

THE LILY OF

*Fairest flower that ever*



THE MOHAWKS

*bloomed among true men*

VOL. V, No. 1

OCTOBER, 1940

### OUR FIFTH YEAR

The monthly Message with this October number begins its fifth year. It is the only periodical that follows every step in a Cause for the beatification and canonization of a Servant of God. This it has done for the purpose of developing a proper veneration for Kateri Tekakwitha, 'Lily of the Mohawks.'

Veneration for Servants of God consists not merely in invoking them to intercede for favors, whether temporal or spiritual: that is only one way of manifesting veneration, and not the most perfect way. The most perfect way is by paying them the tribute of knowing and imitating their virtues, making them known to, and inducing, others to do the same. This will be one of the themes of this Message during the coming year.

Another theme will be treated under the title: Glimpses of Heaven. Comparatively little is ever said or written about Heaven; still we cannot properly venerate those whom we piously believe to be there without trying at least to know something about their state.

In this way "The Lily of the Mohawks" will help its readers to act more intelligently on the article of Faith, known as Communion of Saints.

Since in November the Congregation of Rites will examine the Virtues of Tekakwitha to consider whether they should be declared heroic from a theological view-point, all should pray that their decision may be favorable. Already the Historical Section of the Congregation has expressed the opinion that the documents concerning Catherine justify such a decision, but this further step is necessary to make certain there can be no possible doubt about it.

Pray also that the Vice-Postulator may be fortunate in presenting proofs of the apparent miracles attributed to the saintly Indian Maiden.

In the November Message our readers will be informed about the sessions on the Virtues and what these virtues are.

### Communion of Saints

The *Apostles Creed* we repeat so frequently and so familiarly that when we say 'Communion of Saints' one fears it is too often said with only a vague notion of its meaning—communion between those who are with God, His saints in Heaven, and those who

are His children still here on earth, but striving to live a saintly life.

Tekakwitha knew about the Blessed Virgin, Saint Joseph, Saint Aloysius and other saints whom the missionaries made known to their Indian wards, and she communed with

them, tried to imitate their virtues, found inspiration in their example, invoked them, and urged others to do likewise.

'The Saints' was the name which St. Paul addressed to the first Christians, as cleansed from original sin, as fortified by holy sacraments all through life, as constant attendants at sacred ceremonies and instructions, as suffering for their faith, many of them ready to suffer even unto death.

If the Apostle were living today, he would, I have no doubt, use the same name for all who are living according to the will, the law of God and the precepts of the Church. We speak with rapture of The Little Flower. Are there not millions of Little Flowers? They may not have had the same early training, the extraordinary divine favors, the blessing of life in the seclusion of a convent; but out they are in the world, pure, brave, self-sacrificing, long-suffering, charitable, devoted to family and friends, facing temptation, even scandal, and still innocent.

Countless men and women, young and old, breathe the air of moral contagion and still walk in the way of God as if they were of another world, heart and soul immune from contamination here.

No doubt a proper humility restrains us from adopting St. Paul's title, but there is also a false humility which makes some feel that it is impossible to deserve it. All too common is: "I shall be happy if I get to Purgatory." Well and good, but heaven is our proper goal, and it should be our aim.

In Holy Mass we pray, after the Consecration, for "some part and fellowship with Thy holy Apostles and Martyrs (naming several) and with all Thy Saints, into whose company we beseech Thee to admit us, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses." Thus we look forward to communion with saints as if it were to be after our pilgrimage here, while we profess our faith in such communion whilst we are still here.

Now to hold communion with any group of persons is to know them well, their good qualities, merits, habits, virtues, and their good repute among their fellows. For communion with the saints, many helpful books have been written.

Fortunately what has been written about Tekakwitha is plentiful and considered by the Congregation of Rites as historically correct. It is this we hope to present in this LILY OF THE MOHAW' s the coming year.

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#### HELEN WINIFRED ZIMMERMAN

And now, talking about heaven and communion of saints, September 10, Feast of St. Nicholas of Tolentine, in whom she took rightful pride, in the parish under his patronage, a true child of God departed this life after a lingering illness during which she never complained, but kept acting bravely, pleasantly, even wittily up to the last. Her uppermost concern was the comfort and pleasure of others.

For twenty-five years Helen Zimmerman had been associated with me in various capacities, for The Catholic Encyclopedia, and in many ways for the Cause of the Jesuit Martyrs of North America, now Saints Isaac Jogues and Companions, and also for the Cause of Tekakwitha. Witnessing her last hours all one could think of is: "Suffer little children to come unto Me, for of such is the Kingdom of Heaven." Those who stood by were entranced by her appearance as the end drew near and consoled by it.

Her life and death were beautiful, and her Requiem a triumph. "To her, O Lord, and to all who are resting in Christ, allow the realm of refreshment, light and peace!" (Canon of the Mass.)

JOHN J. WYNNE, S.J.



## FROM OTHER CLIMES

"The knowledge of Kateri continues to grow in Jamaica. Recently a play about Kateri was staged in Kingston by school children under the direction of the Sisters of Mercy. Please pray to Kateri for me and for my work, especially that I may get funds to complete my new school which will have accommodations for three hundred children."

—Linstead, Jamaica, B. W. I.

"I had a letter this morning from my sister in Western Australia. I sent her all the leaflets I had, so she started to give them around and tell about 'the Little Queen of the Mohawks.' Mother M. Augustine put her new community under the care of 'Little Catherine.' My sister's address is: Mother M. Brigid, Presentation Convent, Bottenal, W. Australia."

—Pineville, La.

For a model Life of a Servant of God commend any one you know to read *Mother Elizabeth Ann Seton*, by Mary Coyle O'Neill, Litt.D. It is brief and yet has every salient fact; it is finely illustrated and it is printed so as to make it a delight to read.

On Sunday, September 8, Feast of the Nativity of Our Blessed Lady, the 260th anniversary of the death of Tekakwitha was observed at Auriesville, her birthplace in 1656. On the following Sunday, Feast of Our Lady's Seven Sorrows, it was observed at Fonda, where Tekakwitha was baptized.

## AN EARNEST PETITION

"Some time ago I recommended two very sick priests of this diocese to your prayers for a complete cure. The cases have been pronounced incurable by doctors, and we are very eager that Kateri may be accredited with obtaining the cures for us. Both are young and very worthy." —Columbus, O.

## GROUP INTEREST IN KATERI'S CAUSE

A Sodality of eight sends its mite.

Two non-Catholics contribute each a dollar for Kateri's Cause.

Sodalist interest in Tekakwitha is spreading—two dollars from the Sodality of De Sales High School, Geneva, N. Y.

One who sends a contribution from eleven friends of Little Catherine reports three signal favors received through the intercession of Catherine.

"I am enclosing donations of \$4.00 to meet the expense for making Tekakwitha better known. Please pray for all who contributed and please send me a story of her life and also some leaflets to distribute to my friends."

—Marywood Seminary.

"Enclosed find Five Dollars (\$5.00) for the Cause of Tekakwitha. This money was collected by the pupils of my class, the little Kateri Tekakwitha Lilies. Three of the children gave a dollar and the others gave from their candy money. I will ask you to be so kind as to send pictures or medals as an encouragement to these little ones to keep up their interest in Tekakwitha."

—Infant Jesus College, Gretna, La.

Very recreant would it be for a Jesuit to omit in any publication like this mention of the confirmation by Pope Paul III of the Society of Jesus on the 27th of September just 400 years ago. It was that sacred approval that led to the sanctification of thousands of Tekakwithas in every part of the world, and, thank God, is doing so still.

"Just recently we erected an exceedingly beautiful statue of the Indian Maid in our convent park on a hill overlooking the lake. The statue is snow white of a marble and cement composition, and is sculptured very beautifully.

"Among our last class of invested Novices, one is named Tekakwitha."—Springfield, Ill.

"Thanksgiving for finding lost money."  
—Guadalupe, Mexico.

"I am enclosing an offering for a Mass of thanksgiving to 'Kateri' the Lily of the Mohawks."  
—La Salle, Ill.

"Through her intercession we have gained many favors among which is a transfer in business to a more favorable location."  
—Missoula, Mont.

"A note of thanksgiving for my father's relief from arthritis after a Novena to Tekakwitha."  
—Detroit, Mich.

"Enclosed is a check for \$5.00, an offering towards the Cause of Kateri Tekakwitha. We had prayed that the Lord would send us some money. This He did and we are giving a widow's mite as a donation."  
—Cincinnati, O.

"The first had to do with hospital insurance which covered a certain case, and the second was the lowering of the tax assessment on our house by \$1,000, which is a great financial aid to us."—Pittsburgh, Pa.

"In March my baby had pneumonia; when taken to the hospital his temperature was 107.4 degrees and the doctors had no hopes for him. The Sister in charge placed a relic of Tekakwitha on the child—his temperature dropped to 101 degrees and today he is a picture of health."  
—Baltimore, Md.

"August fifteenth I asked Kateri at my morning prayer to help our church in a financial way. At two o'clock that day a lady brought an envelope containing one hundred dollars for the church as a donation; about four o'clock my assistant handed me twenty-five dollars, a penitent's conscience money, for the benefit of the church. Since then an unexpected donation of forty dollars for buying candles was received, and two large personal gifts were sent to us pastors."  
—Pastor, Portsmouth, O.

"Just a note to enclose \$1.00 for Mass in honor of our Kateri, thanking her for a good position, and earnestly begging her that the work will be permanent, as there is an opposing party. The young lady is an Osage Indian, who is a devout Catholic and is an advocate for our Lily of the Mohawks."  
—Pawhuska, Okla.

#### ADDITIONAL FAVORS

Cure .....	1	Relief in Distress .....	4
Positions .....	2	Property Sale .....	1
Financial Aid .....	5	Not Specified .....	37

#### PETITIONS

Cures .....	12	Relief in Distress .....	6
Positions .....	6	Examinations .....	1
Financial Aid .....	7	Sell Property .....	1
Not Specified .....	30		

#### OBITUARY

Miss Helen Zimmerman, New York.  
Miss Alice Martin, Cleveland.  
Mr. Alfred J. Tormey, Baltimore.  
Mr. Michael Francis Girten, Chicago.

#### TO MAKE TEKAKWITHA KNOWN AND LOVED

(Prices include postage)

Sketch by our Apostolic Delegate ..... 5c. a copy  
Life, by Wynne, 64 pages, 3 illustrations... 20c. a copy  
Leaflets with prayer and remarkable favors  
5c. each; 20c. a doz.  
Novena Leaflets ..... 5c. each; 20c. a doz.

Tekakwitha book-marks ..... 10c. a doz.  
Pictures, colored, large ..... 13 x 10 in., 40c.  
" sepia, small ..... 5 x 3 in., 5c.  
Pictures, colored, silk applied to her relics, 5 x 3 in., 10c.  
Medals ..... Oxid. silver, 15c.; aluminum, 5c. a doz.

REV. JOHN J. WYNNE, S.J., V. Postulator of Her Cause  
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