

# KATERI

*Iakoia'tatokénhti*



**SAINT KATERI TEKAKWITHA - THE LILY OF THE MOHAWKS**  
**1656 - 1680**



**LAST**  
**ISSUE**



SUMMER 2025- No. 288

**KATERI CENTER - 25 JARRY WEST, SUITE 111 - MONTREAL, QUEBEC  
CANADA - H2P 1S6 - Tel: (514) 387-2541 ext 227  
[www.katericenter.com](http://www.katericenter.com)**

**[youtube.com/katericenter](https://youtube.com/katericenter)**

This is our FINAL bulletin, published by the Kateri Center.

It intends to help you obtain favors both temporal and spiritual through the intercession of Saint Kateri Tekakwitha. It also seeks your donations, for without them practically nothing can be done to make Saint Kateri known.

Our charitable registration number is: 118988005RR0001  
77th year of continuous publication. -

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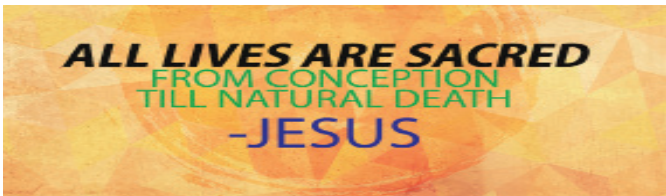
**WE WILL CEASE OPERATIONS  
ON NOVEMBER 14TH, 2025.**

**PLEASE SEE THE SECTION  
ENTITLED  
KATERI CENTER NEWS  
FOR MORE DETAILS.**

e-mail: [katericenter@hotmail.com](mailto:katericenter@hotmail.com)

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My God;  
by the merits of the wounds  
of Your Son Jesus,  
forgive me a poor sinner!



*Please make a **tax-deductible** donation to the Kateri Center by cheques only*



## GREETINGS FROM THE DIRECTOR



I send everyone greetings and blessings to all, and hope this finds everyone in the best of health in mind, body and spirit. Thank God, I, too am well, as well as our consultant, Gabriel Berberian who has worked at the ‘Kateri Center’ for 13 years as of May 2025. I recall I took on the role of editor in the fall of 2019, so nearly six years.

As faithful readers know, having been informed of the ‘Kateri Center’s status within the last year, this Kateri issue will be the last one to be published.

I want to say it is the end of an era, publications in general have a hard time with subscriptions to stay viable, but numerous people have done their best to spread the word about St. Kateri Tekakwitha.

Before Her canonization in October 2012, the magazine was meant to promote the Cause for Her canonization. In this fact, the magazine was successful. Under former Vice-Postulator Deacon Ronald Boyer’s leadership, from summer of 2007 to Fall 2019, the official word came from Rome that Blessed Kateri would be canonized.

During this editor’s time, there were challenges and questions about the purpose of the magazine. Some community members in Kahnawake thought the magazine achieved its purpose, therefore shut down the publication.

Even the name of our bank account, ‘Cause of Kateri’, seemed outdated. This worker and others kept the name, with the purpose now to make the world aware of our North American Indigenous saint. This worker and magazine’s technician and photographer have countless stories of new readers, pilgrims and tourist and visitors passing through the territory, wanting to know more about St. Kateri and have some prayer time at her shrine in historic St. Francis Xavier Mission in Kahnawake.

Various institutions of all kinds appreciate the Kateri medals, books about her life and her inspiring story of love for the Holy Family, and care for the elders and the children. Today as a Saint, She is connected as a patron Saint of the environment and ecology.

Though the magazine will end, the websites dedicated to Saint Kateri and to Her Shrine at St. Francis Xavier Mission will continue

as a resource for inquiring tourists, visitors and pilgrims.

The “Kateri Center” was a key player to developing the present day Saint Kateri Tekakwitha Interpretive Center, which is nearby the Shrine, collecting pictures, texts and artifacts suitable for all ages, even those with a research theme.

This editor thanks all the contributors of articles and pictures over the years. Thank you to the Jesuits of Canada who gave us office space within the last year.

Please consider signing up for their beautiful *Canadian Jesuits* magazine for free. The most recent issue features St. Kateri and Indigenous content across Canada.

Also, this editor asks readers to consider exploring the file of Nicholas Black Elk, a Lakota Sioux traditionalist and Catholic catechist, who has grassroots support for his cause to be canonized. This editor heard from different sources that Black Elk contributed funds to the ‘Cause of Kateri’ during his lifetime, feeling that he should support one of his Indigenous sisters. Perhaps through St. Kateri’s intercession, Black Elk may also become an Indigenous saint.

Lastly, please be assured that St. Kateri’s Feast Day in April and Canonization anniversary in October will always be covered in pictures and texts on our website.

My elders say that when one door closes, like the cessation of activities of the ‘Kateri Center’, another door inevitably opens and provides opportunities. It is in this fact of life that one can anticipate blessings to come. As of December 1st 2025, we will cease all operations, only the website will remain. For more details, please see pages 12 and 16.

**Do take advantage of our promotion in the ‘order form’ in the middle pages and on our website.**

**Kateri was canonized on October 21st 2012. We will celebrate her 13th upcoming canonization anniversary either on the 19th or the 26th of October. Please verify with the Mission.**

God bless,

-Tom Dearhouse, Editor and Director

PS : The ‘Kateri Center’ which was created and managed by the Jesuits from 1948 till 2007 also published the KATERI magazine.

## OUR NEW POPE LEO XIV



Pope Leo XIV - Cardinal Robert Francis Prevost  
267th Pope - Elected May 8, 2025 - Born September 14, 1955 - Age 69

Lord God, guide and pastor of all the faithful, look kindly upon your servant Leo XIV, whom You have chosen as Pastor at the Head of Your Church; grant him the power to serve by word and example those he leads, and thus to attain eternal life with the flock You have entrusted to him. Through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God forever and ever.

He succeeds Pope Francis. His election has raised questions about the future of LGBTQ+ inclusion in the Catholic Church, especially given his past remarks on homosexuality and societal influences related to it.

About marriage: Marriage ‘not an ideal but the measure of true love between a man and a woman, a love that is total, faithful, and fruitful.’ and families are the cradle of the future of humanity. He cited Pope Paul VI’s 1968 encyclical *Humanae Vitae*, noting that conjugal love ‘makes you one flesh and enables you, in the image of God, to bestow the gift of life’. He has publicly reaffirmed the Church’s teaching on **sacramental marriage** (A sacrament is an outward sign instituted by Christ to give grace, serving as a vital part of Christian life and worship), rejecting the notion that cohabitating couples share in its grace. Quoting *Familiaris Consortio* by St. John Paul II, Leo XIV stressed the need for catechesis and faithful example, not **compromise**. Pope Leo signals a return to doctrinal clarity and a renewed defence of fidelity, grace, and truth in Catholic marriage.

**Cohabiting** couples can be enlightened to the truth and beauty of Christian marriage by Catholics who bear witness to the sacrament in their own lives. Many young people are longing for authentic relationships and guides in life, and that the soaring numbers who choose **cohabitation** instead of Christian marriage in reality need someone to show them [a better option] in a concrete and clear way. Quoting Pope St Paul VI in *Humanae Vitae*, he added: “This love makes you one flesh and enables you, in the image of God, to bestow the gift of life.”

He also affirmed that priests must be **celibate** and insisted that bishops take “firm and decisive” action to deal with sex abusers, as he gave marching orders to the world’s Catholic hierarchs.

He cares about appearance, he cares about **liturgy**. ... He talks about

the beauty of Jesus Christ, he talks about its attractiveness, the way it acts on us. This is a Pope who's steeped in Thomism. He is much more interested in a kind of evangelization that lifts up hearts, he's going to be the pope of the Holy Spirit.

His first **Latin Mass** not only highlights his commitment to traditional liturgy but also sets the tone for his papacy as he seeks to engage with the faithful in a meaningful way.

He is said to have described both the unborn and elderly as God's creatures, implying his agreement to the **Catholic stance on abortion** and euthanasia. In a Vatican address involving a number of world diplomats, the pope emphasised that the dignity of **migrants** must be respected, before issuing pleas to powerful nations to put an end to their production of life-threatening weapons.

Let us pray with and for Him!

-LifeSiteNews.com / Vatican.va

## CONFLUENTS



The weekly radio program 'Confluents' has recently broadcasted its 100th episode on Radio Ville-Marie, FM 91,3 (French station). To mark the occasion, the program featured a unique encounter with Innu author Michel Jean, a committed writer renowned for his novels highlighting Aboriginal realities. Launched four years ago, 'Confluents' gives a voice to First Peoples and their allies, presenting their struggles, their hopes and their vibrant cultures. With its in-depth interviews and authentic stories, has quickly established itself as an indispensable meeting place

between the Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal worlds.

"To foster true reconciliation, we must first understand Aboriginal realities," says Catherine Ego, a translator specializing in Aboriginal literature and co-host of the program. "In launching this project in 2021, we wanted to create a space for dialogue that reflects the diversity of Aboriginal voices," adds Mathieu Lavigne, program co-host and director of Mission chez nous, the organization that produces 'Confluents'. "This program is particularly dear to our hearts, as it brings to the general public multiple, and often unprecedented, insights into the realities, priorities, challenges and successes of First Peoples. See also page 19.

**WEB :** WWW.MISSIONCHEZNOUS.COM

**FACEBOOK:** WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/MISSIONCHEZNOUS

**X:** X.COM/MISSIONCHEZNOUS

## JUBILEE YEAR



*Father in heaven,*

*may the faith you have given us  
in your son, Jesus Christ,  
our brother,  
and the flame of charity enkindled  
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,  
reawaken in us the blessed hope  
for the coming of your Kingdom.  
May your grace transform us  
into tireless cultivators of the  
seeds of the Gospel.  
May those seeds transform  
from within both humanity and  
the whole cosmos in the sure  
expectation  
of a new heaven and a new earth,  
when, with the powers of Evil  
vanquished,  
your glory will shine eternally.  
May the grace of the Jubilee  
reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope,  
a yearning for the treasures of  
heaven.  
May that same grace spread  
the joy and peace of our  
Redeemer  
throughout the earth.  
To you our God, eternally blessed,  
be glory and praise for ever.*

*Amen*

**Jubilee Indulgence:** Special graces for the forgiveness of the temporal punishment due for sins are made available during the Jubilee Year. The faithful may obtain a plenary indulgence – remission of all temporal punishment (time in Purgatory) for sin– by meeting the normal conditions (confession, Holy Communion, prayer for the pope’s intentions, and no attachment to sin) and by participating in one of the following activities:

**Pilgrimages:** The four major basilicas in Rome are the main pilgrimage destinations, but pilgrims may also go to the Holy Land, their diocesan cathedral or other officially designated locations.

**Pious visits to sacred places:** At these locations, the faithful are to engage in Eucharistic adoration and meditation, among other spiritual practices.

**Works of mercy and penance:** The faithful are to perform the spiritual or corporal works of mercy or carry out works of penance, such as abstaining from meat on Fridays.

**Holy Doors:** The pope opens the Holy Door of St. Peter’s Basilica at the beginning of each jubilee year. Passing through the holy doors symbolizes the pilgrim’s journey of conversion.

# CANADIAN JESUITS

www.jesuits.ca 2025 | 1



## Walking with the Saints, Walking with Each Other

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in Cowboy Boots  
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The Power of  
Small Gestures  
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"I Just Want to Serve."  
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Lessons from  
Creation and Faith  
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56 COLOR PAGES IN LETTER FORMAT.  
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AT:

JESUITS OF CANADA  
OFFICE OF ADVANCEMENT  
43 QUEEN'S PARK CRES. E.  
TORONTO, ON  
M5S 2C3

## ST KATERI FEAST DAY HOMILY – APR 27TH 2025



In today's Gospel, we spoke about Thomas, the apostle who was absent when Jesus appeared on Easter evening. Even though he has been told that Jesus has risen, he refused to believe. Thomas is distrustful of stories. He wants to see, in order to believe. He wants to see with his own eyes and to place his hands in Jesus's side wound.

We are all also some kind of Thomas...we are prepared to believe, but only when we see ourselves...

Faith is trusting God, having an ever-growing trust that leads us to surpass ourselves.

Faith is not an abstract notion or an intellectual theory...

Faith is foremost an experience, a total adherence to the Person of Jesus who died and rose again for us.

Despite doubts, in the midst of difficulties of all kinds, our faith must grow, become more conscious and more mature.

We are asked to have an ironclad faith, where we stand tall, not just when things are going well, but also when they are going badly.

The best way to gauge the quality of our faith, the best barometer of our faith, is to look at and assess the quality of our love for God and our love for others.

The Jubilee Year 2025 which we are celebrating throughout the Universal Church, is intended to be 'an intense experience of grace and hope'.

Pope Francis called us to look to the future with hope and to have a vision of life full of enthusiasm that we can pass on.

The Jubilee whose theme is 'Pilgrims of Hope', is a time to reflect on this fundamental and decisive Christian virtue, especially at a time like ours, when wars, violence, famine and natural disasters are unfolding before our very eyes.

Pope Francis reminded us that hope is a 'gift' to be welcomed, but also a responsibility for every Christian.

Yes, hope is a gift, because God is offering it to us.

To hope is to actively wait for something that is given to us: salvation in God's eternal and infinite love. This gives flavour to our lives, and is the linchpin on which the world stands, despite the tensions caused by our human weaknesses.

To hope is to welcome the gift that God offers us every day.

To hope is to savour the wonder of being loved, wanted and desired by a God who does not hide in the inexpressible, but who became flesh and blood, living history and dares to share our condition.

Hope is a gift, but also a responsibility that all Christians have a duty to cultivate, and put to good use for the good of all.

## FAVORS OBTAINED, LETTERS....

SAINT KATERI DIED ON APRIL 17, 1680 (HOLY WEDNESDAY) AT THE SAINT FRANCIS-XAVIER MISSION NEAR MONTREAL. FIFTEEN MINUTES AFTER HER PASSING, TWO JESUIT BLACKROBES WITNESSED THE CHANGE OF SAINT KATERI TEKAKWITHA'S COMPLEXION AS IT BECAME CLEAR AND WITHOUT BLEMISH, AS WAS HER SOUL. PRAY FOR HER INTERCESSION WHEN YOU ARE RIDICULED OR SICK OR SHOULD YOU SUFFER THE LOSS OF YOUR PARENTS OR FRIENDS. PRAY TO HER ALSO IF YOU ARE IN EXILE FROM YOUR HOME. SAINT KATERI TEKAKWITHA WILL ASK JESUS TO CONSOLE AND HELP YOU.

M.L. I hope you are well. I just returned from Nutashkuan and Unamen Shipu (La Romaine) and I wanted to thank you again for all the materials you donated just before my departure. The medals and prayers to Kateri were a great success in Innu territory. Several elders asked me for five, even ten medals to distribute to their families. One father even told me he gave them all to his son, who has substance abuse problems. I wanted to tell you that these items are already making people in Indigenous communities happy. With all my gratitude, - Mathieu Lavigne - Director Mission Chez Nous.

G.T. To the Kateri Center Management, For the numerous medals bearing the image of Saint Kateri Tekakwitha, pictures, prayers, biographical books, and magazines, graciously given to us by the Kateri Center:

- The parishioners of Saint John the Baptist Church for their young people in catechism classes
- The Focolare Movement (Ideal of Unity) for the GEN (New Generation)
- The St. Kateri Tekakwitha Wolf Pack

We are deeply grateful to you! Thanks to your generous gesture, they will be able to discover the treasure that is Saint Kateri Tekakwitha, the breath of the Holy Spirit in North America through the Jesuit missionaries. They will be able to become culturally aware and pray to Her for greater solidarity with the First Nations. I join them, My whole unity, (Montreal, Qc)

R.L. Enclosed is my modest donation of \$50 to the Kateri Center and to promote its work. I am aware of the potential difficulties encountered in ensuring the survival of magazines and newspapers in these challenging times. You have my full understanding and encouragement... continue your work, entrusting everything to the protection of St. Kateri. I am happy to be able to read every issue of the KATERI magazine. Please accept the expression of my most fraternal sentiments in Christ Jesus! (Cornwall, ON)

L.J. Enclosed \$100 as a donation (including my subscription). (Boucherville, QC)

Living hope means being able to discern everywhere the sprouts of hope that surrounds us.

There are many of them, but are we able to see them?

To live in hope is to see the birth of the emergence of the possible in the impossible.

To live in hope is to recognize that grace is stronger than sin.

In our everyday lives, are we witnesses of hope? Are we pilgrims of hope? In our family, in our workplace, in our community?

Today's world needs witnesses, prophets and saints to help us recognize the signs of Jesus' presence around us, and to help us to identify all the sprouts of hope that surround us.

Today we celebrate Saint Kateri Tekakwitha.

Saint Kateri dedicated her life to the service of the Lord, and is a model for us.

She was a woman of faith,

a woman of hope, she always took care of the people on her path; she surrounded them with tenderness, love and mercy. All her life, through her love of nature, she has also cared for our 'Mother Earth', and is the patron saint of integral ecology.

-Bishop Claude Hamelin

JUBILEE 2025  
PILGRIMS OF HOPE

SUNDAY, APRIL 27<sup>th</sup>  
10:45 A.M.  
1 Rd river, Kahnawake, JOL 1B0

**KAHRHATÁHTSHERA'  
ROTIHRHÁ:RE'**

*Kateri*  
**GUARDIAN OF  
MOTHER EARTH**

IAKOIA'TATOKÉNHTI' KATERI  
TEKAHKWI:THA'  
IONTATE'NIKÓN:RARE' NE  
IONKHINISTÉNHÁ' TSI  
IOHONTSA:TE'

CENTER.COM  
Saint Kateri - Longue Pointe

Love: To will the good of the other as other...

Creation & Cosmos are full of patterned intellegibility and not chaos, that is why science can do its work!

-Bishop Robert Barron

Do you believe in miracles? Well, you should. In fact, life itself is a big miracle. There are so many things that are beyond our understanding. There are two ways to live: you can live as if nothing is a miracle; you can live as if everything is a miracle.

-Albert Einstein

## HOMELESSNESS



SAINT MATTHEW 25:35-40 - IGNATIUS BIBLE VERSION

FOR I WAS HUNGRY AND YOU GAVE ME FOOD,  
I WAS THIRSTY AND YOU GAVE ME DRINK,  
I WAS A STRANGER AND YOU WELCOMED ME,  
I WAS NAKED AND YOU CLOTHED ME,  
I WAS SICK AND YOU VISITED ME,  
I WAS IN PRISON AND AND YOU CAME TO ME.  
THEN THE RIGHTEOUS WILL ANSWER HIM,  
'LORD, WHEN DID DID WE SEE YOU HUNGRY AND FED YOU,  
OR THIRSTY AND GIVE YOU DRINK?  
AND WHEN DID WE SEE YOU A STRANGER  
AND WELCOMED YOU,  
OR NAKED AND CLOTHED YOU?  
AND WHEN DID WE SEE YOU SICK OR IN PRISON  
AND VISIT YOU?'  
AND THE KING WILL ANSWER THEM,  
'TRULY, I SAY TO YOU, AS YOU DID IT TO ONE OF THE LEAST  
OF THESE MY BRETHREN, YOU DID IT TO ME!'



The Eucharist is the Source and  
Summit of the Christian Life.  
If it is only a symbol, then the  
hell with it!

-Flannery O'Connor

## URGENT - FINANCIAL ISSUES

As you know, the 'Kateri Center' which was responsible for publishing the KATERI magazine and managing also a gift shop with 2 paid employees and several volunteers was managed by: Fr Henri Béchard S.J. from 1948 till 1990, followed by Fr Jacques Bruyère S.J. from 1990 till 2007; followed by Deacon Ronald Boyer, P.D. from 2007 till 2019; followed by Tom Dearhouse from 2019 till now. It had a very faithful staff in the person of M. Albert Lazare who served as a paid manager and accountant during 61 years. His wife was also paid and assisted him in his duties during 25 years. They passed away after Kateri was canonized around 2023.

We did receive generous donations recently, but our bank position has been steadily decreasing, and we currently forecast the closure of the 'Kateri Center' on December 1st. **Our bank balance as of July 8th was \$ 5,897.28. We cannot continue operating the Kateri Center given our projected year-end deficit of -\$242.72! Also, the shipping & printing costs of this issue of KATERI have risen tremendously!**

The Kateri Center accordingly still seeks your help in donations, which are **tax-deductible**, in the form of CHEQUES only, for without them practically nothing can be done to make Saint Kateri known worldwide.

We still invoke Saint Kateri's help and thank you in advance for your future generous donations in order to continue promoting Her life, virtues and intercession with Our Lord Jesus Christ and the Virgin Mary, as well as Her impact on the whole world, this as the First Native American Saint, and this in Her 345th birthday in Heaven !

Please also see [page 16](#) for more details.

May God reward you a hundredfold !

Thanks very much

-Tom Dearhouse (Director)



## GENESIS AND HISTORY OF THE SAINT KATERI TEKAKWITHA YOUTH PILGRIMAGE

The Franciscans of the Emmanuel, including Brother François-Marie, who had been heavily involved for several years in the annual walking pilgrimage from Montreal to Cap-de-la-Madeleine, wanted to introduce young people (ages 17 to 32) to our Canadian saints, and particularly Saint Kateri Tekakwitha, by launching a 'youth pilgrimage'. From its inception, it was intended as a Church event to provide young people with a concrete experience of faith. The route always begins at a single starting point and follows the banks of the St. Lawrence River, with times for pause, reflection, prayer, and fellowship.

The first pilgrimages took place in 2005, 2006, and 2007, with approximately fifty young people led by the Franciscans of the Emmanuel. Initially, the group set out on foot from Saint Joseph's Oratory, at the tomb of Saint Brother André, to the Shrine of Saint Kateri Tekakwitha in Kahnawake, where her tomb is located. For the next six pilgrimages, in 2010, 2014, 2017, 2019, 2023, and 2025, the Monks and Nuns of Jerusalem joyfully joined and actively participated with the Franciscan Friars of the Emmanuel in organizing and leading the pilgrimage. In 2010, the pilgrimage departed from the Shrine of the Blessed Sacrament, in 2014 from Saint Joseph's Oratory to celebrate the canonizations of Saint Brother André and Saint Kateri Tekakwitha, and in 2017 from the Chapel of Our Lady of Good Help, with Saint Marguerite Bourgeois, in memory of the 375th anniversary of the founding of Montreal. In 2019, the two communities had the joy of organizing the pilgrimage, which departed from Mary Queen of the World Cathedral, in a process of communion between Saint Kateri and the Virgin Mary. In 2023 and 2025, the pilgrimage departed from Saint Joseph's Oratory and travelled on foot to the Shrine of Saint Kateri Tekakwitha in Kahnawake. We have always been warmly welcomed at the Shrine of Saint Kateri in Kahnawake, and we are very grateful to them. The young people who participated in these pilgrimages showed genuine interest and greatly appreciated this day of spiritual renewal.







# KATERI CENTER NEWS

Kateri died on Holy Wednesday: April 17th, 1680  
Kateri Feast Day celebration at the Mission: April 27th

## AS OF JULY 15TH, 2025

As per our previous issues of the magazine, individual Mass intentions (\$20/deceased) and Guild memberships (\$5/deceased) are to be **mailed to Mission Saint Francis Xavier**.

A new Chapel is in preparation in the former office of the Kateri Center in Kahnawake.

On the back page of this issue, you will find a documentary DVD that has won the prestigious CAPAX DEI PRIZE in the Vatican for the quality of its content and production, and is available for order as item DVD4 for \$20. (we have a limited supply!)

PLEASE do not give us postdated cheques as they will be returned to you !!!

Please send your donations **directly to us** via cheques and not via CANA-DON (online) The online service CANA-DON is in the process of being cancelled.

Please DO NOT renew your subscription to the magazine. Please refer to page 7 for the FREE subscription of the beautiful Jesuit Magazine -*Canadian Jesuits*- that has content on Saint Kateri and the First Peoples. The \$20 that would have been provided will instead be used as a donation, and a tax-deductible receipt will be provided end-November. Please DO NOT subscribe nor bring new subscribers to the magazine.

Please send your donation (cheques/cash only) to the following address:

Kateri Center - 25 Jarry West - Suite 111  
Montreal, QC - Canada  
H2P 1S6 - Tel: (514) 387-2541 Ext 227

For all subscriptions to the KATERI magazines that extend **beyond** 2025, we will provide a \$20 tax receipt **per year**. For those whose memberships expire this year, we will provide a \$10 tax receipt.

## AS OF NOVEMBER 14TH, 2025

Final tax receipts for all donations will be issued.

We will close our bank account.

We will close our post office box.

We will cancel our Registered Charity number.

We will give from our excessive stock, samples of our books, medals, CDs, prayer cards etc... to various religious institutions (so far we have identified 36) starting with our Diocese of Saint Jean Longueuil -DSJL-(18 churches: 15 french and 3 english); Shrines (Fonda, Lourdes, Midland), Missionaries of Africa etc... and lastly to the St Francis Xavier Mission -SFXM.

-Cases clearly marked DSJL will be available for pickup. We will contact them when ready.

-Cases clearly marked SFXM will be available for pickup. We will contact them when ready.

Donate directly online to the Shrine dedicated to St Kateri Tekakwitha at the following link:  
[//nationalsaintkaterishrine.ca/donate-to-support-the-shrine-of-saint-kateri/](http://nationalsaintkaterishrine.ca/donate-to-support-the-shrine-of-saint-kateri/)

Our accounting firm will finalize the closing entries, prepare final financial statements and perform various filings to the Quebec and Federal governments.

We will also inform the Federal and Provincial National Archives bodies of the termination of the magazine (French and English versions).

Our website will remain, and it will be updated periodically by our consultant. The domain name and storage space has been guaranteed -and paid- for the next 5 years. Pictures from the future canonization anniversaries and the Saint Kateri Feast days will be hosted there.

Some documents / objects will be donated to the Jesuits Archives.

NO new memberships / sales orders will be accepted. They will be returned to you.

NO post-dated cheques will be accepted. They will be returned to you.

ANY CHANGES (UPDATES) TO THE ABOVE ITEMS WILL BE REFLECTED ON THE MAIN PAGE OF OUR WEBSITE UNDER THE 'NEWS' HEADING.

Saint Kateri's joy...

**Period of :  
January 1st, 2025 - July 8th, 2025  
New subscribers: 7  
Renewed subscriptions: 49  
Thanks very much !!!**

# 345TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST KATERI'S FEAST DAY IN PICTURES



Bishops Hamelin & Gendron & Fr Vinh



Bishops Hamelin & Gendron



Purification ceremonial performed by  
Tom Dearhouse



At the Knights of Columbus Club  
-In memory of Albert Lazare

**"WHO CAN TELL ME WHAT IS MOST PLEASING  
TO GOD SO THAT I MAY DO IT?" - CATHERINE**

MORE PHOTOS AT:  
[//WWW.KATERICENTER.COM/index.events.html](http://WWW.KATERICENTER.COM/index.events.html)

**HAPPY  
ANNIVERSARY !!!**



## CAMP TEKAKWITHA

SHAWANO, WI - USA

*Inviting and guiding young people into a deeper encounter with Jesus Christ amidst the beauty of God's natural creation*

### DAY CAMP

*Ages 5-10*

This program gives us the special opportunity to bring the Camp experience to YOU (right in your communities)!

Sessions are hosted in local Diocesan parishes and include camp programming unique to the day camp experience for our younger campers.

### LIL TEK

*Ages 6-11*

The Lil Tek program helps ease the transition into a week at camp. Lil Tek campers enjoy all the activities of a full-week camper but stay only two nights (Sunday afternoon until Tuesday afternoon).

Lil Tek campers have the option of extending their stay to last the full week.

### LEADERSHIP PROGRAMS

*Ages 14-17*

Our leadership programs include LeaderQuest I and II, Explorers, and Counselor-in-Training - each with a different focus in leadership and outdoor adventure.

These programs are great opportunities for growth in leadership, hopefully paving the way for a future role as a Camp Tek counselor!

### SUMMER CAMP

*Ages 6-14*

Full-week campers enjoy the fun of camp from Sunday afternoon to Friday evening. Archery, canoeing, Mass, nature study, games, songs, and campfires are just a few of the activities they'll experience during the day while the evenings may include a hike under the stars, cabin cook-outs, or various other traditional camp activities.

**FIND ALL SUMMER SESSION DATES AND REGISTER HERE!**







### CONTACT CAMP TEK

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 camptekakwitha.org  
 W5248 Lake Drive  
 Shawano, WI 54166

*MISSION CHEZ NOUS is a charitable organization founded in 1993, that strives to promote Christian solidarity with Indigenous Peoples. It aims to raise awareness among the general public about Indigenous realities and encourage encounters between cultures, while deconstructing prejudice and fostering dialogue. Mission chez nous supports, both materially and morally, the Indigenous communities present on the land we now call Québec.*



-Fr Lawrence, O.P.



## “A Pious Sort of Cruelty”

### *St. Kateri Tekakwitha and the Interculturation of Torture*

SCOTT MCDERMOTT

**ABSTRACT** St. Kateri Tekakwitha (c. 1656–1680), according to her Jesuit missionaries at Kahnawake near Montréal, rapidly attained Christian perfection through severe self-mortification. Her penances bear a striking resemblance to maltreatment suffered by captives in Native “mourning wars.” Several recent scholars have addressed the possible convergence of the indigenous torture ritual inflicted on war captives and Kateri’s penitential self-torture. However, these scholars have declined to admit that a religious syncretism took place between Native and Christian practice around torture. While addressing their well-founded objections, this article suggests that the evidence of Kateri’s self-mortification is best assessed using the framework of interculturation rather than the more restrictive model of syncretism. A rereading of the evidence shows that Kateri Tekakwitha carried out a genuine interculturation, which the Jesuits tacitly approved, of the Native torture ritual as an expression of Native agency in the construction of the new mission community.

## GENESIS AND HISTORY OF THE SAINT KATERI TEKAKWITHA YOUTH PILGRIMAGE -CONTINUED

'This year, on Saturday, June 14th, 2025, we gathered on the terrace of Saint Joseph's Oratory with about fifty young people! The Lord gave us a beautiful day full of grace! Once the whole group was gathered, we prayed lauds together with a superb view of the entire city of Montreal. Then, we began the 17-kilometer pilgrimage walk accompanied by a superb animation team composed of 5 young girls well prepared and filled with love of the Lord to be able to praise Him, sing to Him, and pray to Him in all the streets of Montreal that we travelled during the walk. The theme of this year's pilgrimage was inspired by a personal phrase of Carlo Acutis that he loved to repeat: "TO ALWAYS BE UNITED TO JESUS, THIS IS MY LIFE PROGRAM." Our day's challenge was to encounter Jesus through our two witnesses of holiness who are close to youth: Carlo Acutis and Kateri Tekakwitha.

From Saint Joseph's Oratory, our first stop was at Saint Zotique Church in the Saint Henri neighbourhood. There, we had a time of Eucharistic adoration and a superb presentation on the life of Blessed Carlo Acutis by Louise Normandeau, a specialist in the future saint.

Carlo is a role model for young people; he died at the age of 15 in 2006 and will be canonized in September 2025. Carlo attended the Eucharist every day and recited his Rosary to the Virgin Mary every day. He confessed to the priest every week, and his deepest desire was to make Jesus known and loved by the world through all the Eucharistic miracles that have occurred in the history of the Church. We then walked to the Notre-Dame-de-Lourdes Church in Verdun, passing along Wellington Street, the main commercial street. It was a wonderful experience to share one's faith among so many people on the street! Many showed interest. Next came a shared meal, followed by a teaching capsule on the history and life of Saint Kateri Tekakwitha: her encounter with Jesus through the presence of the Jesuit Fathers, her baptism, her exile, her suffering, her illness, her faith, and her ever-growing love for Jesus that filled her entire life.

In the afternoon, we walked along the St. Lawrence River to the shore closest to the Mercier Bridge, where we boarded a bus to the Shrine of Saint Kateri. After the group photo, it was time for the Eucharist, the culmination of our pilgrimage, followed by prayers at Saint Kateri's tomb. It was a day rich in graces and blessings from the Lord!

Paul's testimony: Hello, my name is Paul and I'm 27 years old. I participated in this year's pilgrimage and also as a photographer. The pilgrimage reflects, on a smaller scale, the pilgrimage of every

Christian on earth throughout their lives, moving toward ever-greater communion with God. It's something that speaks to me personally, as someone who loves to walk, both physically and spiritually. What particularly touched me during the Kateri 2025 pilgrimage was the genuine dialogues I was able to have with some of them. In prayer, we were able to discuss important topics, walking side by side, free in our gaze and in our movements. The walk accompanied these confidences and made them more fluid, compared to a more formal, static face-to-face exchange; here, it was side by side. God's joy and grace were present throughout the walk and at the Shrine of Saint Kateri in Kahnawake. I was touched to see passersby happy to see us on the path singing and praying, including an elderly woman who had many questions about faith and a young man who joined us and came with us to the Shrine! A beautiful fraternal experience of young people in the Church under the gaze of Saint Kateri, who is a model of faith and perseverance for today's youth!

For 20 years, the 'Kateri Tekakwitha Youth Pilgrimage' has brought together young people to experience a day of walking and pilgrimage together to deepen their faith in a spirit of fraternity, joy, prayer, and praise with song.

Some young people sometimes feel alone in the Church, so it is important that they find groups of young people in the Church of the same age who are experiencing the same realities in their lives. This pilgrimage is a wonderful opportunity to create new encounters and to meet consecrated persons, so that young people may find a fraternity to walk toward God in the Church.

See you at the next pilgrimage, and may God bless you!

<https://franciscains-emmanuel.org/kateri/>

Please see some pictures of our pilgrimage on our website:  
<https://katericenter.com/index.events.html>



## A WITNESS IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF SAINT KATERI



Priscilla Solomon is an Ojibway Sister of St. Joseph of Sault Ste. Marie (Ontario). Her Catholic faith was inspired and nourished by her parents and relatives, as well as by the community in the small Georgian Bay town of Killarney where she grew up. In others, she witnessed deep faith, generosity, kindness and love. She felt called to live the Gospel as well as she could.

Taught by Sisters of St. Joseph, she witnessed their compassion, care, commitment and dedication to service. As a teenager, she wondered whether God was calling her to give herself totally to Him by living a vowed religious life. At the age of seventeen, she responded to God's call and entered The Sisters of St. Joseph of Sault Ste. Marie. She trained as a teacher, spiritual director and counsellor.

During the time of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, Priscilla became very deeply involved in the work of reconciliation between Indigenous people and people of Settler origins. She continues this work today. She is a member of the Our Lady of Guadalupe Circle, a Catholic coalition uniting Indigenous and non-Indigenous folk, bishops, priests, representatives of lay movements and members of consecrated life, who are dedicated to fostering renewed relationships between the Catholic Church and the First Peoples of Canada. Priscilla believes that we need dialogue, cross-cultural and intercultural work, and inculturation of faith in both our Church and our Canadian society. Seeking and speaking truth, healing, engaging in dialogue and finding ways to journey together are all important to her.

### **Kateri, in Sr. Priscilla's words**

St. Kateri, although smallpox took your parents and brother away, and left you with very poor eyesight, I know that you saw even more clearly with the eyes of your heart.

You loved and cared for your adoptive aunt and uncle by doing beautiful beadwork, weaving baskets and doing all that you could to help in their longhouse. Did you learn from them the traditional stories of The Great Law and the importance of the White Roots of Peace that grow in the four directions? (1)

Dear St. Kateri, I know you as a mystic, one who loved to be in the quiet of the land. You were present to all that surrounded you: trees, water, squirrels, wild plants and birds of the air. You knew how to find and to love God – your Beloved – in everything and everywhere. You knew the teaching of your people that all is connected.

Today, we too need to know and live this truth so that we will be more committed to protecting the land, the water and all of Life to which Mother Earth gives birth, nourishment and protection.

With Saint Francis, you are a patron saint of the environment and of ecology. Saint Kateri, pray with us that we may learn to live and work with, rather than against, all of God's creation. God chose you to reveal His love and holiness to the people in your time and place. You just as much are a saint for our times. With your help, may we reveal care and compassion in our suffering and violent world.

You were devoted to your community at the Saint Francis-Xavier Mission. You were a very close friend and spiritual companion to Anastasia (2) and Marie-Therese with whom you prayed regularly. Help us to reconcile with each other so that we may befriend others and walk this journey of reconciliation together.

Saint Kateri, pray for us. Amen.

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1. *The “Great Law of Peace” of the Haudenosaunee (also known as the Iroquois Confederacy or Five Nations, later the Six Nations) refers to a set of principles and processes that preceded Settlers. It existed before Jacques Cartier arrived at Hochelaga in 1534 and governed peace and treaties between nations. The Great Law of Peace is rooted in a vision of society where the “Tree of Peace” and its Law were planted by the Creator. This peace promotes principles of forethought, responsibility towards the natural world and future generations, as well as a desire to spread peace among nations. An in-depth analysis is available online. See Paul Williams and Curtis Nelson, *Kaswentha, Research Program of the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples*, 1995, 362 pages. Accessed February 13, 2025. Link: [https://publications.gc.ca/collections/collection\\_2022/bcp-pco/Z1-1991-1-41-114-eng.pdf](https://publications.gc.ca/collections/collection_2022/bcp-pco/Z1-1991-1-41-114-eng.pdf)*

2. *Anastasia Tegonhatsiongo was Kateri's spiritual mentor.*

## SAINT KATERI FIRST CLASS RELIC

A faithful member of the Kateri Center has sent us his precious FIRST-CLASS relic of Kateri which was originally given to his brother-in-law, Bryan Finucan by Fr Henri Béchard S.J. back in the 1960s. It is encased in a plastic container measuring 2x2 inches with the inscription **B Catharinae Tekakwitha** on a red background (see picture below). Unfortunately, I don't have the official document attesting its authenticity, but I have seen the letter written and signed by the Postulator of the Cause, Fr Paolo Molinari S.J. Bryan left me this precious relic which was a prized item for him. He was also a generous and active supporter of the 'Cause of Kateri' for years. I am getting older in years now and would not want anything to happen to this precious relic, so I am passing it on to the **Kateri Center** to prevent any mishaps after I am gone! I know that it will be valued and venerated at Her Shrine. – Jeffrey Delmotte, OSB

P.S. Thanks Tom for the lovely bronze relic you sent me as a token of appreciation for the First Class relic that I sent you last fall. I have placed it on my prayer table in my study room. Enclosed \$60 for supporting the Kateri Center. (Dartmouth, NS)

Note from the editor: This precious relic was entrusted to the Shrine of Saint Kateri Tekakwitha in Kahnawake.



**FAVORS OBTAINED, LETTERS....**  
**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9**

M.D. Enclosed \$30 to cover my subscription as well as a donation. Pray for my family (Tobique Reserve)

E.C. Promise made to St. Kateri and favors obtained. Enclosed \$300. (Montreal, QC)

R-M.T. Please ask St. Kateri to intervene in the various needs in my family: work, health, divorce... (Brantville, ON)

L.B. I was 6 and a half years old and suffering from a kidney infection. My mother gave me a seed every day that had touched St. Kateri's tomb with the insides of grapes for three novenas. On the last day of the novenas, the doctor told me I no longer had kidney infections, but he never wanted to admit it was a miracle. Thank you! (Laval, QC)

R.F. Enclosed \$100 to cover two renewals and the balance as favors obtained. St. Kateri, protect my children and grandchildren and their families. Health and Love! (St. Irénée, QC)

C.S. Congratulations on your magazine filled with interesting articles. (Roberval, QC)

P.L. St. Kateri, pray for our country so that it may return to a Culture of Life! (Chilliwack, BC)

G.P. St. Kateri: Thank you for your prayers and to all those who pray for me. I ask for the healing of my brother (osteoarthritis) and of my friend who suffers from back pain. I also sleep poorly. I promise \$10 if my requests are granted. (Pigeon-Hill, NB)

B.E. Enclosed \$20 as a favor received: healing of my granddaughter. (Val d'Amour, NB)

C.M. Enclosed you will find some funds (\$50) to renew my subscription to the Kateri newsletter along with a donation for your tireless work in spreading Saint Kateri's message of peace, devotion, and love. (Stoney Point, NY – USA)

K.A. Enclosed you will find \$50 to cover my renewal of Kateri magazine and the balance as a prayer intention for N's cancer treatment. (Hot Springs Village, AR – USA)

G.B. Dear Saint Kateri : O Saint of purity and reverence, please watch over and inspire our young and not so young girls and women to dress and behave appropriately wherever they go! It seems that the beach and/or the bedroom attire has become the normal dress...

code in our Western and Christian societies. We frequently find this disgusting lack of respect in our churches, and various modes of transportation... they are everywhere! If it is not the tattoos, it is the stinking smell of drugs on their clothes. In my parish, our priest had to place a sign on each entrance door of the church indicating *‘A proper and respectful attire is required in order to respect the holiness and sacredness of the Church’*. We find people attending Holy Mass with shorts and flip-flops... They even chew gum before receiving the Eucharist. In private schools (ie: College St-Anne in Lachine), the young girls wear a mini or a micro-skirt with the logo of their school while the young boys wear full pants or shorts that extend beyond their knees! Poor Saint Anne! There is no sense of purity nor reverence to the Temple of Our Lord, His Church. This latter issue cannot happen in the Orthodox Church as they will not allow you to enter in their premises! (Lachine, QC)



## THE CONTINUOUS WORK OF HEALING



Fr. Cristino Bouvette, a Cree-Métis priest who organized the Alberta portion of the tour, sees these saints’ stories as vital reminders of possibility. “We live under this terribly tragic and horrendous cloud of the residential school system, but that’s going back 100 to 150 years into a 450-year-long history,” he reflects. While these saints represent the best of accompaniment and

solidarity, we must also acknowledge the Church’s role in colonial systems, including residential schools, which caused profound harm by suppressing Indigenous identities, languages and spiritualities. “The stories of people like St. Jean de Brébeuf and St. Kateri Tekakwitha, and how they relate to each other, are signs to us of what has been in the past and what remains equally as possible for us now in our present.” “When we create spaces where people can be...

...continues

authentically present to one another, transformation becomes possible.” The organizers acknowledge that the tour may evoke complex emotions — from deep spiritual connection to pain and trauma. Both responses deserve space and respect as communities engage with these histories and their ongoing implications.

MacDonald believes that “healing is a continuous process where each person represents an essential piece in a greater spiritual puzzle.” “When the puzzle is put together,” she says, “it will bring a greater union with God and all humanity.” While the relics serve as focal points for gathering, the real work of reconciliation happens through the people who come together — in their willingness to listen, to share and to walk forward together.

The tour builds on a profound hunger for spiritual connection — a previous tour of St. Francis Xavier’s relic drew nearly 100,000 people across Canada. The response so far suggests similar interest, with faithful from diverse backgrounds coming together in prayer, dialogue, and healing.

This initiative represents more than a historical commemoration — it embodies a living tradition of putting faith into action for the common good. The Martyrs’ choice to remain with their Wendat companions, even in the face of danger, demonstrates how genuine solidarity transforms both individuals and communities. Similarly, St. Kateri Tekakwitha’s life shows how embracing one’s full identity — both cultural and spiritual — can create pathways for others to follow.

These saints remind us that reconciliation requires more than good intentions — it demands concrete action, genuine presence and the courage to remain engaged even when the path becomes difficult. Their examples challenge us to move beyond surface-level changes toward deeper transformation in our relationships with those who have been marginalized or excluded.

-Canadian Jesuits



## OUR GRATITUDE

Thanks to our beloved Pope John-Paul II who beatified Kateri !

Thanks to our beloved Pope Benedict XVI who canonized Kateri !

After presenting his C.V. to Bishop Lionel Gendron, our consultant was approved to work at the Kateri Center reporting to Deacon Ronald Boyer in mid-May 2012. He also collaborated with Albert Lazare and his wife.

Thanks to Salt+Light Media (Toronto), for the production of the documentary shown on the last page of this issue. It won the CAPAX DEI (first prize) at the Vatican!

Thanks to Mike Diabo, former director of the Shrine: our consultant collaborated with him by providing content (texts, pictures, videos) in the development of the *Saint Kateri Tekakwitha Interpretive Center* (2017). This was a monumental task that spanned several months, requiring planning, collaboration and various other skills.

Thanks to Fr Vincent Esprit, the former pastor of the Shrine as he was our spiritual guide and councillor. His dynamism and faith was always a source of inspiration. He provided us with several texts for inclusion in our magazine and together we elaborated a 16-month Church calendar.

Thanks to Bishops Claude Hamelin and Lionel Gendron for providing us with the texts of their homilies -during St Kateri's Feast Days and also during the Canonization celebrations- for inclusion into our magazine.

Thanks to Frs Michel Meunier and Richard St-Louis for acting also as spiritual guides during the absences of the local parish priest.

Thanks to Albert Lazare and his wife for holding the fort at the Kateri Center for so long: 61 years of dedication to the Cause of Kateri!

Thanks for the gift shop staff of the Mission for collaborating with us with our mutual gift shop exchanges.

Thanks to JHB for providing us with legal support and advice when needed.

Thanks to the various volunteers and members of the pastoral, finance and admin whom we dealt with at the Mission for their generous support and collaboration.

Thanks to M. Bernardin Houle, our late organist and choirmaster for his great performances that spiritualized all the various masses at the Shrine. He served the Mission for over 50 years!

# NEW KATERI CENTER EXHIBIT



-The Exhibit will be open from Monday July 28th till Friday August 1st, 2025 from 1pm till 4pm.

-Free admission

-All are welcome

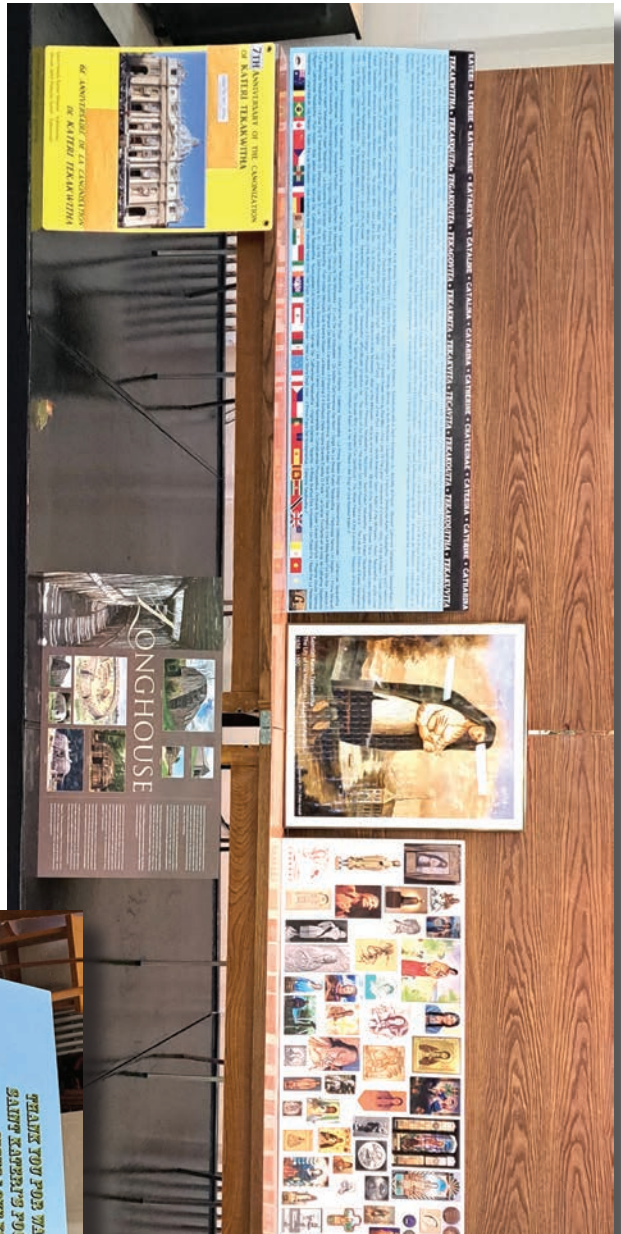
-Location:

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Kateri Center  
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Montreal, Qc  
H2P 1S6  
Tel: 514 387-2541

-Hall:

Jean-D'Auteuil  
Richard

-Free medals and booklets (French and English).



## OUR GRATITUDE - CONTINUED

Thanks to God for His Holy Priests that were at the heart of the magazine, namely Frs Henri Béchard and Jacques Bruyère, and that have led Kateri to her beatification.

Thank God for the Jesuits at Bellarmin House (Fr Gilles Mongeau) and his Provincial who provided us with free temporary space since November 2024.

Thanks to former SOCIUS (Bruce Henry) and to Teresa Rowat for opening up the archives to us in order to produce a beautiful magazine that is dedicated to God's greater glory. (*Ad maiorem Dei gloriam*).

Thanks to our longtime faithful editor: Mrs Liliane Kahil, who did her best in editing our English to French translations and to our faithful and generous long time benefactors and subscribers.

Thank God for giving us the privilege to discover in our correspondence, God's miraculous interventions and divine favors attesting to Saint Kateri's intercession in the lives of many of Her kin and devotees from around the world.

Thank God for the 3 Jesuit priests (Frs Pierre Cholenec, Claude Chauchetière, Jacques De Lamberville) that witnessed God's favor in Catherine (later becoming Kateri) Tekakwitha. They were her spiritual guides and documented her life since 1676 as part of their yearly reports to their superiors in France, otherwise we would **not** have a *Saint Kateri to celebrate*; she would be a total unknown to us and only God's secret!. These reports were compiled in the Jesuit RELATIONS publication.

Thank God for the Jesuit Postulators in Rome (Fr Paolo Molinari, S.J.) who documented and examined in detail all aspects of Kateri's life in a document entitled POSITIO while detailing God's favors to humanity (healings and the final miracle), and producing the proper official Vatican documents in order for the various Popes to proceed with the required steps leading to Kateri's canonization in 2012.

Our consultant (Gabriel Berberian) thanks God for having thrown him into the world of the First Nations, and discovering St Kateri who interceded for him during his two major surgeries (kidney cancer and brain tumour). He is still with us and has faithfully served the Kateri Center for more than 13 years. He became Her archivist and photographer under the initial direction of Deacon Ronald Boyer!

Thank God for Sr Kateri Mitchell's relic (provided by Fr Henri Béchard) of Saint Kateri which was instrumental in obtaining the final miracle -healing of young Jake Finkbonner- required in order to canonize Kateri!

## PRECIOUS SOURCES OF CATHOLIC FORMATION LINKS ON THE INTERNET



Eternal World Television Network (in 7 languages)  
[www.ewtn.com](http://www.ewtn.com)



Life Site News  
[www.lifesitenews.com](http://www.lifesitenews.com)



Quebec-Life Coalition  
[www.en.cqv.qc.ca/](http://www.en.cqv.qc.ca/)



[www.grossesse-secours.org](http://www.grossesse-secours.org)  
PREGNANCY-HELPLINE - Tel: - 514 271-0554



Catechism of the Catholic Church  
[www.vatican.va/archive/ENG0015/\\_INDEX.HTM](http://www.vatican.va/archive/ENG0015/_INDEX.HTM)



Salt+Light TV  
[www.slmedia.org](http://www.slmedia.org)



Kateri Native Ministry of Ottawa  
[www.katerinativeministry.ca](http://www.katerinativeministry.ca)



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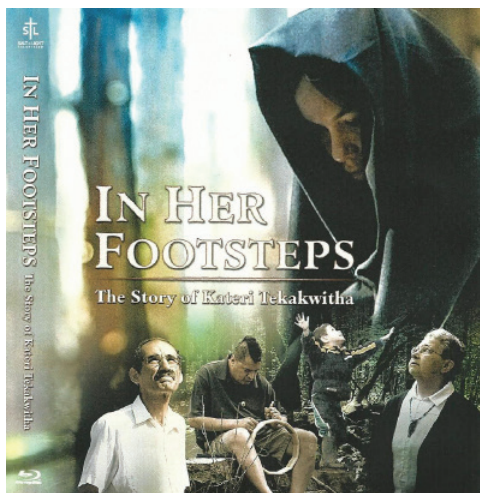
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