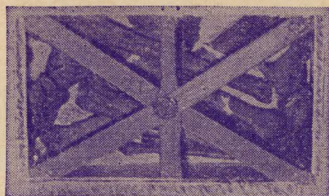


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A vintage photograph capturing a public event, likely a statue unveiling. In the foreground, a large group of people, including many children in costumes, are gathered. A man in a light-colored, possibly ceremonial, outfit stands with his back to the camera, facing the crowd. To the right, a statue of a man in a long robe stands on a pedestal. A large white cloth is being pulled away from the base of the statue, revealing its lower portion. The background features dense trees and a building with windows. The overall tone is historical and celebratory.



THE RELICS OF TEKAKWITHA

KATERI Vol. 6 No. 4

Editor: Rev. Henri Béchar, S.J.
V.-Postulator

Art Editor: Rev. Camille Drolet, S.J.

Associate Editor:
Rev. Albert Burns, S.J.,

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 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 temporal and spiritual you receive through her intercession. As a result, it is hoped that the Cause of her Beatification will progress more rapidly.

A one year subscription to KATERI (\$1.00) will enroll you as a member of the Kateri Tekakwitha Guild for one year to share in the daily memento of the V.-Postulator's mass and in a special mass offered each week for your intentions in the old Mission Church of St-François-Xavier.

All subscriptions, remittances and correspondence should be addressed to KATERI, Mission of Saint-François-Xavier, Caughnawaga, Qué., Canada.

Photo: J. G. Martin

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Published quarterly to spread devotion to *Ven. Kateri Tekakwitha* by Rev. George Brodeur, S.J., at the Mission of St-François-Xavier, Caughnawaga, Quebec, Canada.

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DEDICATION OF THE KATERI MONUMENT

August 8, 1954

The Most Reverend Giovanni Panico Apostolic Delegate

● AT THE PONTIFICAL MASS

Reverend Fathers,

Dearly beloved in Christ,

I am most happy to be with you on this day and have been anxious to meet this portion of the Master's vineyard which is rich with traditions that reach back three hundred years to the first Iroquois Mission on Canadian soil.

I have come to you in the name of the Vicar of Christ on earth, bringing you his paternal blessing, his message of solace and comfort. The sentiments of filial submission and sincere affection, which Reverend Father Superior has expressed on behalf of his confrères and of his flock, have moved me very deeply. You may be sure that I shall faithfully transmit to our Holy Father himself this expression of your veneration and filial piety and I know that he will be most pleased to learn of the Christian fervor and the Catholic spirit which animate his children and their Missionaries in Caughnawaga. You have kept with unadulterated purity the rich treasures of Christian faith and of love for the Church which were handed down by your forefathers. You have also kept a deep respect and a lasting gratitude towards your zealous Missionaries, for which you are worthy of the highest praise.

The Most Reverend Giovanni Panico, the Reverend George Brodeur, S.J.
The Reverend Lucien Dozois, O.M.I.; The Vice-Postulator and Mr. Harry Beauvais.

Photo: E. PARSONS



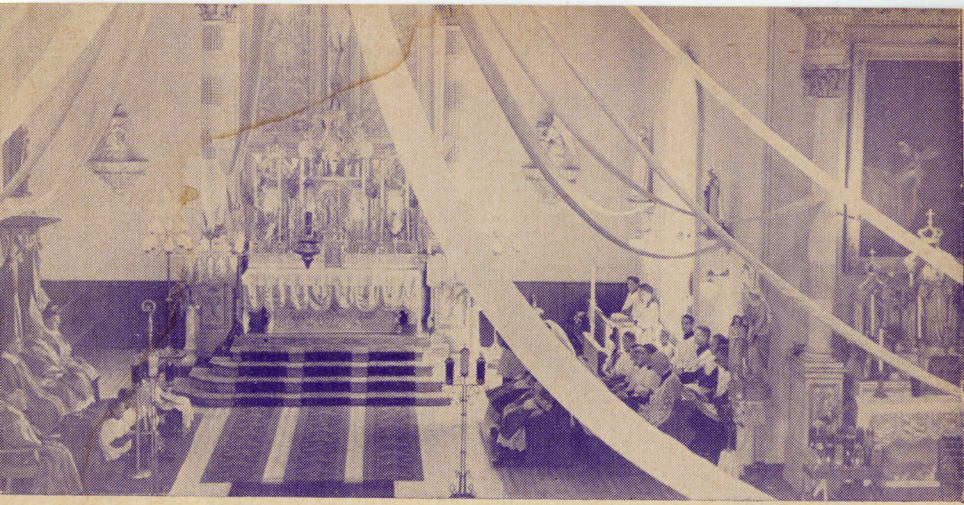


Photo : A. LANDRY

You have invited me to join with you all, Fathers and faithful alike, in the homage that you wish to pay to one of the most glorious figures of your national and Christian Annals, the Iroquois virgin, Kateri Tekakwitha, a lily of purity whose exquisite perfume of holiness still permeates the site of her last abode on earth, and I deem it a great privilege to be with you on this memorable occasion.

The memory of Kateri Tekakwitha brings back to our minds all the moving figures of the mystical and missionary conquest of your proud nation and the story of your conversion to the knowledge, love and service of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

The grace of God soon took possession of the soul of this young orphan. Kateri's mother had been given the opportunity to open her heart to the love of God before her death, and Kateri yielded to the divine inspiration in all simplicity and had no other love in her heart than the love of God. In the majestic silence of the great wilderness of the North American forests, she learned the joy and the consolation that comes to those who contemplate God. With what ardor did she embrace the Catholic faith and with what generosity did she surrender unconditionally to the love of Christ, when the Missionaries brought her the message of the Gospel. She was baptized in the waters of life after a time of mature probation.

Kateri Tekakwitha, immediately after her baptism, felt a lasting and unquenchable thirst for piety, for purity, for prayer, for austerity and penance. "Who will teach me what is most pleasing to God, that I may do it?", she would ask.

The heroic Jesuit Missionaries who instructed her marvelled at the dispositions of this neophyte and at the rapid growth of her soul in the ways of authentic holiness. To free herself from the vexations of a yet pagan parent, she readily accepted the pains of exile and found, in a land of adoption, the joy of a life wholly dedicated to the love of Christ through the vow of virginity.

Transplanted to Caughnawaga, she became the living model of the Catholic group there. The Missionaries described with great enthusiasm the life of this group as a revival on American soil of the life of the primitive Christian communities. The Spirit of Christ led this humble virgin to the summits of love of God, love for neighbor, and desire for penance. She died as one predestined to eternal glory.

The renown of her admirable virtues had already reached far beyond the limits of the Laprairie shores, and, following her death even to this day, extraordinary happenings have kept her name and her memory as a living token of blessings from above.

Catholic people of Caughnawaga, you have reason to rejoice and to be proud, for you possess a gem of holiness and of purity. God has made this lily grow in your midst

and we hope that, some day, Our Holy Mother the Church will grant her the supreme honor of official recognition in the galaxy of Saints. "Non fecit taliter omni nationi": God has not granted that honor to every nation.

This very honor is a challenge and a call. Kateri Tekakwitha has remained among you and even now she is beckoning you to holiness, to love for God, to faithfulness to His laws, and to submission to Holy Mother Church. With her, you must say: "Who shall teach me what is most pleasing to God, that I may do it?"

She has despised the goods of this earth, the pleasures of this world to ensure the possession of unperishable riches, the riches of heaven and the possession of God. She chastised her body and reduced it into bondage, so that her soul might belong wholly to God, and God, in turn, has given himself to her unsparingly.

The lesson of this admirable life imposes itself upon us all, dearly beloved brethren. Let us seek first the kingdom of God: "Quaerite primum regnum Dei."

Kateri Tekakwitha invites you to follow in her footsteps. You must, as she did, love purity, let it pervade your homes, teach it by word and example to your children, so that God may once again choose lilies from among you, like unto this heroic virgin of your community.

May this occasion always bring to your minds the virtues of this great servant of God; may it remind you of your Christian obligations and beckon you to always follow the guiding light of the virgin that God has deigned to choose from among you, your guiding light, Kateri Tekakwitha.

● AT THE DEDICATION

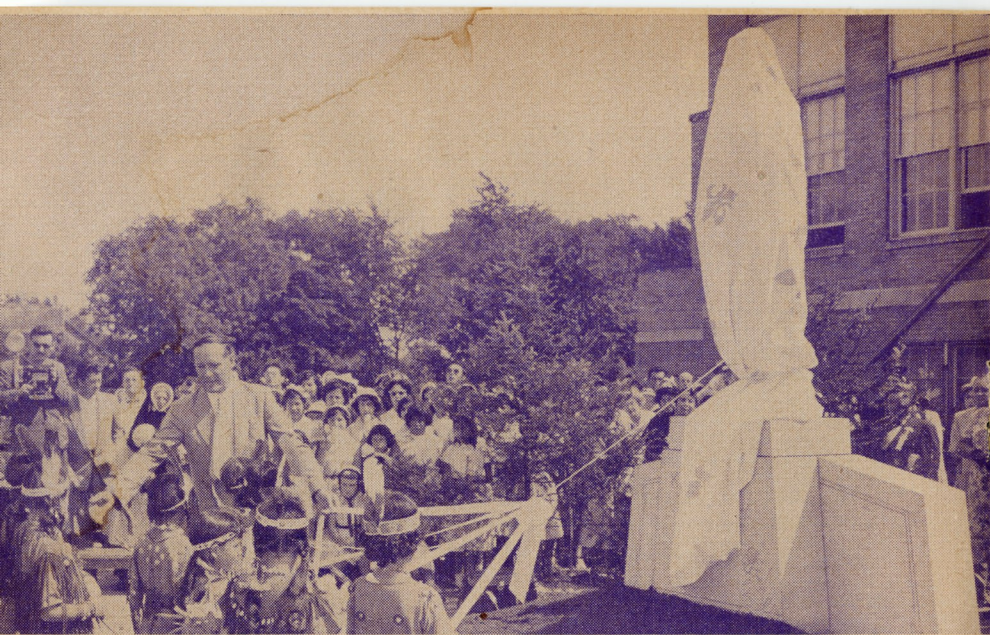
Dearly beloved in Christ,

I wish to add but a few words to what I had the pleasure of saying this morning. On April 17th, 1680, a little Indian girl called Kateri Tekakwitha was about to die. After having received the last sacraments with great devotion, she lost the power of speech, but was able to follow the prayers that were being said for her. Shortly before dying, she uttered two words, her last words, which are a wonderful resumé of her entire life: "Jesus! Mary!" Then her spotless soul winged its way to its Maker. Shortly after, her features which had been pockmarked since childhood, became wondrously beautiful. A small ray of the glory of Jesus and Mary was thus reflected in her chaste body.

Today, we are gathered together to honor Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha through the dedication of this beautiful bronze and granite monument to her memory at the Mission of St. Francis Xavier, her own Mission, in the midst of her own people. But this tribute will be incomplete if we do not add to it the desire to imitate Venerable Kateri in her spiritual life, namely in her great love for Jesus and Mary.

Dear friends, the monument we have just unveiled and blessed depicts Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha with a cross and a Rosary. By loving Jesus in the unbloody Sacrifice of the Altar, and Mary through the ordinary means, that Holy Mother Church places at our disposition, we too, all of us, may some day, after a life overflowing with the love of God and of our neighbor, breathe our last whispering the sweet names of Jesus and Mary!

As Apostolic Delegate to Canada, I earnestly desire to see the Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha elevated to the honors of the Altar. This I know to be the Holy Father's ardent desire. He has proved his interest in Kateri by reducing from four to two the first-class miracles needed in such a case. His Holiness Pope Pius XI of glorious memory, told the late Archbishop Forbes, who was once pastor of this parish, that Canadians must do their share by praying for the beatification of Kateri. Our present Pontiff, Pope Pius XII thinks not otherwise. And it now seems to me, may I add, that during this Marian year the Queen of Heaven is turned towards us all, anxiously awaiting the prayers and sacrifices which will enable her to obtain from her Son, for 1956, the tercentenary of Tekakwitha's birth, the two miracles that will give us the right to call her Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha!



Sculptor Emile Brunet gives last-minute instructions...
The Most Reverend Giovanni Panico, Apostolic Delegate
and the Honorable Alcide Côté, Postmaster General gaze at the Monument

THE GAZETTE PHOTO SERVICE



Gayla Montour of Caughnawa with flower offering

THE GAZETTE PHOTO SERVICE



His Excellency the Apostolic Delegate and Alice Snow, Christine Zachary, Iona Kane, Dianne Ouimet, Brenda Deerhouse, Gayla Montour, Teresa Bush, and Frances Diabo

Photo A. LANDRY



A dance for Kateri by Kateri and Norma Beauvais
Lilies for the Lily of the Mohawks: Marlene Montour, June Walker, Flossie Morris, Lenora Rice, Betty Deer, and Pauline Montour



A steel bridge for Kateri: Joe Kane and Gene Lahache
Book and pencil for Kateri: Eddie Cross and Russell Snow; Geraldine Montour, Bill Horning, Veronica Montour (partially visible), and Ronnie Simpson



THE
GAZETTE
PHOTO
SERVICE



Kateri and her little ones

It may seem strange to talk of apostolate in connection with Thérèse and Kateri. That a young Carmelite who died at twenty-four and a Mohawk Christian, converted to Catholicism only five years before she, too, died at twenty-four, exercised an energetic apostolate for souls could seem to many bizarre. Surely, Kateri, at least, intoxicated with a love for Christ and zealous for her own perfection had no time to think of others in the three short years she passed in the mission of the Sault. And what can a Carmelite contemplative do in the way of working for souls?

● *Her apostolate*

Kateri never preached to anyone, although her apostolate was perhaps as great as any missionary's whose direct object was the ministry of souls. Example is the most effective weapon. "How these Christians love one another!" was the most effective apostolate that the first Christians could exercise. Kateri's apostolate was by example and conversation. Put a saint among a group of fervent and mediocre Catholics and what do you expect the result will be? Kateri came to the mission and the white-hot glow of budding sanctity mixed with the fervor of the Christian Indians. "Her coming proved a blessing", states the chronicle of the mission. "Her assiduity in praying could not help but make a tremendous impression on her companions. That Kateri could deny herself the little vanities in dress and apparel that delight the Indian maiden's heart was something truly heroic. God does not look at the magnitude of sacrifices

The Story

Part IV

Professor of Law, Seton Hall



but at the love with which they are made. Through her edifying example in ordinary daily life a wave of fervor reminiscent of the early Church, swept over the mission. The missionaries bowed their heads in humble thanksgiving that an Indian maiden could show her people how "God is admirable in His saints." The power of God is seen at its best when one's ordinary life becomes extraordinary by shedding His glory with an uncontinous spontaneity.

● *Two centuries later*

Thérèse, two centuries later, is approaching the end of her earthly pilgrimage. What can we say of her apostolate? The little Martin girl had given up the vanities of the world when she entered Carmel. She had not to renounce marriage nor be looked on with awe as was Kateri. But she did have an apostolate to exercise. The vocation of the Carmelites is a profoundly apostolic vocation. They

of Two Souls

by John C. H. Wu

University School of Law



pray and put the merits of their prayers into the treasury of the universal Church. By their watching and fasts a nation or a tribe in Africa may be converted to the true faith or a member of the Mystical Body, weakened by sin, may be restored to the plenitude of power and grace. Thérèse partook of the apostolate of her order, but two special aspects of the apostolate impressed her deeply: prayer for priests and for the missions. She prayed for priests with all her energy, because priests exercise directly the ministry of Christ. Into the apostolate of the missions she put every ounce of love of which she was capable. A pin picked from the floor for love might convert as many souls in one day as a missionary in the fields afar.

"Had I been rich, I could never have seen a poor person hungry without giving him to eat. This is my way also in the spiritual life. There are many souls on the brink of hell, and

as my earnings come to hand they are scattered among these sinners. The time has never been when I could say: 'Now I am going to work for myself.' " The little Flower sums up in her own words her apostolate.

● *Their influence*

Thérèse and Kateri exercised an apostolate by personal contract and by conversation or letter. Thérèse's letters are pearls of wisdom and cheerfulness. Kateri deeply impressed all around her by her conversation but especially Mary Teresa. This young lady had been baptized, but later fell into grave temptation and sin. After a near escape from death she came to the mission and chanced to make the acquaintance of Kateri. By gentle conversation and encouragement, her new friend led her to the love of Christ and fervor. But Kateri's influence cannot be restricted to one or two people nor can Thérèse's. The love of Christ which burned in them could not be contained in their childlike hearts. It must needs overflow and cover the earth, because the source from which their love flows is inexhaustable.

Kateri died after two months of extreme suffering on April 17, 1680. "A saint has lived amongst us and has just passed away" was the sentiment of the mission. Thérèse gave her soul to God on September 30, 1897, after a period of terrible agony. God took these souls from the world because into twenty-four years they had concentrated the love of a lifetime.

The End

LETTERS TO KATERI

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

Sault Ste. Marie, Ont., May 14: I want to tell you about the miracle I received from Kateri. I had a very sore throat and after having the doctor and trying everything I thought would possibly help, nothing helped me until I started a novena to Kateri. After the ninth day, my throat was cured. I promised to send five dollars to Kateri if I were cured so I write a letter of thanksgiving for this favor. I am enclosing another dollar for another favor which was granted to me through her intercession. Mrs. C.B.

Montreal, P.Q., July 28: In the Gesù Church in Montreal there is a poster on which a picture of Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha is drawn. On it you asked us to write to you if we obtained a favor from her. Lately, that is about three weeks ago, I received two favors. I do not know if we must mention these favors but in either case I will mention them. One is that a woman dangerously ill when giving birth to a child was saved. The other was for two confessions of friends. Miss R.L.

Montreal, P.Q., July 27: My sincere thanks to Kateri Tekakwitha for success in my examinations. Mlle M.

New Orleans, La., July 28: Find enclosed my offering for one dollar and many thanks for favor through Kateri of the Mohawks for successful dental surgery. Miss J.S.

Obrigheim, Baden, Germany, July 7: I happened to receive the Mission Magazine "Marianhill", and read therein the prayer for the beatification of Kateri Tekakwitha. I took refuge in this prayer, with the promise that, if my prayer would be answered, I would make it known. I was very fortunate. Three things caused me great anxiety, namely, the conversion of my husband and my two sons. From one of these I was so easily and quickly relieved. With immense gratitude do I make public the fact that my prayer was answered, for the beatification of Kateri Tekakwitha. Mrs. K.W.

THE KATERI STATUE

A little less than \$2000 more to go!
You have done your part;
Why not get your friends to help »

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(Continued on the cover)

CALENDAR TIDBITS

VENERABLE KATERI TEKAKWITHA

Dedication of the Kateri Monument

August 8, 1954 — Caughnawaga, P.Q.

- 10:00 Presentation of the keys of Caughnawaga to the Most Reverend Giovanni Panico, Apostolic Delegate
- 10:30 Pontifical Mass (Singing in Iroquois)
- 12:00 Lunch at Tekakwitha School
Dr. Angus Williams
The Very Reverend Gérard Goulet, S.J., Provincial
- 2:30 Unveiling and Blessing of the Monument
Addresses:
The Reverend George Brodeur, S.J., Pastor of Caughnawaga
The Reverend John J. Scanlon, S.J., of the New York Mission Band
The Reverend Michael Jacobs, S.J., Pastor of St. Regis
The Honorable Alcide Côté, Postmaster General
The Most Reverend Giovanni Panico
The Reverend Henri Béchar, S.J., Vice-Postulator
Tribute of Caughnawaga to Kateri:
Mr. and Mrs. John Canadian: The old folks
Mr. and Mrs. Howard Stacey and children: The Indian families
Mr. and Mrs. Peter Jacobs: The old folks from St. Regis, P.Q.
Messrs. Gene Lahache and Joe Kane: The Indian structural steel workers
Mr. Orville Standup: The golfers and caddies
Mr. Allan Diabo: The fishermen
Mr. Grant Montour: The lacrosse players
The Misses Kateri and Norma Beauvais: The Indian dancers
The Misses Marlene Montour, June Walker, Flossie Morris, Lenora Rice
Betty Deer and Pauline Montour: The young ladies of Caughnawaga
The Girls' Junior Choir: "Kateri Tekakwitha"
The Schoolchildren: Ronnie Simpson and Billy Horning; Geraldine and Veronica Montour; Russell Snow and Eddie Cross
The Caughnawaga Indian Mixed Choir: Hymn for the Beatification of Kateri Tekakwitha
Visit to the Kateri Exposition
- 4:00 Solemn Benediction presided by the Most Reverend Gérard-Marie Co-derre, Co-adjutor of Saint-Jean-de-Québec
- 4:30 Departure for visit to Kateri's Tomb

(A group of fourth-degree Knights of Columbus graciously served as the guard of honor; one of them, Mr. Norman Saylor, Q.C., as master of ceremonies)