mission is of more than ten or twelve different nations, all speaking Iroquois.

(To be continued.)

(<sup>1</sup>) Onondagas ? ...

✂ To carry on our work for the beatification of Kateri, we really need your financial support — at least \$600.00 at each issue. ✂



"Where are the rest of Kateri's remains?" pilgrims often ask after having seen those that are kept at Caughnawaga. Here is the answer —

## Hallowed Ground

By RÉAL LALONDE, S.J.

In the year 1755, a group of thirty Iroquois families left their native Caughnawaga to found a new Mission at St. Regis. This farewell to cherished ties was rendered less painful by the precious souvenir that they were bringing along with them, some signal relics of their saintly sister Kateri Tekakwitha.

Little did they suspect then, the tragedy of 1865, the fatal lightening bolt that reduced to ashes their mission church with all the treasured remains of their venerated protectress. But her spirit lingered on faithfully with her people and her influence on their descendants is quite noticeable even to our day.

After two centuries of survival, the thriving offshoot of Caughnawaga is now a sturdy tree very much on its own; due to its unique geographical position it can project its branches over portions of both Canada and the United States. Indeed the subsequent passing of the International Boundary Line across the territory of the St. Regis Mission and, later again the subdivisions of the Quebec and Ontario Provinces and the creation of three dioceses (Ogdensburg, N.Y., Valleyfield, Que., and Alexandria, Ont.), greatly affected the

civic and religious life of the rapidly mounting population; it now numbers 3500, with slightly more than half on the American side.

Seven schools offer ample opportunities to the 550 Indian children on the reservation. The 350 who must attend the Indian Public schools, either in Hogsburg, N.Y., or Bombay, N.Y., can only receive the religious instruction that the Missionaries are allowed to give them during the weekly release hour, as established in the State of New York.

More fortunate in this respect are the children attending the Catholic schools on the Canadian side of the boundary line. In the Quebec portion of the Mission the pupils benefit by the teaching of the Reverend Sisters of St. Ann, whose good influence is already noticeable after but a few years of apostolic labor in this their new field. Thanks also to their genial cooperation Catholic Action is gradually being organized among our youths through the Eucharistic Crusade and the Sodality movement reaching out even to those who are not privileged to attend the Catholic schools.

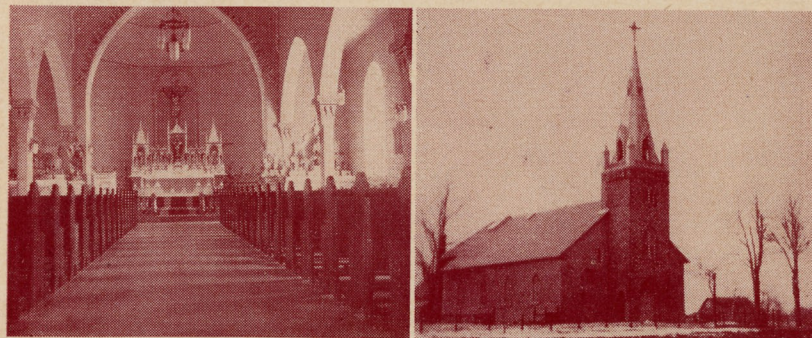
Kateri must be proud of the group of our thirty-five high school girl Sodalists who are endeavoring to model their lives on hers and Mary's. They were prominent at the Sodality Union Rally held in Malone, N.Y., on World Wide Sodality Day. Miss Beatrice Sawatis, our Vice-Prefect, appeared in the role of Kateri in a skit on the life of the saintly Maiden.

The St. Regis Mission was established by Jesuit Missionaries. After the suppression of the Society of Jesus there were no residing priests for many years until Father J.B. McDonnell was appointed pastor in 1789. Secular priests were in charge until 1937, two of whom (Rev. Fr. Marcoux and Canon J.B. Bourget), together spanned the long period of 101 years of apostolate. At the request of the Bishop, the Jesuits came back with Rev. Conrad Hauser, S.J. Actually the Mission has the distinction of being served

by the only Iroquois Jesuit priest, Father Karaienton Jacobs, S.J., of Caughnawaga. His whole life is wrapped up in the spiritual and temporal welfare of his beloved people. During his fifteen years here he has done tremendously to ever instill new life in his parishioners through the active St. John the Baptist and Holy Family Societies and other organizations. In promoting recreational programs and sound amusements he is a favorite among the young people also, who find very little occasion for juvenile delinquency. Amid these many activities, Father Jacobs found time to embellish the House of God. Inspired by their Pastor, the Indians contributed often and generously for the repair, the remodelling and redecoration of the now very beautiful St. Regis Church, an achievement they and Father Jacobs are rightly proud of.

We relish the thought that their sister Kateri must be very proud of them also...

The St. Regis Mission Church



The Kateri Bulletin appears only in English. For those who wish to brush up on their French, order the new pamphlet by the Rev. Vice-Postulator: *La Vénérable Kateri Tekakwitha, Protectrice du Canada.*





## To St. Ignatius

For July 31st

*You see the brethren in their trials,  
As far and wide they teach the Word,  
In crowded streets and forest aisles,  
Where souls are hungry for the Lord.*

*The Mohawk Valley heard their voice,  
As Garden anguish stirs their hearts ;  
In Tabor's glories they rejoice,  
As Christ them martyr grace imparts.*

*In savage hearts they planted truth,  
That gave wild souls the Christly light ;  
And missions throve in Christian truth,  
As Virgin lamps illumed the night.*

*Pray thou, your daughter of the wild,  
Who worshipped love at forest Rood,  
May soon be made your altar child,  
And reap the fruits of plentitude.*

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

← { Carved by Bob Campbell,  
a Coeur d'Alène of De Smedt, Idaho,  
at the age of fifteen years.



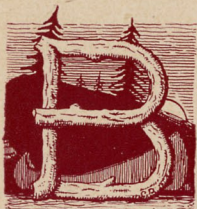
# OUR HEROINE

## The Life of Kateri Tekakwitha

by

LORRAINE FITZGERALD

### CHAPTER X — HER FAVOURS AND APPARITIONS.



BOTH the principal biographers of Kateri, Fathers Chauchetière and Cholenec, have given us a clear account of how the reputation for holiness sprang up immediately after her death and quickly spread beyond the limits of the mission.

Reports of her great holiness soon reached the French colonists living in Canada, and being so different from what they expected, they could hardly believe it. But when more precise and detailed accounts of Kateri's life and virtues had been distributed, and when, added to these, were reports of favours obtained through her intercession, the little Lily of the Mohawks became known far and wide and was revered by Indians and Canadian colonists alike.

The sixth day after her death, that is Easter Monday, Father Chauchetière was praying at four o'clock in the morning,

when Kateri appeared to him surrounded by glory, with majestic bearing and shining face lifted toward heaven as if in ecstasy. The vision lasted for two hours and was accompanied by several prophecies, and by many symbols which might be seen on both sides of Kateri in her ecstasy. For instance, on her right a church was seen turned over on its side, while on her left there was an Indian tied to a stake and badly burned. Some of the prophecies were soon fulfilled.

In the following year, 1681, on the first of September, and in 1682, on the 21st of April, this same priest had a similar vision, in which God made it known that He wished pictures to be painted of Kateri. When these pictures were printed they did a great deal to make Kateri known, for, being placed on the heads of the sick, they brought about marvelous cures.

Kateri also appeared to the good Anastasia shortly after the first apparition to her spiritual adviser. In this vision, Kateri appeared brilliant with light.

Half her body was engulfed in this brightness, and the upper part was as bright as the sun. She carried a cross in her hand which was more brilliant than everything else, and from it there shone forth much light. It seemed there could be nothing more beautiful upon earth. Anastasia clearly heard the following words: "Mother, look at this cross and see how beautiful it is. It was the source of all my happiness during my life, and I counsel you to make it yours also." After these few words she disappeared, leaving her foster mother overjoyed.<sup>1</sup>

God spoke even more clearly of the sanctity and merit of Kateri by authentic proofs, by the many graces which He has already granted and continues

to grant to all kinds of people through her intercession.

The first bodily cure came a year after her death in 1681 to Claude Caron, of Prairie de la Madeleine, who was dying of lung trouble after a third relapse. Having been exhorted to have confidence in God and to pray to Kateri, and after having touched the crucifix which her hands had held when she was buried, the man fell into a deep sleep. Upon awakening he felt as if a great stone was removed from his chest. The attending physician from Montreal declared that he had never seen a man so sick who did not die of the disease.

Shortly after this cure, the wife of François Roaner, sixty years old, at the point of death, received the Last Sacraments and after praying to Kateri and touching her crucifix was instantly cured. Her husband was also later cured by earth from Kateri's grave.

If we, Kateri's friends in Canada and the United States, wish to offer her a suitable birthday present on her tricentennial, we must start praying now and storming heaven with our prayers, begging Our Lord and Our Lady to grant the desired Beatification to our little heroine.

*The End.*



(1) See "Kateri", Vol. I, No. 3, p. 8.



# LETTERS TO KATERI

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

*West Allis, Wisc.,* March 17: Enclosed is my check for \$5.00, a donation toward the future bronze statue of Kateri Tekakwitha to be erected in her parish. This is in thanksgiving for an improvement in the health of my mother. About ten months ago, she seemed to lay close to death's door from the development of a cancerous tumor. We began to pray Kateri and she began to improve in health. We shall continue to pray to her and ask that she will enjoy good health again... Mrs. J.A.A.

*St. John, Nfld.,* March 18: ... Father, I pray to your little Indian friend every night since you told me about her. I have a brother over in Korea who will soon be on his way home. I prayed to her every night to guide him safely through his battles... Father, I am enclosing \$3.00. I wish to have my son enrolled in the Tekakwitha Guild. His name is William Brian... Mr. R. S.

*Springfield, Ohio,* March 27: The enclosed \$1.00 is for thanksgiving in honor of little Kateri who answered a request that our daughter Marie Poudrier would successfully come through an operation. Also, she has helped in regard to my own health, which seems almost like a miracle. My Doctors are surprised at my improvement in regard to a liver condition... Mrs. M. S.

*Toronto, Ont.,* Feb. 25: I received a favor from Kateri and I wish to make a small offering (\$2.00), which I suppose could be applied to the monument for her... Mrs. E. H.

*Washington, D.C.,* March 27: I am enclosing herewith a money order for \$10.00 — \$5.00 for statue of Kateri and the balance for Mission. This is in "Thanksgiving to Kateri" that sight in my eye has been spared to me so far. The Dr. has told me there is always the possibility of losing sight in good eye. I feel if it is God's Will and through Kateri some day I may regain the sight, but I am so grateful the other has been spared as it means my livelihood. Due to a very bad sinus condition and general health, I have been advised to leave Washington because of climate. Will you say a prayer for me, Father, that I may be successful in obtaining a good position... Miss A. M.

*Montreal, P.Q.,* March 31: Enclosed is an offering of Ten Dollars (\$10.00) towards the "Kateri" statue. Last week I had a slight hemorrhage which caused me much anxiety; I promised Kateri \$25.00 if the doctor found nothing serious; his report was that he could find nothing just then, but told me that if this happened again to go back. I am praying to Kateri that this will not happen again and enclose \$10.00 as part of my offering promised. I have also a spiritual favour which I would like if you would confide to Kateri, along with that for improvement in health. A friend of Kateri's... Miss S. A. L.

*Rochester, Mich.,* March 12: Inclosed you will find \$1.00. A donation for favor obtained for the statue of Kateri... Mrs. E. W. P.

*Saint John, N.B.,* April 20: A year ago last April, I had the misfortune of injuring my back. I was attended by three different doctors, but still continued to suffer. One of the doctors said that the muscles of the back were locked. In January, I asked Kateri Tekakwitha to intercede for me and promised to pray for her beatification. From then on my back became better; now I feel hardly any discomfort at all. It seems almost too good to be true. I feel that it is through her intercession that I have been cured. I wish to thank God and the Lily of the Mohawks with all my heart... Miss G. J.

*FOREST HILLS, N.Y.,* February 17: In the hope that it will help her cause we gratefully send this public acknowledgment to Kateri Tekakwitha along with a contribution. Our small business — the product of 25 years' honest dealing and hard work on the part of Mr. Stawinski — fell victim to the virtual famine which struck the entire industry over the six year period following the war. In order to continue to operate we poured our resources into the business slowly but relentlessly, until we stood an excellent chance of losing everything.

One day there came to us in the mail literature about Kateri of whom we had heard, but about whom we knew very little. We considered the circumstance providential, particularly in view of the fact that our firm name bears a close resemblance to that of the "Lily of the Mohawks." We immediately appointed Kateri patroness of the company and began petitioning her to intercede for us. We, in turn, prayed fervently for her cause.

Over the course of the past several months, our business has begun to show signs of renewed life, and while it might be argued that business in general has picked up over this period we have reason to believe that our good fortune has in large measure come to us through Kateri. In support of this belief, we offer the following:

1. In our business we employ mainly highly skilled labor, of which there is a dearth in the entire country. Yet, when orders began to come in and we had to increase our skeleton force, our small advertisement — seemingly lost among the many hundreds of large company ads offering much more security — attracted enough response to provide us with about half a dozen good men. This was no accident.

*Ville La Salle, P.Q.,* Feb. 13: I was told I was losing my sight due to an infectious germ in my system. I was hospitalized for a month and given special treatment. I am glad to say my sight has improved greatly. In fact, I only need glasses for reading and close work. I prayed to Kateri so that my doctors would be led in the right way and I know my prayers were answered. I have been saying the novena prayers for the past year and a half and have received several requests. I am enclosing \$5.00... Miss R. H. S.

2. While so-called "Defense Production" was said to be pouring out of Washington it was to take many long, weary months for it to filter down to us small sub-contractors. So long in fact, that many did not survive. Yet, our company began to receive inquiries and subsequent orders long before many of our fellow tool and die manufacturers. Past performance, ability and reputation were undoubtedly responsible for some of this measured increase but most came from new customers, not old.

3. These people from whom our orders derived were undoubtedly pulling themselves out of difficulties of their own as payments — like orders — were slow in filtering thru to the "little fellows." Yes, even when it appeared at times that payments would not be made in time to meet our much-augmented payrolls, we redoubled our petitions to Kateri and she always came thru in the nick of time. This we consider anything but chance, particularly when we learn that in the case of at least one large customer we are the only ones to receive prompt payment even now. Again, the quality of workmanship and prompt service must play a part, but we also see Kateri's hand in all this.

We shall never forget little Kateri and continue to seek her protection for our business in the trying and uncertain days to come. We will in turn, continue to pray for her beatification.

The enclosed contribution is part of what we promised Kateri for her assistance. The balance we shall be equally pleased to forward as soon as finances permit. We know it will be used in the most effective manner possible for Kateri's cause at your discretion.

Sincerely,  
Mr. and Mrs. Leo STAWINSKI.



## INTERVIEW WITH KATERI

KATERI (*With eyes raised on the distant countryside*): Corn fields bright with the gleam of fresh green stalks !... Wide acres of them, rich with the promise of the harvest to come !...

CLIENT (*Trying to focus, but without much success*): I remember, Tekakwitha, how, days and days on end, you worked in the cornfields of Ossernenon. I believe a good moiety of the food supply of the Iroquois, your people, came from the cultivation of corn...

KATERI (*Softly but clearly*): I still have vast corn fields, and in them, I would see my friends at work...

Two wonderful fields to reap in : Canada with its strong Catholic population and the United States.

CLIENT (*Suddenly understanding*): ... Approximately 30% of the entire American population and exactly 43.3% of the Canadian according to last year's census report. In Canada alone, 6,069,496 Catholics — who should all be your friends !...

KATERI (*With serenity*): That is your work : tell the message of my life — the same as that of Fatima, a double message of prayer and penance — to each and every one of them !

CLIENT (*Energetically*): Not only that, but from each Catholic on the continent, ardent prayers for your prompt beatification, dear Tekakwitha ! Into every Catholic home, school and hospital in North America, the story of your life, the Kateri Novena, the habit of having recourse to your intercession, and thus, for 1956, your tricentennial, the two miracles necessary for your beatification !...

KATERI (*With eyes filled with the joy of the far-off fields, filled with reapers*): ... " Into every Catholic home, school and hospital !... "

H. B.

*Original Kateri terra cotta by Mrs. B. Worthington, an alumna of Marymount College, Tarrytown, N.Y.*

Please renew your subscription if you have been so advised, and tell us it is a renewal in your letter; this will help us in our dealings with the Postal Authorities.

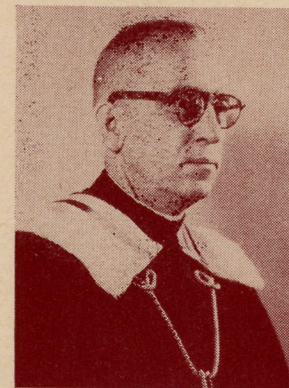
## CALENDAR TIDBITS

Feb. 27, 1952. — His Excellency the Most Rev. John C. Cody, D.D., National Director of the Catholic Women's League of Canada, in a letter to the Vice-Postulator assured him of his wholehearted support to the Cause of the Ven. Kateri Tekakwitha.

March 16. — In Biddeford, Me., Mrs. Charles A. Benoit passed away in her sleep. Mrs. Benoit was a benefactress of the Cause of the Ven. Tekakwitha. She also was the Mother of the Vice-Postulator, who recommends her soul to the prayers of Kateri's many friends.

April 11. — Good Friday ceremonies at Caughnawaga are eloquent in expressions of compassion for Our Lord. These ceremonies are climaxed by the singing at night, by the Iroquois Mixed Choir, of the Seven Last Words of Christ, done into music by Dubois. This year after the final *Kwasennaiens O Iesos (Adoremus Te Christe)*, the Rev. Dr. Alfred Bernier, S.J., Dean of the Faculty of Music of the Université de Montréal, and Guest Conductor, showed real contentment, because it meant 20 years of achievement for most members of the choir. The performance was one of the best since they first sang the Oratorio in 1932. Tribute must be paid again to its worthy founder, the Rev. C. Hauser, S.J., and to his successors, the Rev. R. Lalonde, S.J., and especially to the Rev. A. Bernier, S.J., who devoted much of his time to the choir. (The Iroquois Mixed Choir sings at High Mass every Sunday at 10:30 A.M.).

April 14. — Miss Ishbel Hutton, the National President of the C.W.L., has



THE REV. DR. A. BERNIER, S.J.

promised to work for the beatification of Tekakwitha: "Be assured, Reverend Father," she wrote to the Vice-Postulator, "that I shall deem it a great privilege to draw the attention of our Provincial Presidents to the cause of Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha. I shall also, personally, sponsor a resolution at the next National Convention of the Catholic Women's League, asking for the co-operation of our membership in the Cause of Kateri, by procuring prayers and seeking favours through her intercession."

May 10. — The names of two other Indian priests have been added to those mentioned in the March Tidbits: the Rev. P. Mercredi, O.M.I., of Fort MacMurray, Alta., and the Rev. G. White, O.M.I., from St. Regis, Fr. White, however, is stationed at Sao Paulo, Brazil, where he is working among the whites, though he is at present back on a few months' leave.

FATHER BRUYÈRE.