

THE LILY OF

Fairest flower that ever



THE MOHAWKS

bloomed among true men

VOL. VI, No. 2

NOVEMBER, 1941

Progress of Tekakwitha's Cause

About a year ago, November 26, the first session of the Congregation of Rites was held to consider and examine the virtues of Tekakwitha. This means that statements about these virtues prepared by the Advocate for her canonization were considered, as well as the objections raised by the Promoter of the Faith. As our readers know, the result of this session was entirely favorable.

This year, on November 18, a second session will be held to examine further into the virtues of this Indian Maiden and, if favorable, as there is good reason to expect, a third and final session will be held early next year.

The object of all this inquiry is to establish not merely that the virtues were practiced in an ordinary but in an extraordinary manner; that Kateri was firm in their practice in spite of difficulty even to the length of persecution: in other words, heroic, and heroic to such a degree, that once this fact is established we may style her Venerable.

SOMETHING NEW

To satisfy the wish of many priests and of teachers in our schools, a card, nine by six inches in size, has the prayer for the canonization of Tekakwitha in large type and also the invocation: "Lord Jesus, glorify Thy Servant," etc. A medallion of her with the

title, "The Lily of the Mohawks," is at the top of the card which looks very well printed in blue. Beneath is the legend: "The prayers may be recited after, but not during, any liturgical service, in classrooms, or at sodality and other meetings."

NEW EDITION OF LIFE OF KATERI

Recently there has been such a demand for the brief *Life* of Tekakwitha, that a new edition was needed and it is now ready under the same title and at the same price as listed on page 8 of this message. Though brief, it is complete enough for a beginning. A longer *Life*, by the same writer, is now in preparation and very likely it will be ready for the new year.

MORE THAN A SUGGESTION

Will you please send me a plaque of Catherine, a picture with cloth relic and a few medals, say twelve. We are having our Corner-stone Laying, Sunday, October 26. I would like to place some of these in the stone and put all our Faith and trust in Catherine to help us in our work and bring in the necessary financial resources.

The pastor of this new church makes Tekakwitha known by radio broadcasts.

—Erie, Pa.

HOLINESS IN AMERICA

A remarkable collection of documents is now being circulated among the members of the Catholic hierarchy in this country. It is entitled, "Martyrs of the United States of America."

The number of these martyrs is 111. For each the time and place of martyrdom is given, with such details as can be well established, and in nearly every instance, a brief account of the life, virtues and high repute of the martyr's virtue.

Beginning with the proto-martyr, the Franciscan, Juan de Padila, in 1542, the array of men and women in our land who were put to death because of hatred of their faith extends to 1921, from Portland, Maine, to the Vicariate Apostolic of Alaska and in twenty other dioceses, North, South, East and West.

Among the *Heroes of the Faith*, to use the title of Father Marion Habig's book, were 64 Franciscan priests and 5 brothers; 8 Jesuit priests, 3 brothers and 3 novices; 2 Dominican priests and 1 brother; 5 priests of the Propagation of the Faith; 4 secular priests and 1 Sulpician; 7 laymen; 4 Indian men and 2 women; and notably the venerable Archbishop Seghers.

In the annual conference of our hierarchy in 1939, His Excellency John Mark Gannon, of Erie, Pa., proposed that the prelates assembled should request the Holy See to authorize a common Cause for the canonization of these Martyrs instead of several Causes for each individual or group. To make certain as possible that all these Servants of God really suffered martyrdom, and that during their lives and since they were, and have been since, esteemed for holiness, scholars familiar with the facts concerning them were consulted, with the result that this series of documents has been collected and sent with the petition of our hierarchy to the

Cardinal Prefect of the Congregation of Rites, His Eminence Cardinal Salotti. The petition bears the signature of His Eminence Denis Cardinal Dougherty as chairman of the session at which the petition was voted.

DEATHBED REQUEST GRANTED

"Enclosed please find M. O. for \$5.00 in thanksgiving for a request granted my sister (died August 9, 1941). This was a money matter and was granted after my sister made the novena to Catherine Tekakwitha, how long after I do not know; my sister was in the hospital when this request was granted and she thanked God for it; it meant a great deal to her. She died ten days later. She asked me to mail this to you. Have you any literature about Catherine Tekakwitha? I had never heard about her until my sister told me."

—Anaconda, Mont.

FORTUNATE MONTREAL

Montreal is fortunate, and so are many neighboring cities, in being near enough to the Tomb of Kateri to go on pilgrimage to it in this fine Fall weather. The Tomb itself is attractive and so is the pastor of St. Catherine's Church, just opposite, Father Bouvette, S.J., for the attention he gives to the pilgrims. How very enduring is the memory of Tekakwitha!

IT WAS CERTAINLY WELL DONE

"I will tell you what she has done for us. My constant prayer has been to be free of debt. With the depression coming on, we were caught in the whirl, so we had a pretty hard time. We managed to hold our home although at times it seemed impossible. Well, we are free of debt. My husband was transferred from Peoria to Chicago. We sold our home in two weeks for cash. Got a lovely apartment and near to a fine Catholic high school."

—Chicago, Ill.

TEKAKWITHA'S CLIENTS

PEACE AT KATERI'S BIRTHPLACE

"Since my visit last summer to the Auriesville Shrine, where I experienced the indescribable peace of God, I have tried to spread devotion to Kateri Tekakwitha, hoping that she will soon be beatified."—Philadelphia, Pa.

SOLVING THE PROBLEM OF VOCATIONS

"It is a great joy to me to be able to tell you that since our last letter to you on this subject, in January of this year, God has been pleased to increase our Congregation by nineteen vocations, with a twentieth expected on the Feast of All Saints. For this great blessing, Reverend Father, I feel that we are indebted in great part to the powerful intercession of the Jesuit Martyrs and Catherine Tekakwitha.

"I would gladly have you publish this favor, dear Reverend Father, as I promised to have it published to promote devotion to your saintly Jesuit Martyrs and the Cause of the 'Lily of the Mohawks.'"

—M. M. KATHARINE, Cornwells, Pa.

FROM FAR-OFF ALASKA

"Enclosed you will find \$4.00 for the benefit of the Cause of Kateri Tekakwitha. You see, I promised to send you \$4.00 if I passed my X-ray test and a dollar more if I work again. I spent some time in the hospital, with pulmonary T.B., and when I was discharged I started in to work without resting, but I prayed to Tekakwitha that if I passed my X-ray exam I'd write a long letter and send \$4.00 with it to you. The other day my report came back and I'm all right. I'm also Prefect of the Tekakwitha Sodality at high school. I am hoping that Tekakwitha keeps on helping me. If she becomes a Saint, our Sodality is getting a picture of her for our church—St. Rose of Lima in Wrangell."

—Klawack, Alaska.

"A neighbor of mine had a son who, after being missing for five days, was found

drowned. All indications pointed to suicide, although the mother steadfastly refused to believe it. The Coroner's Jury returned a verdict of death from unknown causes. He carried insurance with double indemnity for accidental death. The insurance company refused to pay the double indemnity and the mother refused to accept the other. The day I received the leaflets from you I met her and she told me of her trouble. There seemed to be no solution as neither side would agree to a settlement. I gave her the prayer to Tekakwitha and she said it faithfully every day. I think it was about a month after that the insurance company telephoned her they would pay her the double indemnity."

—Alameda, Cal.

FROM PINGTICHUAN, CHINA

"I am happy again to tell you about new favors obtained through the intercession of Tekakwitha. Besides the special and visible protection she affords us in these difficult circumstances, our Sisters related to me two cures obtained by the application of Tekakwitha's relics and a novena in her honor. A Christian girl of 14 years, dangerously ill from typhus, could not speak any more, nor eat—and her parents lost every hope of her recovery. Our Sisters began a novena in honor of Tekakwitha and applied her relic on the sick girl. Before the end of the novena she could speak and take food; in a few days she was restored to complete health.

"A woman in the same family got very ill and her condition became hopeless. Encouraged by the marvelous cure of the girl, she asked for the relic of Tekakwitha, which was applied. The Sisters, with some Christians, began a novena, and the end of the novena was also the end of her sickness.

"With the protection of our great Patroness, we have the firm hope to get through all dangers of these hard times. May I ask, too, dear Father, your good prayers for us?"

—Pingtichuan, China.

CURES

"In thanksgiving for a successful operation on my little girl." —Newport, Ky.

"Enclosed you will find \$1.00 in honor of her Cause in thanksgiving for the improvement in my husband. He is feeling well and he can work." —Port Arthur, Tex.

"I had severe attacks of the flu every year for the past few years and they always left me in a weakened physical condition for several months. Following the suggestion of one of our Sisters, about a year ago I began a daily prayer to Catherine and have not been sick a single day since."

—Clinton, Ia.

"My mother has been very ill with heart trouble, decomposition of the heart, I believe they call it. As soon as I got word that she was ill I started a novena to Kateri Tekakwitha and sent mother a relic of 'The Little Indian Saint.' She wore it every day. At first the doctors had no hope for her; she couldn't get her breath and had to be tapped two or three times. She is now on her feet for the first time in six weeks and is coming home next week. The doctors and all say it is a miracle and that they didn't think anything could be done." —Chicago, Ill.

EMPLOYMENT

"For her many kindnesses, for the position I received, and asking her to keep me employed until it is no longer necessary."

—Toledo, O.

"I came to New Haven from Ohio and not knowing anyone was quite worried about

securing a position. I asked Kateri's help and found a position very shortly."

—New Haven, Conn.

"My niece was without work and on making the novena to Tekakwitha on the fourth day she started the following week with steady employment." —Armstrong, Ia.

"Enclosed please find \$3.00. One dollar is for a young friend of mine who obtained a position through the intercession of Catherine Tekakwitha. Two dollars is for a promise I made for various favors received through her intercession. Please remember me in your prayers." —Cambridge, Mass.

"I am writing in thanksgiving for numerous favors granted, I am sure, through her intercession. Yesterday, especially, I felt certain she would give me a definite help in this matter. Last night, about 8 o'clock, a telegram came for my daughter from the aircraft company, telling her to report."

—Culver City, Cal.

ADDITIONAL FAVORS

Cures	5	Vocation	1
Employment	3	Relief in Distress	4
Financial Aid	7	Not Specified	28

PETITIONS

Cures	5	Sell Property	1
Employment	2	Relief in Distress	5
Financial Aid	3	Not Specified	10

Obituary

Miss Sylvia M. Edel, Philadelphia, Pa.
 Rev. Walter C. Kinskey, Buffalo, N. Y.
 Rev. Vincent Frech, O.S.B., Conception, Mo.
 Very Rev. Leo Gardiador, O.S.B., Sacred Heart, Okla.
 Rev. Matthew E. Downs, Whitewater, Wis.
 Rev. E. J. Houlihan, Muncie, Ind.
 Rev. E. A. Degen, East Orange, N. J.

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