

**REMEMBER — OUR LORD'S
PROMISE TO THOSE WHO
LOVE HIS SACRED HEART:
"I WILL SHOWER DOWN A-
BUNDANT BLESSINGS ON ALL
THEIR UNDERTAKINGS!" SO
HELP KATERI'S CAUSE BY
HELPING THE V.-POSTULATOR
PUBLISH HIS MANUSCRIPT
ON ONE OF THE GREATEST
APOSTLES OF THE SACRED
HEART, THE UNPREDICTABLE
BERNARD DE HOYOS!**

— Continued on inside Cover

KATERI

Vol. 8 No. 4

CAUGHNAWAGA, Que.

SEPTEMBER 1956



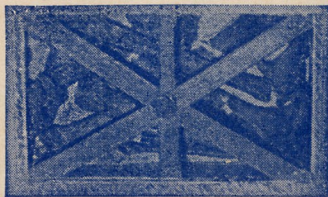


Photo : J. G. Martin.

THE RELICS OF TEKAKWITHA

KATERI Vol. 8 No. 4

Editor and V.-Postulator:
The Rev. Henri Béchard, S.J.

Associate Editor:
The 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.

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

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

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SEPTEMBER, 1956

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The photos on pages 6 to 11 are by Armour Landry ; on page 11 the lower photo, by Paul Lagacé. The illustration on page 15 is the property of *Le Messager Canadien du Sacré-Cœur.*

Urgent!

The Vice-Postulator

ON my return to Caughnawaga after a month's absence, I found a great change in the town caused by the progress of the St. Lawrence Seaway. Too, on my desk, a letter from the Honorable Lionel Chevrier granting me the authorization to continue the excavations begun last October which resulted in the discovery of the fourth site of the Mission of St. Francis Xavier (1696-1719).

My Deputy, Mr. Jean Boucher, has promised to try, next session, to have the law concerning the historic monuments and sites of Canada amended in order that funds may be forthcoming for this work. Meanwhile financial help is desperately needed. The land must be cleared and surveyed, tools must be bought, and several men hired to work under Archeologist Jury's direction.

Why all the haste?

- 1) By next year this site will be inaccessible because of the Seaway.
- 2) From the viewpoint of the Colonial History of Canada and the United States, it is imperative that this site be explored.

3) Both Fathers James Bruyas and James de Lamberville died there. The former is one of the first three blackrobes Venerable Kateri met as a child, and later cured from paralysis; the latter instructed and christened her in 1676, and then advised her to come and live at the Christian settlement on the banks of the St. Lawrence. Perhaps it will be possible to find their remains.

So you see, your offerings are urgently needed for this project. Otherwise it will soon be too late: the bulldozers will be doing their work, the area will be flooded.

He Had Work for Her to Do

by Lawrence J. Riley

BECAUSE the lives of the virtuous constitute a living rebuke to the moral degradation that surrounds them, it frequently happens that oppression and persecution are the lot of heroic souls who strive for the heights of perfection. Such was true in the case of Kateri Tekakwitha. After she had received Baptism, the young Indian maiden was the victim of untold suffering. She was maligned and insulted, stoned and beaten, and on one occasion a young Indian stealthily followed her and angrily threatened her life with his hatchet if she refused to renounce her Faith. But to no avail. Unflinchingly she faced him. "You may take my life," she calmly said, "but not my Faith."

The last four years of the life of Kateri were passed at the Mission at St. Francis Xavier Mission in Canada. There she had gone after a thrilling escape from her uncle's home. With her she carried a letter of introduction to the Jesuit Superior from the priest who had baptised her in her own village. "You will soon know," the letter read, "what a treasure we have sent you. Guard it well. May it profit in your hands, for the glory of God and the salvation of a soul that is certainly very dear to Him."

In this prayerful environment Kateri Tekakwitha practiced heroic virtue. She learned of the heights to which one may rise in the love of God, in devotion to neighbor, in recollection and self-sacrifice. Hers were penances of a rigor and severity not unlike those read about in the lives of the saints and fathers of the desert. Nor did the austerity of her life mar the sweetness and gentleness of her disposition. Ever kind, understanding and sympathetic, she mirrored in her life the meekness and humility of her Divine Master.

To her Eucharistic Lord she had a special devotion, particularly after she had received her first Holy Communion shortly subsequent to her arrival in Canada. "In the chapel she knelt

close to the altar every morning long before sunrise waiting for the Mass. . . Thither she went five times daily to make her acts of faith, contrition, humility, resignation, and to conclude with a Rosary. . . Her mind was intent on the altar; the altar was for her a Calvary; the sufferings she thought of were her Lord's, not her own. Indeed so vividly did she realize what He had suffered, she felt it natural that she should suffer, so natural that she went out of her way to seek suffering and to experience it even to excess." (Wynne).

Because her devotion to the Mother of God was so ardent — manifested especially by her constant recitation of the Rosary — it is not surprising that she chose the feast of the Annunciation of Our Lady, March 25, 1679, to pronounce a vow of virginity. Day in and day out she lived her consecration to God, devoutly, unstintingly and whole-heartedly. Finally on the seventeenth day of April in the year 1680 — at the youthful age of twenty-four — the earthly days of Kateri Tekakwitha came to an end, as she fervently clasped her crucifix and devoutly repeated over and over again: "My Jesus, I love You."

Our Holy Father, Pope Pius XII, has written: "When the knowledge of salutary truths, darkened by the allurements of earthly goods, grows feeble in the consciences of men, when the spirit of revolt and pride raises hidden or violent persecutions against the Church, Divine Providence, ever present in the bodies and souls in the midst of miseries, calls to the standard of Christ's Cross heroes of sanctity who radiate splendors of virginal purity and fraternal charity to serve all the needs of the soul and to maintain in its integrity the fervor of the Christian virtues."

Yes, wonderful and mysterious indeed are the ways of God. Among the rich and the poor, among men and women, among educated and unlettered, in every clime, in every age, in highly civilized lands and in rudely primitive villages, He has raised up chosen souls to give honor to Him and to point out the way to others. For each and every one of us, this little Indian girl, Kateri Tekakwitha, has a tremendous lesson — the lesson that we are all called to a life of service to God, no matter who we are, or where we are, whether we be priests or lay people, whether we be blessed with the goods of the world, or blessed with the poverty of Christ, whether we be strong and vigorous and healthy or lie helpless on a bed of pain. We are called to a life of service to God; we are called to point out to others, even as did Kateri Tekakwitha, that only in the service of God lie true happiness and true success.

THE NEW MUSEUM

Photography by

ARMOUR LANDRY

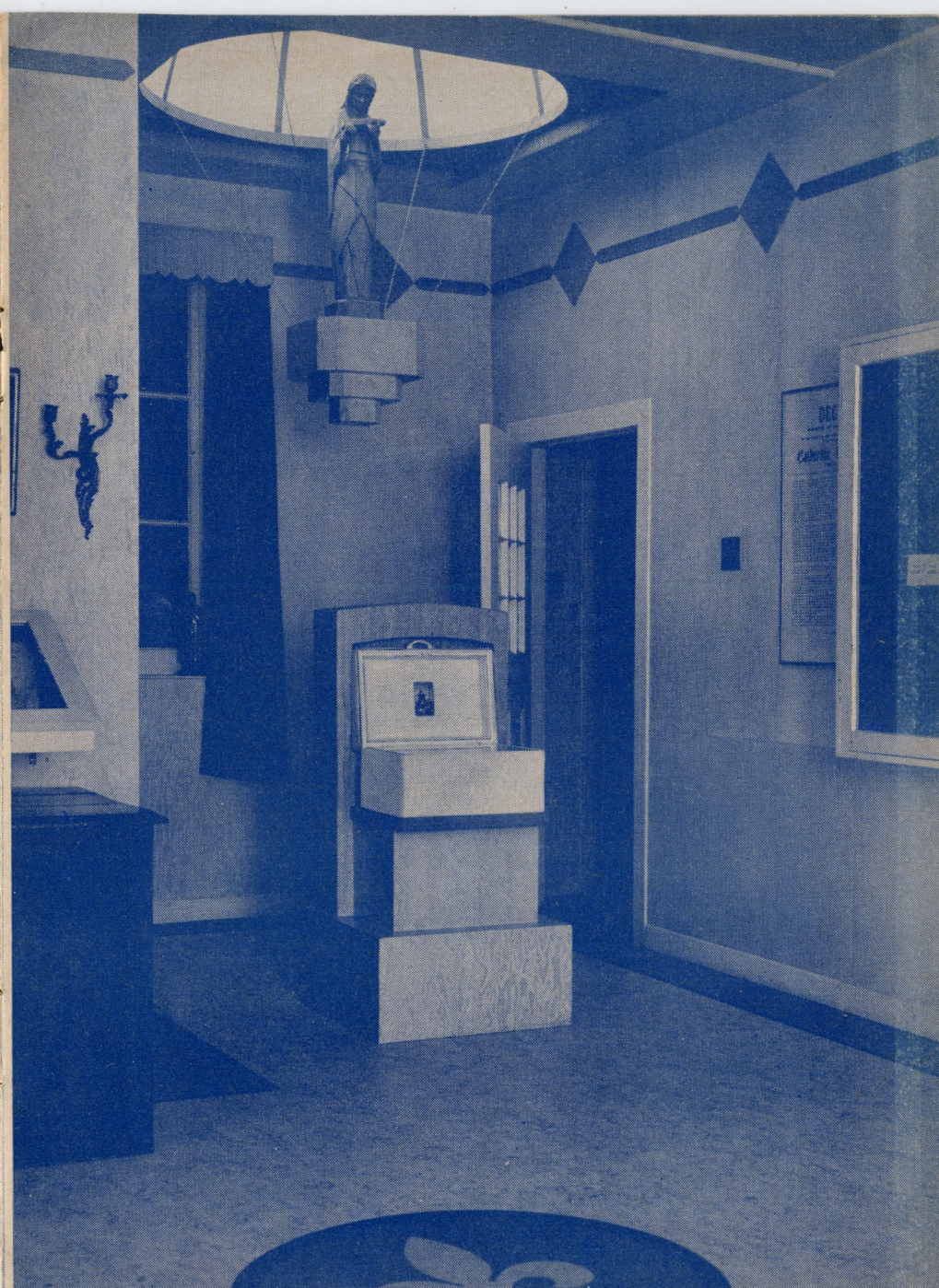
PAUL LAGACE

7. THE NEW MUSEUM with Kateri's relics and statue carved by M. Bourgault
8. AN IVORY CRUCIFIX presumably a gift of Louis XIV (circa 1680)
9. THE WAMPUM BELT seen by Kateri (1677); the desk used by Fr. F.-X. de Charlevoix in 1721 to gather material on Kateri
10. PAINTINGS of Fr. Burtin, O.M.I., Pastor of the Mission (1864-1892), and of Venerable Kateri, the latter by Fr. Claud Cauchetière, S.J. (1680)

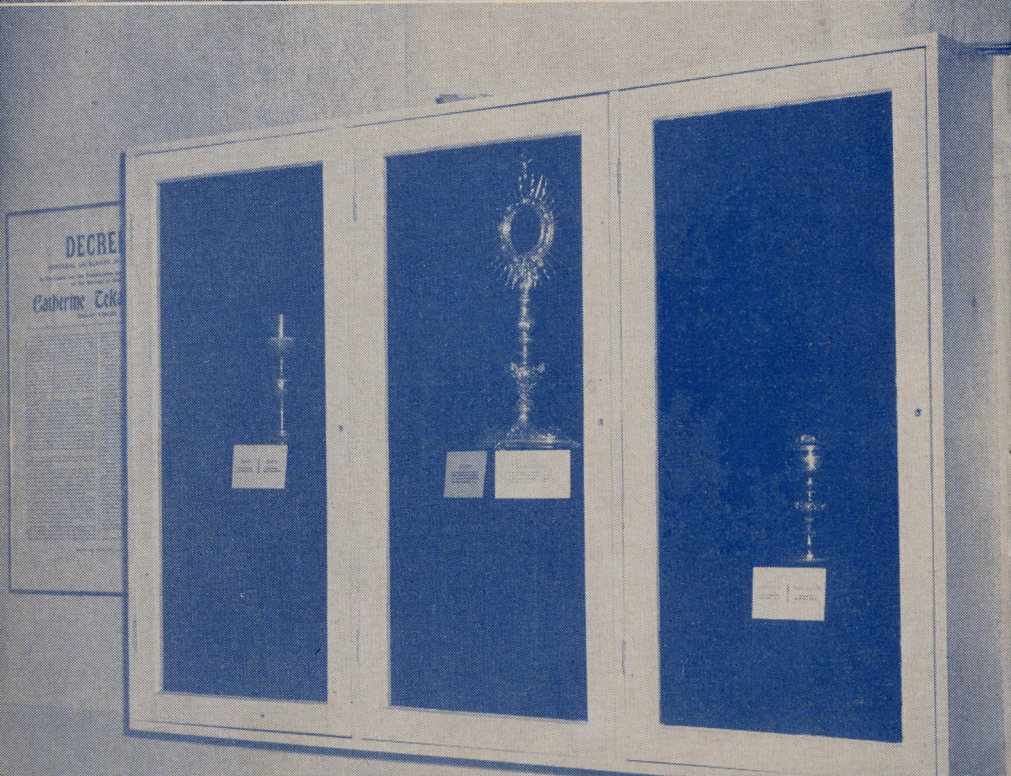
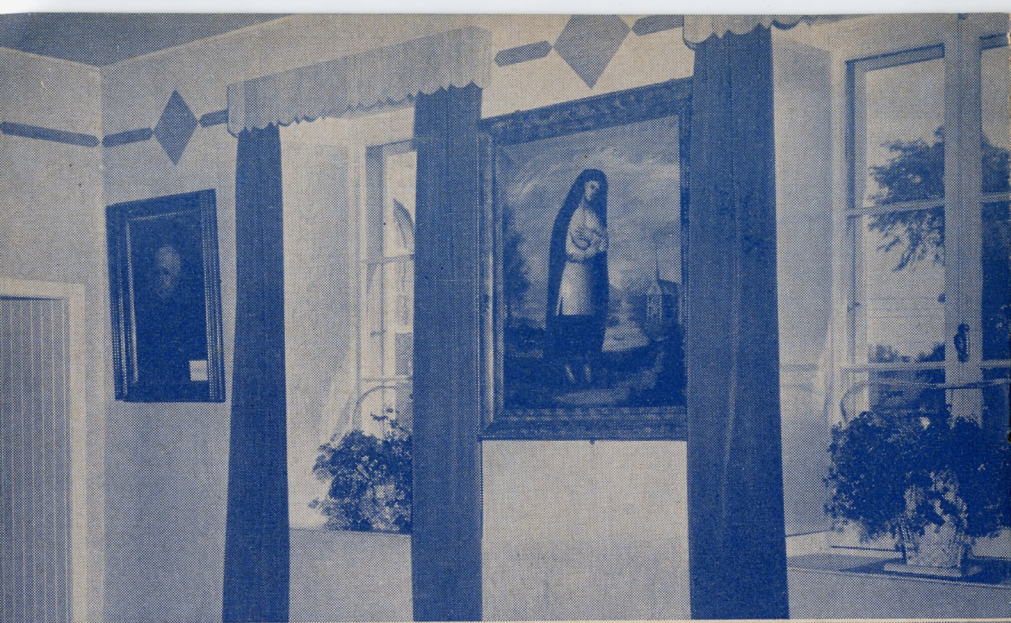
A SILVER CHALICE and ciborium and, in the center, the monstrance before which Kateri doubtless prayed

11. KATERI'S RELICS and, from left to right the Pastor, Father Albert Burns, S.J.; the Superior, Father Martial Caron, S.J.; the V.-Postulator, Father Henri Béchard, S.J.

A FEW OLD BOOKS AND MANUSCRIPTS, in particular the Roman Missal (1645) — quite probably used when Kateri made her first Holy Communion — topped by the wampum belt







LETTERS TO KATERI

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

PIQUA, OHIO, July 24, 1956 : Please find one dollar which I am enclosing for the Cause of Kateri's beatification. I promised this amount if she would relieve my pain during my recent stay in the hospital. Mrs. F. N.

TORONTO, ONT., July 20 : I wish to thank you again for the prayers said for me when I was ill. You recall I phoned you long distance about some X-rays I had to have taken. They turned out for the best. I am now with my family. I tell everyone about Kateri. Friends of mine had a spell in the hospital. They were not sure when they would be out and how long they would be on their feet again. They were out and back at business in three weeks ; all tests went well after I lent them my Kateri medal and gave them her picture. Then I lent my medal to a very ill woman. After she received the medal, her ailment is at a standstill. If I could send Kateri a fortune I don't think it would do as much good as spreading her devotion. Even my non-Catholic friends know my Indian girl... I don't think we would ever be able to thank Kateri for everything she has done for us. Mrs. J.C.M.

DEARBORN, MICH., July 13 : You will find enclosed two dollars I promised to send to Kateri if my brother-in-law would not lose his job. I want to tell you, Father, that every one of my wishes have been answered. First I prayed that my youngest son would graduate from high school. He graduated in June. And I prayed that my oldest son's hip would be healed after being on crutches fourteen months and having three operations. The last one was successful. His hip has healed and he is able to walk without crutches. Now I ask Kateri that my brother-in-law might keep the job he has, so now I pray to Kateri that she may watch over my whole family that none of them may die in state of mortal sin. Mrs. H.A.R.

FARNHAM, P.O., July 2 : When I visited your Mission last year, I was very worried about my health. I prayed at the shrine, and venerated the relics of Venerable Kateri. It will be one year tomorrow since I went to the Royal Victoria Hospital for a checkup and after spending ten days there my condition was found to be less serious than I had feared. I have improved steadily and this is due in great part, to the intercession of Venerable Kateri. I shall pray for her beatification. Mrs. E.W.

BISHOP, TEXAS, June 30 : I am enclosing a two dollar check. It is not very

much but I hope it will help a little. I am crippled, so I can't do very much, but I can make rosaries and I enjoy doing it. I was not getting very many orders so I started praying to Kateri and now I am getting lots of orders and hope I keep getting them. So pray for my intentions and please send me a copy of your Kateri novena. Thanks a lot! Mr. R.T. (Editor's note : In Kateri's name a special Thank You, Ray, and plenty of good luck!)

MONTREAL, P.O., May 25 : Allow me to tell you how grateful I am to Kateri for protecting my husband, myself, and my little boy when we were ill. We had entrusted her with our spiritual welfare as well as our temporal welfare... Lately our little adopted son, an Indian boy, suffered from an earache and the doctor advised us to send him to the hospital. The child said : 'Kateri must cure me, I place my trust in her.' We prayed to Kateri as fervently as we could and the next day the little fellow was quite well and was not obliged to go to the hospital. All this we owe Kateri and once again a heartfelt thank you ! Mrs. A.G.F.

NORTHAMPTON, MASS., June 21 : I am writing this note to tell you the favor I received from Kateri Tekakwitha. I had some money taken from my home and asked Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha to find out who did it. She granted me that favor, so I am sending you a dollar in her intention to thank her. Just say a prayer that everything may turn out right. Miss G.P.

LA SARRE, QUE., May 14 : I wish to acknowledge my debt to Kateri. For twenty years I had been suffering from a terrible itching which was just about intolerable. All the doctors I consulted were unable to help me. A year ago last June, after the ordination of my son in the Society of Jesus, I was twice obliged to spend some time at the hospital. The second time it was decided that I needed an operation and that the source of my trouble was my liver. But things went from bad to worse. Then we started praying to the little Indian maiden. Since two months my eczema has just about completely disappeared and I am continuing to pray to her until I will be completely cured. May I ask you to use this declaration to help Kateri's beatification ? I promise also to make known this faithful servant of Christ... I intend to visit Montreal shortly when I will make an offering to Kateri. Mrs. A.P.

MONTREAL, P.O., August 20 : Being pregnant I went to the Misericorde Hos-

pital in Montreal August 14, 1941. After twenty-four hours of suffering, Dr. A. H. Robert decided that a Caesarian operation was necessary and that he would try to save the mother and child although he thought the child would probably be still-born. This operation was followed by complications and I was obliged to remain at the hospital for two months and a half ; the child was saved. About the end of September 1941, I suffered from a blood clot in one of my lungs and from pleurisy in the other. This time a Jesuit Father came to the hospital to visit a relative of his, also dangerously sick in the next room to mine. As this Father asked me if I would not begin a novena to Kateri after having applied the relic to me, I consented. At the beginning of the week I had some X-rays taken : an extravasation of one inch and a quarter of fluid was found in one of my lungs and a tapping was deemed necessary. The following Friday, everything was prepared for tapping, but I refused to undergo it. That same day, the last of the novena, Mother St. Thomas, the nun in charge of the surgical department, came to see me after having told my mother that they did not expect me to live and that I would probably die during the day. My mother acting upon this, informed my husband and then

told me to prepare myself for any eventuality. I then questioned her and she told me that the worst was expected. I then answered that I would not die and I requested that my doctor be called. While awaiting his arrival, I gazed upon the Crucifix in front of me and I prayed to Jesus on the Cross, requesting at the same time Kateri to intercede for me at this moment : if God had granted me a child, it was not time for me to die and leave the child an orphan. When the doctor arrived, I told him that I would not die and he asked me if he could do something for me. All that he did was to admit I had a good morale and remain in the room talking with me for about an hour. The following week, I had another X-ray of the lungs. To the great surprise of all, the extravasation had been absorbed and the blood clot had disappeared. About October 25, I left the hospital to return home, very weak and with a slight pain in my lung, which disappeared later on. A month and a half after leaving the hospital, I began to work in an office so as to help my husband pay the expenses of this very costly sickness. Ever since, I have never felt any pain in my lungs. Each year my husband, my daughter, and myself make a pilgrimage to Kateri in thanksgiving. Mrs. R.C.

MY PLEDGE TO KATERI

I, the undersigned, from.....
to September 1st, 1957, do promise :

- a) to say daily One Hail Mary
..... A decade of the beads
..... The Rosary (five decades)

..... and or

- b) to receive Holy Communion daily
..... twice a week
..... weekly
..... monthly

for her prompt beatification

(Signature)

THE VICE-POSTULATOR'S DIARY

Since the beginning of June, numerous pilgrims and tourists have visited the Mission Church and prayed to Kateri.

On July 12, I began a thirty-day retreat to the Sisters of the Holy Heart of Mary at the little town of Notre-Dame-des-Anges in the Laurentian Mountains. This gave me the opportunity to speak about the Lily of the Mohawks to thirty Sisters from the Quebec and northern area of the Province of Quebec.

With the feast of St. Ignatius Loyola, July 31 — quadricentennial of his death — the annual appointments in the Jesuit Province of Lower Canada brought several changes to the Mission. Father Camille Drolet, S.J., Kateri's art editor, the spiritual Father of the Jesuit Residence and of the Sisters of St. Ann in Caughnawaga, known to the Indian children as "the magic priest", was transferred to Quebec, his home town. The cover of the Kateri bulletin since the first issues, December 1948 to September 1952 was his work; so were numerous other illustrations scattered throughout its thirty-two issues. Also, the stamp meter advertisements, "Help Kateri's Cause", now in use, and the discarded "Kateri Statue Fund" came from his facile pen. Before leaving, the art editor prepared a design for the V.-Postulator's new seal, which will soon be ready. To Father Camille Drolet go our deep gratitude for all these years of devoted service, our prayers and best wishes, and, I am sure, those of all Kateri's friends and clients.



Fr. Camille Drolet, S. J.

Brother Jacques Beaudry, S.J., (1952-1956) was assigned to St. Mary's College, and Brother Joseph Côté, S.J., (1953-1956) a veteran of the Alaskan Missions, to Villa René-Goupil at Ville Jacques-Cartier, Quebec. Our prayerful good wishes accompany them.

Father Léon Lajoie, S.J., who completed his theological studies at Weston, Mass., after three years in Ethiopia, is now stationed at the Mission of Saint Francis Xavier.

Since June, two pamphlets of interest have been received:

I Am Indian, The Story of Kateri Tekakwitha (50 pp.) by the Rev. Gualbert Brun-

man, O.S.B., with illustrations by Miss Ade de Bethune. Write to the Author for your copy at:

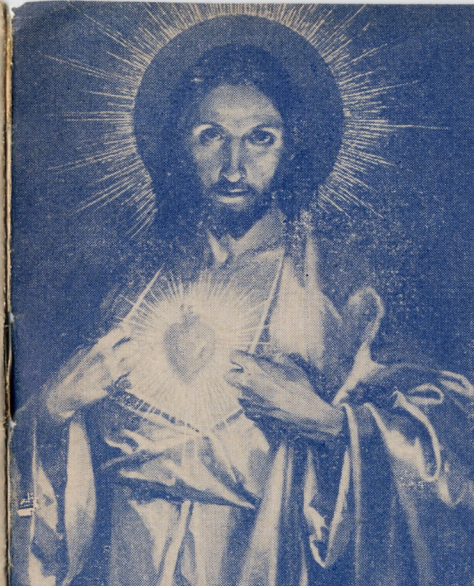
St. Paul's Indian Mission
Marty, South Dakota.

The proceeds "will be used to help care for 450 Indian boys and girls and the 35 orphans who are being educated by charity."

Kateri Tekakwitha, America's Marvelous Maiden (32 pp.) by the American Vice-Postulator.

The Rev. Thomas J. Coffy, S.J.
30 West 16th Street,
New York 11, N.Y.

May I suggest that you request at the same time Fr. Coffey's previous pamphlet: *America's Martyrs, The Story of Father Jogues and His Companions*.



TO RENEW OR TO REVIVE

Perhaps it would be better to change the title from *The Unpredictable Bernard de Hoyos* to *The Visions of Bernard de Hoyos, one of the greatest apostles of the Sacred Heart*.

On June 29, 1729, Bernard de Hoyos devotionally renewed his vows as a Jesuit scholastic. He then felt that his soul was united with God and, in his heart, the Most Sacred Humanity of Christ, a cataract of sweetness. Bernard adored Him present and his heart was carried away with love for the Divine Visitor.

During this contemplation he saw the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus supremely beautiful. From it, proceeded

three cords of fine gold thread. Not very far from the Sacred Heart, these three cords or threads were plaited into one, and then once again as at their beginning, they disentangled and strongly tied themselves to that of Brother Hoyos. Thus the two hearts were joined together by the bond of love, "the divine and the earthly heart, the holy and the sinful, the clean and the soiled, that of Jesus Christ and a creature, such a vile creature!" wrote Brother Hoyos. Our Lord then whispered tenderly: "Bernard this sacrifice (that of the three vows symbolized by the three strands) makes Me desire more to have your soul for spouse. But know that before being united to Me, you must undergo a terrible struggle. Be happy now so as to be able to suffer later."

If you wish to renew or to revive your devotion of the Sacred Heart this is the book for you. Help the Author publish *The Unpredictable Bernard de Hoyos* (The Visions of Bernard de Hoyos). The profits, if any, will go to Kateri's Cause. Sign the following form and send it to Kateri, Caughnawaga, Province of Quebec:

PLEASE DO NOT SEND FUNDS NOW

I promise to pay Kateri the special price offered to her friends (approximately \$3.50 a copy) upon reception within the next year and a half of

The Unpredictable Bernard de Hoyos, S.J.,
Apostle of the Sacred Heart

Copies: 1 — 2 — 3 — 4 —

Name

Street

City or Town

Province or State