

THE LILY OF

*Fairest flower that ever*



THE MOHAWKS

*bloomed among true men*

VOL. VIII, No. 11

AUGUST, 1944

## GOOD NEWS FROM AURIESVILLE

As it does with everything else, the war interferes with pilgrimages, except for our troops when they are near enough famous shrines overseas, or celebrated places of worship as in Italy, in Rome especially, and now in France.

Lack of train, auto and bus service made it impossible to have the usual large pilgrimages to Auriesville the past two years, but this year the Director of the Shrine of Our Lady of Martyrs there is much encouraged by the steady advent of small groups to the holy place, week-days as well as Sundays.

To make good the deficit of funds needed to meet expenses, some generous friends have contributed and enabled Father Coffey to make needed repairs on the favorite open chapel and meet the interest due principally on the great round church which accommodates as many as ten thousand worshippers.

It is Tekakwitha's birthplace and no doubt, like the martyrs who shed their blood there, she prompts devout souls to help sustain its hallowed precincts and attract pilgrims who love its peaceful atmosphere and pray there for our dear ones at war and for speedy peace.

## A GIFT WORTH WHILE TO AURIESVILLE

Ellen Walworth, of pious memory, wrote a most readable and entertaining book on Kateri Tekakwitha. She had access to every important document concerning the Lily of the Mohawks and she was familiar with the ground here and in Canada where the saintly maiden dwelt and the story and customs of her people. Quite as much as Cooper, this good lady popularized Indian lore, especially what pertained to Mohawk religious belief and practice. More than anyone, except Father Felix Martin, she labored to reawaken

interest in Kateri and to start the movement for her beatification. She was a witness at the Process for this.

Miss Walworth died soon after publishing the second edition of her book. Very generously, her niece, Clara Walworth, has turned over to Auriesville the copyright and plates of this precious book to Tekakwitha's birthplace, Auriesville, and, please God, as soon as war restrictions permit, we shall have a third edition of it. The second edition, published in 1926, was soon exhausted.

## FROM A DEVOTEE OF KATERI

Spokane, Wash.,  
July 2, 1944.

Dear Father:

It is a long time since I have written to you, but you have been, as ever, in my thoughts and in my prayers. I trust that you are well and having a pleasant summer. Sister Bridget sends her regards to you.

I have been for a month with Father Taelman on the vacation school circle among the Indians. It was the greatest pleasure, you may be sure, and devotion to Tekakwitha is very much alive. Among the Upper Spokanes, the children remembered the play they had produced last year in her honor. One little boy said they often talked of her at home. His sister's conversion may have been aided by this. In '43, this girl absolutely refused to prepare for her First Holy Communion although she was fifteen years old. One day when her grandmother was trying to persuade her to attend religion classes for two weeks, the girl shook her violently and screamed, "I don't want the Blood of Christ in my veins, I can take care of myself." She was like one possessed. She did, however, come to the church for the First Communion of her brother on the last day. Imagine our amazement this summer to have her attend faithfully every day in the best of dispositions. She received Our Lord and was confirmed the same day, being in fact, the star in responding to the Bishop's questions. Father's prayers and sacrifices account for this in great part, no doubt. He often invokes Kateri for a people whom he considers almost accursed. The Pentecostals have a resident missionary and this increases obstacles.

Among the Lower Spokanes the Kateri Club is flourishing. All the officers with one exception are there. We had several meetings, and spirits were high over the reception

of \$132.00 in back wages on Tekakwitha's death day, April 17. This was a debt of large proportions for the Indian women, and due to bookkeeping difficulties, as you may remember, the blame could not be placed on anyone definitely. We've been praying to Tekakwitha for a year and a half to solve the puzzle. I finally thought of checking with the company, and it was found that the proper number of invoices had not been sent. I was so grateful that there was no dishonesty among the Indian managers, and now the club is cleared and money ahead for incorporation. Orders for craft work come in constantly, but the women are cautious about accepting many until their business organization is more solid. At last we have excellent officers who are right on the ground, unhampered by distance or outside objections. They decided to break up the intertribal meetings until after the war and concentrate on the strengthening of the individual KATERI units. Finally, I helped them secure legal and business counselling in their own locality, and now I can sit back and watch them grow with my main goals won.

The Catholic action possibilities through Kateri's club are better than ever. The officers are taken from both Presbyterian and Catholic leaders, and it is interesting to note that club experience has made them outstanding supporters of their own church activities. It has broken down much rivalry and bitterness, and Father Taelman considers the contact it gives me with the members so important for his missionary work that "you should be allowed to make two or three trips a year over here from Great Falls." Being a mere matter of fifteen hours' train travel, that is something!

The manager and a director are pillars of the Presbyterian Church, but their grandfather was the best Catholic in his tribe long

years back, and they are now married to Catholic men. Sadly, their mother would not let them nor their children be raised Catholic. The men in the picture have been a sorry sort as far as demanding their rights is concerned. The little church has been two years without a minister, so perhaps, with Tekakwitha enlightening them, they will see the Better Way. Please pray for this. They are excellent women, and the fact that they have not been lured into far away expensive war work is one indication of their stability and good sense.

I am hoping to carry on a religious correspondence course through the Indian parents this winter. Father wants to keep up the vacation school stimulus. It seems to me if I can reach the children through the parents it will aid both, and fill a desperate need of the times—bolstering American homes. I am grieving again this summer over fifteen Indian girls in the city jail on moral charges. We must find ways of keeping them on the reservations and strengthening parental authority. It may be only a coincidence, but not one of them is a daughter of our active KATERI members.

Please help me thank the Mohawk Venerable for her almost visible support, and my own spiritual grace of the past year. Take care of yourself and let me know how you are.

Ever gratefully,

SISTER PROVIDENCIA.

Tekakwitha worked another wonder at Irapuato. Mr. Luis Z., brother of the president or chief at Irapuato, and his wife, Mrs. Joana Echeverria Z., send to you an offering. They were in danger of losing a wheat harvest. They called on Kateri for help and they say it was like a miracle. The reapers had not finished cutting and gathering the crop when there came a hard rain and they thought the wheat would be spoiled and lost. The next day Mr. Luis went to see the field

and wondered that the wheat was in perfect condition."  
—Mexico.

"It was the custom of our former Provincial Superior, Mother Mary Mildred, whose term of office ended last October, to send an offering of gratitude towards the fund for the canonization of Catherine Tekakwitha for each postulant who entered our Novitiate. The practice seems to have been blessed, for the number of applicants increased during the time it was in vogue. For that reason and also because of our present need for more sisters, I am enclosing a check of eight dollars for the furthering of the Cause of the Lily of the Mohawks. Eight postulants were admitted for the February entrance. Our next entrance is in July so I ask you to remind Tekakwitha of our petition and to hurry and send us some postulants if she finds the plan acceptable."

—Seattle, Wash.

"Enclosed please find five dollars my nephew sent me today asking that I send it to New York for the Venerable Tekakwitha in answer to his prayers to her to be returned to the U. S. A. He is the boy, Father, I sent you an offering for a medal of Tekakwitha. I wanted him to have it before he was shipped and due to an oversight in your office it arrived too late. However, he did receive it some time later in a hospital base somewhere in the Pacific, and I do thank God his life was spared, although he was wounded. He is still in a naval hospital and has been since February 13, and just a few weeks ago was returned to the States. Guess, Father, you understand how very grateful he was. I'd like you to know he received the Purple Heart. We don't know how badly wounded he was, but please say one special prayer for him, and if I am not asking too much will you acknowledge this so I can send him your little note. He is a Catholic, and as you know I am not, so I'm sure encouragement from you would please him."—Cincinnati.



"She has again answered my prayers and brought my two boys home safe from another trip."  
—Charleston 1, S. C.

"A friend asked me to send this for the consolation she gets through the prayers of Venerable Tekakwitha." —Covington, Ky.

"I am enclosing an offering to help promote the Cause of Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha. I obtained a great favor through her intercession."  
—Brooklyn, N. Y.

"I enclose check for \$1.60 to be applied as follows: \$1.00 in thanksgiving for financial aid received through intercession of the little Lily of the Mohawks; the rest for the monthly message."  
—Pierre, S. D.

"Again I asked Catherine Tekakwitha to intercede for me and my request has been granted. A thanks offering for her Cause is enclosed."  
—Troy, N. Y.

"Enclosed find money order which is an offering for the Cause of Venerable Tekakwitha, in thanksgiving for favors received through her intercession."—Bellevue, Pa.

"This offering is in thanksgiving to Catherine Tekakwitha for a favor received a few days ago through her intercession; I have received many favors."  
—Long Island City, N. Y.

"I asked Kateri to find a position for me in my former line of work. I applied at well-known company and my application was accepted, even though they had no vacancy. Ten days later I was sent for, offered a full-time position, at a much larger salary than I had ever received. I promised to send you this in honor of Catherine from my first week's salary. So today I am fulfilling that promise. This is not the first time she granted me a favor."  
—Malden, Mass.

"I am writing to you to let you know what a great favor Kateri Tekakwitha, Lily of the Mohawks, did for me after a very painful operation, June 5. The doctor told me he had to operate again as proud flesh had grown close to the cut. I had prayed and promised if I didn't have to be cut again that I would write to help her canonization. I do not have to be operated on again, but please pray for me so my operation can heal soon; it is very sore and painful."  
—Thibodaux, La.

#### ADDITIONAL FAVORS

Cure .....	1	Vocation .....	1
Financial Aid .....	4	Not Specified .....	20

#### PETITIONS

Cures .....	5	Safety .....	10
Financial Aid .....	2	Relief in Distress .....	5
Not Specified .....	25		

#### Obituary

Most Reverend Edward J. Hanna, Rome, Italy

### 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,"  
special metal, 15c.

#### PICTURES

- Small—with sketch and prayer ..... 5c.  
" Color, sketch and prayer ..... 10c.  
" Color, silk applied to relics ..... 20c.  
Large—lithograph in color, 12½ x 8½ inches,  
mounted so as to need no frame; for  
class or private room ..... 50c.

Prices include postage  
Reduction on quantity

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