

THE LILY OF

Fairest flower that ever



THE MOHAWKS

bloomed among true men

VOL. VI, No. 3

DECEMBER, 1941

The Good News

On Tuesday, November 18, the Congregation of Rites held its second session for considering the virtues of Tekakwitha. This was about a year after the first session, and naturally one may ask, why are the sessions so far apart? Why take a year examining these virtues?

In the first place, time is needed because there are so many other Causes for the beatification and canonization of Servants of God, and all these Causes are in various stages of progress, some not yet formally introduced; some awaiting the examination of virtues, and others the examination of miracles. Then, one must consider how painstaking and rigorous these examinations are, made by experts who scrutinize not only the facts and proofs submitted, but also the procedure in which they are presented and attested.

This second session is attended not only by the officials and consultors of the Congregation, but also by its Cardinal Members. In the first session, November 26, 1940, the Advocate for the Cause offered in detail proofs of the virtues of Kateri, of her faith, hope and love of God and her neighbor; of her prudence, temperance, justice and fortitude; of her devotions and pious practices—love of Our Lord, particularly in the Blessed

Sacrament and on the Cross; love of the Blessed Virgin, constant prayer, visits to the chapel and habits of penance and mortification.

All this was challenged by the Promoter of the Faith, and his challenges were met by the Advocate. For at least a month before the session the officials and consultors had all this before them in print, so that each might study it thoroughly and be capable of giving an opinion, or of suggesting doubts or questions for further examination or clarification. The opinion in favor of the heroicity of Kateri's virtues was so favorable that the Advocate was authorized to make further study and present new proofs, if any, in order to establish that her virtues are beyond question. The Promoter of the Faith, in turn, was instructed to examine the new proofs and offer such objections as he might deem fit.

Early in October the printed statements of Advocate and Promoter of the Faith were in the hands of all the members of the Congregation of Rites, Cardinals, officials and Consultors and it was on the merit of these that they gave their favorable decision.

At the third session of the Congregation, His Holiness Pius XII will be present to declare the validity of the decisions already

given, and in virtue of His declaration, Kateri will be entitled Venerable. This session, we are advised, will be held early next year.

Meantime, steps have been taken to start the examination of the miracles attributed to the intercession of Tekakwitha. There are several, but it is enough to establish two when eye-witnessed. The Postulator of the Cause in Rome petitions the Congregation of

Rites to issue Letter Patent to the Bishops of the dioceses in which alleged miracles occurred, in this case, the Bishops of the dioceses of Marquette, Michigan, and of Hamilton, Canada. These are letters of authorization to institute the Apostolic Process on the miracles. This is the last step prior to declaring a Servant of God, Blessed. Pray that it be taken quickly and successfully.

"FOR PRIESTS HELPING THE CAUSE OF
TEKAKWITHA"
(Milford, Ia.)

This call for prayers is worth a head-line.

Priests generally help to advance the Cause of Tekakwitha. Very many pray for its progress; a large number keep their congregations and especially the societies organized within their parishes informed about this saintly Indian Maiden, and about the process for her canonization; very many also do what they can to help meet the expense of this process here and in Rome; and all this they do, generously and confidently, convinced as they are of the merit of the Cause and sanguine in their hopes of the good results it will bring about.

Nor are priests our only promoters. Sisters of various congregations help devotedly, and men and women of the laity also, not Catholics only, but a good number of others who feel happy to come to know Kateri, as her tribespeople styled her: "The fairest flower that ever bloomed among true men."

THE STORY GROWS

"Several months ago I wrote you for information about Kateri Tekakwitha of whom I had recently read. I am a non-Catholic, but read all I can find of the literature. Soon after receiving the material from you, we faced a financial crisis with no solution in sight. I decided to make a novena to Kateri Tekakwitha. Immediately, from a source we could hardly believe, there came

help to us in the form of a large check. Another time since, I have asked for her intercession; the result was astounding. Thank you for sending me the literature that has resulted in our discovering a veritable fountain of help to us." —Odessa, Tex.

EVEN THE "MEDICINE MAN" YIELDS

In 1938 we needed a "medicine man" outfit for Tekakwitha, a play which our children were staging at Holy Rosary Mission School. I went to Long Wolf and asked the loan of his. He opened his trunk, took out every piece, then showed me newspaper pictures of himself standing with Governors of States and Mayors of cities. When I was ready to take the suit he objected, "I cannot do it. This is only for the medicine man." "But," I said, "it will be used only for a play on the stage." He answered, "Medicine man cannot." The next year some good Sisters in the East asked for the loan of a few costumes. Again I tried Long Wolf and told him the Sisters and children would pray for him. To my surprise he gave me his suit without objection. I am sure his conversion is due to prayers.—JOSEPH A. ZIMMERMANN, S.J., "*Wanbli Wankatuya*" (*High Eagle*), Pine Ridge, S. D.

"MEDICINE MAN" OF ANOTHER TYPE

Just had papers—LILY OF THE MOHAWKS—forwarded to me in the Bahamas where I am a medical missionary and giving missions in these Isles of June. Appreciate your

thought of me. Two weeks ago was in little *Sloop Marie* in storm for twenty-six hours, many times almost swamped. Just passed through hurricane five days ago. Violent one; sixty houses down in San Salvador and other islands as bad.

Where is my relic of Kateri? Need it in these "parlous" missions.

"I enclose a letter from *two converts*—Chief Eagle Feather, a Cherokee (Tennessee Indian), and his Squaw, the Princess Silver Heels, who is an Ottawa, the granddaughter of the great Pontiac chief of the Ottawas. Princess Silver Heels was never out of the forest till she was fifteen years old. The Ottawas were like Kateri's Algonquins. They are both Catholic converts of some three years' standing.

Send me a prayer, etc., so I may have them begin a novena to Catherine in their trials and illness. The letter gives you the reason for my wanting to have Kateri Tekakwitha help them.—REV. E. F. CALLAHAN, *Nassau, Bahamas*.

A ONE-TIME PASTOR AT CAUGHNAWAGA AND CUSTODIAN OF HER TOMB AND HER RELICS WRITES

"It was quite a surprise and at the same time a great comfort for me to receive your kind letter dated July the third. Be sure, dear Father, that my devotion to Kateri has only been fostered by my coming to China. I continue to live with her in thought and she has been and yet is of great help to me in my study of the Chinese. As soon as I will be able to get out for Apostolic work, Kateri shall not be forgotten. The "Fu-jen" Catholic University is just at our door and makes it easy to have pictures and leaflets. Let us hope that, with the return of peace, we shall soon witness the glorious day of Tekakwitha's Beatification. May our Holy Martyrs together with Kateri continue to bless you

and help you in your magnificent work."

—REV. C. M. HAUSER, S.J., *Peiping, China*.

Father Hauser helped Kateri's Cause very earnestly. He has a gift for acquiring languages. He knew Iroquois very well and was well liked at Caughnawaga. [ED.]

"My daughter desired training in an art school which was located out of this state. This seemed an impossibility. However, we both turned to Kateri for help and my girl received her training without any undue hardships. I am sure that it was through Kateri that she found her good home with the Sisters of Mercy while at school. Also while there she was threatened with the loss of the sight of her left eye. Needless to say, we prayed hard to Kateri at this time. Months later, when her doctor examined her eyes, he found that the sight had returned to normal. He put my daughter through test after test and considered it a miracle."

—Navarre, O.

"Miss D. credits the Indian Maiden for having obtained her brother-in-law's recovery from a breakdown. This man had been married fifteen years and had farmed a piece of land which he had hopes of acquiring later from a relative's estate. When the time came to sell this farm, her mother-in-law discovered that someone else, a neighbor, had put his bid in and hence he and his wife were out after all their hard work. Almost immediately he went violently insane and had to be placed in the hospital for the insane in Council Bluffs. Miss D. was there on duty and she found a leaflet and started making novenas to the Lily of the Mohawks. The patient was bad for weeks, but after about six months he was entirely cured, returned to his home and never has had any difficulty since. Miss D. lost the prayer, but said other prayers in thanksgiving."

—Council Bluffs, Ia.

"For a special favor in relation to health and position." —S. A., South Euclid, O.

"Want to express my thanks to Catherine Tekakwitha for my son successfully passing examinations." —Norfolk, Va.

"My sister was very ill with arthritis and we promised a donation to Kateri for her cure. She is enjoying better health than she has had for years." —Detroit, Mich.

"The offering is in thanksgiving we promised towards the Cause of the Lily of the Mohawks for aid in our financial difficulties." —Rice Lake, Wis.

"A young man promised me a dollar to the Cause of Tekakwitha if he could get better employment. On the fourth day of the novena he got his wish with much better pay." —Mount St. Joseph, O.

"My husband's salary was cut for three years. I never gave up praying, and on the very day it was three years, he got half of his cut back." —New Orleans, La.

"I wish to acknowledge an extraordinary favor granted through the intercession of Kateri: a seemingly impossible complicated business deal and sale of house were accomplished with her aid, for which I am very grateful." —University City, Mo.

"I had not seen a brother for 26 years. I despaired of ever receiving permission and the cost of the trip to California. I received both, also enough for companion. Spent five happy weeks with him." —Pittsburgh, Pa.

"I made the novena for a successful surgical operation and received not only that but a promotion in my husband's work."

—Albany, N. Y.

"For two years we have been trying to sell our property with no results. I was told about Kateri Tekakwitha and started a novena to her and after the completion of two novenas our property was sold."

—Wichita, Kan.

"In March of this year, I started a novena to Kateri for a certain favor. Three days later my prayers were answered by an inspiration which enabled me to carry out my plans favorably. I also received a small sum of money unexpectedly." —Denver, Colo.

"I promised publication and fifty dollars if Kateri would obtain sale of our house and lot. My husband had it in the hands of a real estate man for three months and we did not have one offer. I made a novena to Kateri with the above promise and in no time it was sold." —La Crosse, Wis.

ADDITIONAL FAVORS

Cures	2	Relief in Distress	2
Employment	4	Sale of Property	1
Financial Aid	6	Not Specified	24

PETITIONS

Cures	4	Relief in Distress	2
Employment	2	Safe Delivery	1
Financial Aid	4	Not Specified	23

Obituary

Mrs. Nora Faffney, East Malden, Mass.
Miss Catharine Corboy, Valparaiso, Ind.
Rt. Rev. Msgr. Raymond G. Jacques, Sault Saint Marie, Mich.
Sister M. Bernadette Gans, Wheeling, W. Va.
Most Rev. Vincent Wehrle, O.S.B., Bismarck, N. D.

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