

THE LILY OF

*Fairest flower that ever*



THE MOHAWKS

*bloomed among true men*

VOL. VIII, No. 5

FEBRUARY, 1944

### Venerable Tekakwitha and Miracles

The record of favors obtained through the intercession of Venerable Tekakwitha has been uninterrupted since her death. The favors recorded of late years, and especially since she became Venerable, are more numerous and remarkable than ever. Reports of these favors, as published in this MESSAGE under the heading: A STORY NEVER ENDING, have inspired confidence in her as intercessor, developed in many a habit of prayer, not of petition only, but of thanksgiving also, and a lively belief in God as wonderful in His saints.

The favors reported are of every possible kind, cures, relief from pain, avoidance of operations, vocations to the priesthood and religious life, conversions to become Catholics and to lead a better life, reconciliations, financial relief, employment, and so on. This month's MESSAGE, like every other, publishes many a good example of these precious favors.

Nor are reports of apparent miracles wanting. These are not always published. They are first submitted to the Congregation of Rites, which, if they seem capable of proof, authorizes what is known as an *Apostolic Process*, that is, a process for examining these proofs instituted with sanction of the Holy

See. The Apostolic Process on one alleged miracle has been canonically concluded and is now before the Congregation. The Process on a second is awaiting only the testimony of the principal physician in the case, who is overseas in service. That is how war can delay the progress of a Cause for the canonization of a Servant of God.

Now veneration of Tekakwitha should not be limited to begging for favors, and fortunately it is not so limited. Indeed it is manifested in many unusual ways. Her clients have Masses offered in her honor, several have drawn or painted pictures of her, others have carved statuettes and even statues; stained glass windows and outdoor grottos are numerous; brief sketches of her life are common, hymns and poems also. Such tributes are paid even by her own people, and by some non-Catholics. Everything permissible is done in her honor. Nor is there any doubt that all who honor her are inspired to imitate her and encouraged by her heroic example to cultivate her chief virtue, holy purity.

Still in the Providence of God she is intended to act as a medium of His blessings. We should therefore invoke her to help us in our petty needs and in greater needs also, even for miracles.

The following letter is a continuation of correspondence previously published in this MESSAGE, showing how the good work helps us:

Rev. and dear Father:

Our little Indian Maid, the Ven. Catherine Tekakwitha, has again made us feel the benefit of her influence. It is nothing short of miraculous the way minds and hearts have been moved to sympathize with our diocese in its hour of need, and the liberality with which Catholics in and out of the diocese have contributed to pay off the diocesan debt. Over 12% of the capital has been paid within one year.

With sentiments of sincere and profound gratitude to our heavenly benefactress, we ask you, Rev. Father, to accept the enclosed token offering as a contribution from the diocese for her Cause.

Very faithfully in Dno.,

....., *Vicar General.*

#### NOTHING LIKE PERSEVERANCE

"For several years I have daily petitioned Venerable Tekakwitha for sufficient funds to wipe out the debt I have been carrying on my home and my life insurance. Slowly but surely adjustments began to develop in my personal affairs. In August of this year a terrific hail storm struck our city. I was able to realize enough from the repair business to wipe out the mortgage on my home completely. Sum, \$1,800." —Peoria, Ill.

#### THE V. POSTULATOR KEEPS TRACK OF RELICS

"Enclosed find check for \$3.00. I have waited to send a donation because I wanted Tekakwitha to do something for herself by helping me. I have scolded her but must now praise her.

"Last March, I was operated on for an ab-

scess in my throat. It was hindering me from swallowing and was *very* deep—right to the back of my neck. Well, I was later pronounced tubercular. The cut in my neck healed only to break out again—infection. My chest broke out in a wet rash—the doctor said it was 'bug juice.' Several smaller abscesses came in my neck which were lanced. I looked as if I had been in the war. I begged my little friend to help me and she finally has. My chest has dried up—the infection has gone and now with x-ray treatments I am almost normal. I have not asked anyone but Kateri.

"I have what seems like a first-class relic. How can I tell if it is authentic? This is how I obtained it. A former pupil of mine was very ill in a non-sectarian hospital. I asked her to pray to Kateri Tekakwitha. She said 'No'; she had no devotion to her. A few days before her death I called to see her and she smilingly told me to look on the table at the relic there. It is the one I have now. She said I could have it and I received it after her death. This girl did not want to die when I saw her, on account of her old father and mother. However, before her death she was fully resigned. This is how she got the relic. It had been left in the hospital by a Catholic some time before. As they did not remember by whom as no one called for it—the nurse gave it to this girl—because she was a Catholic. It is in a metal case like a first-class relic—it is a small particle of something, and has the words: 'Relic of Kateri Tekakwitha, Lily of the Mohawks, who lived and died in holiness. 1656-1680.'

"Father, I do not consider what has been done for me a miracle. All medical care was not useless. It has been excellent, but the healing stubborn. Nine months have passed since the operation. I do now think Kateri has helped very much—especially with the rash on my chest which ran for three months and was very distressing. It is practically cleared up."

—Wayne, Pa.

### LIKE TEKAKWITHA'S OWN DEATH

"Let me tell you now a little of Ann's last days. She entered the hospital on September 1, her eleventh wedding anniversary. When surgery failed, X-rays were tried—but were soon pronounced useless. She grew steadily weaker as her suffering increased. Toward the last week, she could not eat. On the 20th of October she told me she knew she was dying. When I asked her if she was afraid, she said she 'was not afraid to die, for she had never done anything wrong in her life.' I was with her on Saturday, the 23d, for most of the day. On Sunday, the 24th, the hospital called early in the morning to say she was sinking. I called both families and my priest brother and I and all of us were with her till the end. She knew us all, spoke to us—and answered the prayers. After noon, she could no longer speak, but remained conscious till around three. From 12 to 3 p.m. she suffered her 'agony.' She tried to answer the prayers, and on and off from 3 to 7 p.m., she gave signs that she knew us and our praying for her. A few minutes before she died, I started the Divine Praises, a prayer she loved. She gave us all a beautiful smile, then closed her eyes to this world. At exactly 7 o'clock, just as the church bells next door were ringing to call people to the novena service—and as I was reading the last words of the prayers for the dying, she went home to God. The little picture of Kateri that had adorned her dresser all during her stay at the hospital smiled down on her—my vow crucifix was tightly clutched in her hand. I feel that Kateri showed her the way to the Throne of God very soon after her leaving us. All of us who knew her could echo her own words—she 'never did anything wrong.' She had few joys and many crosses in her eleven years of married life—due to sickness. But with it all, there was a peace and happiness in their home and they were ideally mated. God had

a very definite place at all times in their plans. She won for herself in the hospital the name of a 'little saint' because of her patience—her gratitude for the smallest service—and her anxiety 'not to be a trouble to anyone.'"

—New York.

### PROMOTING THE DEVOTION

"I have called upon Venerable Catherine Tekakwitha to help me many times and have always received quick response to my requests. I certainly will try to do everything that I can to get people to know and honor her."

—East Cleveland, O.

"I would like to order a dozen Leaflets No. 1. I believe they sell at 25 cents a dozen. The money is enclosed. Will you please send these as quickly as possible as we are very anxious to distribute the leaflets. Thank you very much."—Kateri Tekakwitha Club, Louisiana State University.

"I am enclosing herewith \$1.00 for leaflets with novena prayers, to give to others, for the prayers to her were answered and request granted. We sold our property and found a better home as we wished. Am a great believer in her prayers."—Kansas City, Mo.

"Enclosed please find one dollar—for a subscription to THE LILY OF THE MOHAWKS. This I promised if Kateri would intercede for my mother's recovery from the stomach flu which she had for about two weeks. It is remarkable how quickly she helped mother, as mother's health is none too good, but we are most grateful that she is as well as she is."

—Ada, Mich.

"I made a novena to Tekakwitha asking her to help me get my old job back. I promised Tekakwitha I would send an offering for her Cause. And that I would subscribe for THE LILY OF THE MOHAWKS. I got my job back."

—Wheeling, W. Va.



"A very small offering for Catherine Tekakwitha for Christmas."

—Mt. Vernon, N. Y.

"A favor received through intercession of Kateri Tekakwitha after many prayers."

—Holtville, Cal.

"Public thanks rendered for all favors received—to the Lily of the Mohawks. May we soon call her Saint."

—Rev. T. L., Cicero, Ill.

"This is the offering which I promised in thanksgiving for the favor I received through the intercession of the Venerable Tekakwitha."

—Watervliet, N. Y.

"For years I have prayed for a certain favor to be granted, but not until I petitioned Catherine Tekakwitha was this favor granted."

—Maryehurst, Ore.

"Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha has answered my prayers again so I wish to make a small offering for the Cause and I hope that she will be pronounced 'Blessed' soon."

—Bangor, Me.

"I am enclosing a check for five dollars (\$5) as an offering toward the Cause of Tekakwitha in thanksgiving for the success of an undertaking placed under her patronage."

—Brooklyn, N. Y.

"About a year ago I had eczema of the head and face and suffered quite a lot. I asked the Little Lily to intercede in my behalf for relief, and today my recovery is almost complete."

—Burlington, Vt.

"Our car was stolen last Friday night and I besought Katherine to aid in finding it, and having it returned in good condition. The car was found on Sunday morning and to fulfil a promise I made the enclosed offering is to further the Cause of her beatification."

—Baltimore 18, Md.

"I asked for a way to be opened for my youngster to be able to attend Catholic school and she is now going. I asked for some financial help and I got a position at night which is easy and doesn't interfere with my day position. Hope this two will help Little Catherine as she has helped me."

—Houston, Tex.

#### ADDITIONAL FAVORS

Relief in Distress . . . . .	2	Cures . . . . .	5
Financial Aid . . . . .	3	Spiritual . . . . .	1
Employment . . . . .	2	Not Specified . . . . .	33

#### PETITIONS

Cures . . . . .	4	Financial Aid . . . . .	8
Safety . . . . .	10	Spiritual . . . . .	1
Not Specified . . . . .	14		

#### Obituary

Most Rev. James J. Hartley, Columbus, O.  
Most Rev. Francis W. Howard, Covington, Ky.  
Rt. Rev. Msgr. James F. Nolan, Baltimore, Md.  
Miss Mary Winters, Medford, Mass.

### TO MAKE TEKAKWITHA KNOWN AND LOVED

#### LEAFLETS

- I—Medallion, prayer, sketch, favors.  
II—Novena, with daily reflexion.  
5c. for 2; 25c. a dozen

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By Wynne, 32 pages, illustrated, 12c.

#### MEDAL

Image and title "Lily of the Mohawks,"  
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" Color, sketch and prayer . . . . . 10c.  
" Color, silk applied to relics . . . . . 20c.  
Large—in color (13x10) inches, mounted so as  
to need no frame; for class or private  
room . . . . . 40c.

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REV. JOHN J. WYNNE, S.J., V. Postulator for Her Canonization

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