

THE LILY OF

*Fairest flower that ever*



THE MOHAWKS

*bloomed among true men*

VOL. VIII, No. 8

MAY, 1944

## IN MAY OF THE YEAR OF GRACE, 1944

The May MESSAGE about Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha, this year of grace, 1944, is that devotion to her is greatly on the increase; and this increase is due not to any systematic plan to bring it about, but to the spontaneous efforts of many who desire to make her known, loved and, without undue delay, honored on our altars.

Last month's MESSAGE told about the movement of the sodalities in the archdiocese of New Orleans to cultivate devotion to her and this movement has already borne much fruit. A large number of leaflets have been distributed among the sodalists, and many of them have become members of the Tekakwitha League. This membership is particularly appropriate; because Tekakwitha was what we would style today the star member of the sodality known as the Confraternity of the Christian Family, so conspicuous for her fidelity and piety that right after her death a group of its members formed a *Band* which was named after her and which exists to this day as *Tekakwitha Guild* in Canada, and as *Tekakwitha League* in this country.

This is only one indication of increase of devotion to Kateri among older people: the increase among young people is so sudden and so extensive as to be somewhat startling.

The Girl Scouts, for instance, have become interested; the Camp Fire Girls are soon to be introduced to this model of Indian lore at its best and model of holiness also. Schools in Indian Reservations as well as in some of our dioceses have started studies of the Venerable Indian Maiden, and there is nothing spasmodic or just-for-the-day concern about the interest of the pupils, but permanency as this extract from one of our letters will show:

"During the summer we conduct a summer camp in which we stress Indian lore. We have divided our camp into four tribes. In order to make this Indian lore as Christian as possible, last summer we started an honor society in these tribes, which we named the Kateri Clan in honor of Kateri Tekakwitha. We have a similar set-up in our Boy Scouts troop during the school year."

—Canon City, Col.

### TEKAKWITHA AND HOLLYWOOD

So popular has Tekakwitha become that Hollywood has taken notice. It was proposed to make a Tekakwitha film on a handsome scale. The proposal met, of course, with disapproval. Just at present there is an incongruity between Tekakwitha and Hollywood.

## A FAVORED DIOCESE

"Enclosed is an offering to further the Cause of Katherine Tekakwitha. The Little Indian Maid has shown her favor to the Diocese of El Paso in many ways and we are grateful for her help. With the assurance also of our prayers in her behalf, I am,"

(Signed) ———, Chancellor,  
—El Paso, Tex.

## TRICKERY EXPOSED

"I asked Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha for a very special favor; about a year ago, this coming May 17, 1944, we bought a nice big ranch and we stayed till the first week of September, then the owner who sold us the ranch played a sly trick on us and took over the ranch again. Then I thought about Kateri Tekakwitha, if she would help us to win the ranch back I would send some money for the Cause; so last week the court came out that we get the ranch back again."

—Winters, Cal.

## IF NOT THIS YEAR OF WAR—

"Catherine Tekakwitha has been very good to me in pulling me out of two financial difficulties in parishes which were almost on the rocks when I assumed charge, but left them financially well off when changed. She has aided me considerably by raising my Sunday collections very high since I came here last July. I say the prayer to her three times every day and have for many years back, and have been adding that this year would see her raised to the altars of God."

—Huntington Station, N. Y.

## WHY IN MONEY MATTERS?

"Enclosed find small donation for Kateri Tekakwitha. I have tried to spread knowledge of her every place I can. I have received many favors and every one I have given her leaflets to have also received the favors they asked. Anything pertaining to

money matters seems to have her special favor. I am now making a novena to her for the favorable sale of my home. I will let you know the results." —Nutley, N. J.

## SHE WAS NOT A CATHOLIC UNTIL TWENTY

"Enclosed find a P. O. money-order for fifteen dollars (\$15.00) as part of a little promise we made if Catherine sold our farm for us up North—as we wanted to go South. She did sell it out of a clear sky. She is always helping us, and my husband, though not a Catholic, always says a prayer morning and night—while looking and meditating in front of a nice large picture of her. Another time we just did not know how we were going to pay our taxes which were due in a few days—prayed to Little Catherine and we got a surprise check just in the nick of time."

—Houston, Tex.

## PRAYER WITH PERSISTENCE

"Your letter concerning the Cause of Tekakwitha brought to my mind an instance I heard concerning a boy who wished to enter the Air Corps Service. The boy in question made application and was refused as his vision was not perfect. He went to a physician but he told him there wasn't anything he could do. The boy applied a second time and was again rejected. He was very much discouraged, and so decided to make a novena to the little Indian Maiden, Tekakwitha. He did so and at the end of the novena he then went to the recruiting officer and asked again for admission. The officer looked at him and said, 'What have you been doing, your vision is perfect now.' The boy told him he had been praying to the little Indian Maiden, Tekakwitha." —Pastor, Upper Darby, Pa.

## FAITH REWARDED

"My little girl, Patricia, took sick the 21st of February and in one week a very bad case of measles developed. After three or four

days the very high fever wasn't reduced and the doctor pronounced the case bronchial pneumonia and told me she was very ill and to watch her closely. We gave her sulfa tablets and two other kinds of medicine and prayed to Kateri Tekakwitha promising that if she would recover we would make known the blessing. Patty seemed to improve from that time forward—her appetite gradually improved, and today she is well again. My little boy, Michael, also contracted a serious case of measles and I again prayed to Kateri for him. I believe she interceded for him because although he had a severe case of bronchitis nothing more serious developed and in about eighteen days he was well again."

—Columbus, O.

#### COMPLICATIONS, BUT SOLUTIONS

"I wanted to change jobs but in order to do that I had to find a place to move to first, because the position I had furnished my living quarters. I prayed to Tekakwitha asking her to help me find both job and living quarters if it were for my good. In three days I had both the position and apartment and both are the best I have ever had. The position doesn't pay any more than the other one did with the apartment, but it is much more desirable and I have a grand place to live. Little Tekakwitha has not only answered every prayer but has given me more than I expected in these past four years. In my next letter to you I am going to send an offering from my boss. Her husband was losing his eyesight; the doctors told him it was just a matter of time when he would lose his sight. They are not Catholic, so I told her I was going to pray for him. So I started and the second day after I did someone told him to try another doctor who was very good. So he went up there on the 11th of March. I spoke to the doctor and he said he could save one eye, but would not give two cents for the other one. Last night the doctor came to

the shop and said, 'Do you know I have a surprise for you? The eye that I thought I could not do anything for has responded to 50% and the other eye 80%.' So not only has she answered all I have asked, but granted favors for others I have prayed for."

—Houston, Tex.

#### TEKAKWITHA ALSO WAS PROTECTED

"The enclosed is for the continuation of my son's membership in the Kateri League. Last year, when he asked me to enroll him he was in the Parachute School. He completed the course successfully, and after further training was sent across. He returned to the States last February, and after a few days came home for a 30 days' furlough, for which we have been glad and grateful. Being Indian, the boy is darker than the other boys in his outfit; and once while in combat he was mistaken for a Jap by one of his own buddies and was almost killed. Because my son was talking American English the other boy was doubtful and then came along their officer who ordered the boy to put his gun down. I think of our Venerable Katherine and Our Father whenever I think of that incident, and just know our Catherine interceded for him, and that God was good, and loved him. Just the fact that he returned safe and whole in mind and body—well, that he returned at all, makes me feel humble and grateful. The medal you sent him went through all the battles with him, as he wore it with his dog tags."

—Pawhuska, Okla.

"I am enclosing a small amount and ask that you send me some prayers to circulate devotions to the Lily of the Mohawks. I have been praying to her for several years and have asked her guidance for young girls who were in danger of marrying non-Catholic men. Catholic husbands have been found for several of these girls."

—Jacksonville, Fla.



"Dear Father: I wish you the best of health and I want you to know I am still receiving favors from our friend, Kateri."

—Brooklyn.

"Enclosed find five dollars for the Cause of Catherine Tekakwitha. This is in thanksgiving for temporal favors received through her intercession."

—Columbus, O.

"Enclosed please find \$5.00, a donation to the Cause of Kateri Tekakwitha in honor of and for the benefit of Father Heiermann, S.J., formerly of the University of Detroit High School."

—Detroit.

"To further the Cause of Tekakwitha, I am enclosing check for \$25.00 in thanksgiving for financial aid received by the parish through her wonderful intercession."

—Thorp, Wis.

"We indeed in many ways, both large and small, know our prayers to her are heard. Perhaps this little offering may help to further the steps to have her named Saint."

—Scranton, Pa.

"After repeated effort to secure help for the office, owing to general conditions and freezing of WLB, I started a novena to Catherine asking guidance of the Holy Ghost—was successful in obtaining a young lady."

—Detroit.

"Please accept this offering in gratitude for the recovery of an infant nephew from pneumonia. Please remember my husband in your prayers. He has just entered military service, but I'm sure his great faith in Catherine Tekakwitha will guard him."

—West Hartford, Conn.

"Enclosed is check for \$6.00, which I promised 'Little Catherine' if she granted my favor, and have it published. I have never asked her help that she hasn't granted it the day after the novena is finished. The answers come so sudden, they almost frighten me."

Carrollton, O.

"I am enclosing a dollar according to a promise I made for the success of a certain undertaking which I had placed under the auspices of Tekakwitha. I shall encourage others to solicit her aid whenever I can, and hope we shall soon have the happiness of hearing of her canonization."

—Buffalo.

#### ADDITIONAL FAVORS

Cures .....	3	Relief in Distress .....	1
Financial Aid .....	1	Not Specified .....	16

#### PETITIONS

Cures .....	5	Safety .....	12
Financial Aid .....	7	Not Specified .....	20

#### Obituary

Rt. Rev. Msgr. Edward P. Graham, Canton, O.  
Brother Baldwin, Barrytown, N. Y.  
Sister M. Angela, Chicago, Ill.

### TO MAKE TEKAKWITHA KNOWN AND LOVED

#### LEAFLETS

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

5c. for 2; 25c. a dozen

#### LIFE

By Wynne, 32 pages, illustrated, 12c.

#### MEDAL

Image and title "Lily of the Mohawks,"  
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#### PICTURES

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