



THE LILY OF

*Fairest flower that ever*

THE MOHAWKS

*bloomed among true men*

VOL. VII, No. 10

JULY, 1943

## A LEADING QUESTION

"Father, is there any way in which I can help you to get people to know and honor this little Indian girl? She means a great deal to my father and me, as she has helped us many times."

—Omaha, Neb.

This is a leading question oft-repeated.

The story of Tekakwitha inspires all who know it to do something in her honor; not to be content with a word of gratitude, or a prayer of thanksgiving, but to prove by deed all they feel toward this 'Little Indian Girl.'

**This Little Indian Girl.** In age and stature she was no longer a girl when she departed this life; but she was so by her innocence, charm that belongs to childhood.

Yes, there is much that one can do to get people to know and honor her. First and above all, pray that she may soon be further honored by the Church in being proclaimed Blessed. Soon, we say, because her Cause has proceeded favorably, but war is now slowing up things everywhere and making every human activity hazardous.

It meant a great deal for the honor of 'This Little Indian Girl' when last year she was styled Venerable, *i.e.*, when the Holy Father approved the declaration of the Congregation of Rites that her virtues were heroic. In one year that title Venerable has developed as much interest in her as it had taken several years to develop before, and of course it brought her new honor. So it is by praying that any delay in her Cause may be overcome, we are doing what is most important to have her honored.

As for making Tekakwitha better known, readers of this monthly message must have observed that for many months we have been reporting letters from friends of Kateri telling how they endeavor to show their gratitude for favors received through her intercession by making known to others her remarkable life and virtues and the blessings they have received. Similar reports appear on page 39 of this issue.

Fortunately, the means of making Tekakwitha known are plentiful and ready to hand. It is worth while listing them, and this has been done on page 40. Fortunately also the things there listed are all very simple, just as this monthly message is. The leaflets have a medallion picture of Kateri, a prayer for her beatification and for favors through her intercession, a brief account of her and of the progress of her Cause, and a few of the thousands of blessings obtained by invoking her.

The medals also, in oxidized silver, are sharp in outline and finely finished. They make a beautiful keepsake and are prized by Army men. Think of one traveling man, who makes it a point on his rounds to visit camps, distributing over 600 medals!

Readers of this monthly message know the brief Life of Tekakwitha, but they may not know that recently it has been reduced from 64 to 32 pages, still keeping the illustrations. The price also has been cut in half.

## A TRULY MOVING PICTURE

*Continuation of the preface to the Life of Tekakwitha by one of her advisers, Father Chauchetière. Our last number told about his large picture portraying her life and customs.*

In order to facilitate the explanation of this great picture, I made a small volume in which all the actions of Katharine are painted, all the cures of the sick and all the devotions which were customarily held at her grave. These marvels could not occur for a long time without shining forth, first at Laprairie and later at the Mission of Lachine. By accident, and without any design, to make Katharine known to the French, Father Chauchetière, then pastor at Laprairie, has left in a volume of the Lives of the Saints, a small booklet of the principal and most edifying actions of those whose lives were conspicuous. The Reverend Father Bruyas, having opened this book to look up the life of some Saint he could tell the savages about in his sermon, found the booklet and read it. M. Ceullerie had come that day to the Sault to hear Mass out of devotion, and did not wish to return without having greeted the Father. This politeness gave the latter an occasion to speak to M. Ceullerie concerning the paper. Both admired the spirit of God which had guided Katharine during her lifetime and blessed His divine goodness in having made known to them so great a marvel, and from this time forward the name of Katharine began to be invoked at Lachine, as had been done for over a year at Prairie de la Madeleine. The cures which had been effected through invocation in the name of Katharine, and the desire of the French to know her virtue, were the cause of a longer and clearer recital of Katharine's actions. For almost a year investigations and inquiries were made among

many people, in order to verify with surety what was reported of so wonderful a maiden.

The witnesses questioned were: the person who instructed her, her companion, her "sister," with whom she spent a winter in the wood [at the hunt], and finally, also the missionaries—especially her director. The French of Laprairie saw part of what was written about her. These and several other witnesses were employed to give credibility to the actions she performed during over two years she lived at the Sault. The priest who baptized her among the Mohawks wrote to the Fathers who were at the Mission of the Sault, describing the manner in which Katharine acted before and after her Baptism, from the time that he had first known her. From these letters materials have been drawn for the description of her life among the Iroquois.

Lastly, something incredible and heretofore unheard of, demands greater than human proof. We have just such a proof. It has existed for fifteen years, beginning after Katharine had received the Sacraments at her death. Everything she had touched, as for instance, a crucifix which was placed in her hands when she was buried, has worked cures. Her clothing, the earth from her grave, the plate from which she ate, have suddenly restored health, and the invocation of her name has relieved several people from carnal temptations.

The Bishop of Quebec paid his respects at her grave and three ecclesiastics have acknowledged the power she had of helping those who invoked her. Religious communities have asked favors of God through her intercession. The French and the savages continue to honor her, gaining profit and consolation for their souls and relief for their bodies.

"For favor granted and I promised to distribute leaflets." —E. Cleveland, O.

"I want to have the leaflets on hand to distribute to those interested." —Cicero, Ill

"I was delighted to receive your letter and want to thank you for your interest. Our Club for the young people is succeeding beyond expectation, no doubt due to the special interest of Kateri." —Philadelphia, Pa.

"I expect to give these leaflets to the Indian children attending the instructions given by the Sisters of St. Joseph, Superior, Wis., at Flambeau, Wis., this summer."

—Chicago, Ill.

"We have now in our Cloister Park guarding the Lake of Our Lady a very beautiful statue of Tekakwitha. The picture enclosed does not do it justice entirely. This is one way we have of spreading her Cause—for invariably visitors will have her story as they enjoy the view of the pure white statue against the background of green hillside."

—Springfield, Ill.

"We, the girls of the Fourth Grade of Nazareth Academy, are happy to be able to send you a wee check for the amount of three dollars. This donation is to help you in defraying the expenses connected with the great work of the Canonization of Catherine Tekakwitha. You will be glad to hear that we called one of our adopted Chinese babies, Catherine, after our little Indian Saint-to-be."

—Victoria, Tex.

"A family by the name of Garcia were in very strait circumstances—that was about two and one half years ago—now they are almost on top, everything good has come their way through her intercession.

"An old lady, must be eighty, was very sick and after all medical aid failed she stuck strictly to little Catherine. She is now well and attends to all her business by herself,

goes on buses, on busy streets everywhere. She asked me to give this testimony and gave the money I am sending. She says she could not begin to tell me of any number of smaller favors she receives, and says later if God lets her live she will send more. She is the one who wants the prayers in Spanish to promote the devotion among her family and friends."

—San Antonio, Tex.

"Just a short time ago some one asked me if in my busy life I could find time to pray for the Canonization of the 'Little Iroquois Saint.' I assured them I could for I always loved the story of her life and, when visiting the city of Montreal in 1939, I saw a wax figure representing her praying before a cross in the wilderness. I had a post card of this scene and after being asked to intercede for her Cause, I put it out and have been encouraging others to pray for her canonization. At a 'Legion of Mary' meeting Wednesday I found your little book on her life and it seemed almost uncanny to find it there since just that day I had gained a favor by invoking her. For a week I had worked hard on my books and could not find a ten-dollar error I had made. Finally one day on my lunch hour I made a promise to say ten rosaries for the 'Poor Souls' if through Little Catherine's help I should find my mistake that day. When I returned from lunch I again took up my work to find the error and found it within a short time. I am most grateful to our little Saint. I feel very close to her since."

—St. Louis, Mo.

#### UNUSUAL

"Mr. McC. has prayed daily for the past year to Tekakwitha for help in his business. He is now succeeding where others are failing and being forced out of business. He attributes this success to the little Indian Maiden's intercession. It makes me happy indeed to report this and also to forward his offering."

—Seattle, Wash.



"It is an offering from my husband for the Cause, as he received a financial favor through the prayers of Kateri Tekakwitha."

Crichton, Ala.

"I took my troubles to our good friend, Catherine Tekakwitha. Today I received a V-mail from my boy who, I believe, is in North Africa, safe and quite well."

—Baltimore, Md.

"Since invoking little Tekakwitha's intercession I have received many favors, especially financial aid from our dear Lord. Shall pray for her canonization."

—Newton Highlands, Mass.

"She has helped me twice. One time with heart trouble. I owe her a great deal and pray for her canonization very often. I feel it would help the Indian Cause."

—St. James, Minn.

"Enclosed find money-order in thanksgiving for a favor received. My son was given employment upon the close of a novena we made asking the aid of Tekakwitha and he promised to have this sum forwarded to you for her Cause."

—Belle Vernon, Pa.

"My brother also obtained a favor after making a novena to her, which makes the third favor obtained in our family through her intercession, all seemed hopeless and we are most grateful to her."—Los Angeles, Cal.

"A short time ago I invoked Tekakwitha, the Lily of the Mohawks, to help me in a matter which was giving me considerable worry, and promised if my request was answered I would send \$5.00 to help meet the expense of her Cause, and hope and pray that she will soon be canonized."

—Mankato, Minn.

"Several weeks ago or so I received a letter from my mother saying she lost her rosary—one she prized so highly—she was actually sick over it. I wrote right back and said not to worry as I had immediately sent one dollar (\$1.00) for Little Catherine's Cause (which I did) and for her not to worry as Little Catherine would find it. . . . And she did."

—Morrisville, N. Y.

#### ADDITIONAL FAVORS

Cures . . . . .	2	Relief in Distress . . . . .	2
Financial Aid . . . . .	3	Examination Success . . . . .	1
Employment . . . . .	1	Not Specified . . . . .	19

#### PETITIONS

Cures . . . . .	4	Relief in Distress . . . . .	5
Financial Aid . . . . .	4	Examinations . . . . .	2
Employment . . . . .	2	Not Specified . . . . .	20

#### Obituary

Sister Joseph, Marshall, Tex.  
Sister Mary Catherine, Dallas, Pa.  
Mrs. Thomas P. Howery, N. Y. City  
Miss Loretta M. Crowe, Chicago, Ill.  
Mr. James B. Cox, New Orleans, La.

### TO MAKE TEKAKWITHA KNOWN AND LOVED

#### LEAFLETS

- I—Medallion, prayer, sketch, favors.  
II—Novena, with daily reflexion.  
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#### LIFE

By Wynne, 32 pages, illustrated, 12c.

#### MEDAL

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