

THE LILY OF

*Fairest flower that ever*



THE MOHAWKS

*bloomed among true men*

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## TO ALL FRIENDS OF THE LILY, A YEAR OF PEACE

Communication with Rome, or with Vatican City is still limited. For three years no word has come directly from Rev. Charles Miccinelli, Postulator for the Cause of Tekakwitha in the Holy City.

Recently our newspapers and radio stations have announced that the Cause for the canonization of Tekakwitha is nearing a conclusion, and that miracles attributed to her are to be soon investigated by the Congregation of Rites. About this time of the year the Congregation drafts its program of the Causes that are to be considered during the following year. Thus we know that, despite the impediments of war, our Cause is still progressing.

The Apostolic Process on one apparent miracle was completed and reported to the Congregation over a year ago. The Process on another is still awaiting the testimony of the principal physician in the case and of another important witness both overseas in service.

Clients of Tekakwitha should pray that some way may be found of obtaining the testimonies needed as soon as possible.

Speaking of prayer, praise is one great element of it and we praise God by the very fact that we beg favors of Him with confidence. We honor Him as All powerful.

The more therefore we beg of Him the greater is our faith and the greater our praise.

When moreover we invoke one of His special Servants to intercede for us we still increase our act of praise by implying that He is wonderful in His saints, all-powerful enough to bestow on them such favor as to help us obtain what we ask through their intercession.

That is why we should not hesitate to ask for great favors, even for miracles, for gifts that are beyond every human power, for peace when war is at its worst, for health when all human remedies fail.

And when our petitions are granted our thanksgiving is still a supreme act of praise. As we say in the hymn "GLORY BE TO GOD ON HIGH" . . . "We give Thee thanks on account of Thy great glory."

Many clients of Tekakwitha are having Masses offered in her memory, or in her honor, as they express it, to hasten her canonization. It is a most appropriate tribute. She loved, one might say revelled in, the Holy Sacrifice. Never missing one of the three or four Masses that were celebrated daily in the mission chapel, even in the winter season when the cold was intense, and always preferring to be near the altar-rail than near the stove that gave at least some heat, slight as it was.

## THE LILY AMONG THORNS

To appreciate the heroic Christian virtue of Tekakwitha we need to have some estimate of the character of her Mohawk people, of their beliefs, customs, habits, and apparently hopeless corruption.

Of imposing stature and fine features, they made their faces and bodies hideous by the coloring matter they extracted from roots, bark and fish. Quick to see and hear even at distances, they were swift at running, cautious in moving about in wood and on water, not easily fatigued, but slothful, averse to work or effort of any kind except for or when at war, hunting, fishing and dancing.

They had a vague notion of spirit, but this was their Manitou of sky, sun, birds, beasts, reptiles, to whom they paid homage. They offered human sacrifices to Areskoue, a god of war. They seemed to believe that their dead existed after burial, and at intervals of ten years or so they honored them by assembling their bodies in one great plot and providing them with food—their Feast of the Dead.

In practice their belief took the form of demonology. There was a demon everywhere and of everything, of war, sickness, death, in forest and lake, in the homes of the missionaries, in the little casket in which Father Jogues left his cassock, breviary and altar utensils for which they slew him. They believed most of all in their dreams. Whatever they dreamed of that they must have, whether it be awls, scissors, knives, bells or needles. A woman dreamed of a black gown, and was ill until she got from the Dutch the one left by the missionary Father Ponce. A boy dreamed of a French dog, and his aunt must walk to Quebec, 400 miles, to satisfy his desire.

These superstitions were encouraged by their medicine men, who acted as physicians in time of illness, as diviners for interpreting dreams, as sorcerers, pretending to bring

about cures and other favors by extra human means. These medicine men were the enemies of the missionaries, who saw through their deceits and they made the Indians believe that the Christian faith brought on all their miseries, plagues, storms, and blighted harvests.

Their code of morals was the seven deadly vices. In pride they were supermen; in their feasts they were gluttonous beyond all measure; crazy for liquor, some traveling as far as 300 miles for a few pots; and man-hunting in order to feast on human flesh; in anger, cruelty for them was a virtue; they taught their children to delight in torturing their captives, and their children would kill themselves rather than submit to restraint. They gloried in impurity; it was open, shameless for women as well as men; for young as well as old. To have a maid for their crop feast, they had to choose one six years old.

Such were the Mohawks among whom our Lily had to grow, and there was no escape from it all. In cabin as well as in the open there was no such thing as privacy; and the acme of Kateri's heroism was to stand persecution from these human fiends who envied her for her very virtue.

### AN ELECTION AND PRAYER

"Enclosed is in thanksgiving to Tekakwitha for her part in helping Dad win the election and in preserving his health under the strain. He really enjoyed a triumph with a 40,000-vote majority. Mother writes that she thanks Kateri every day for his good health. They returned to Washington, D. C., this week, and the Congressman has special orders from me to do his part in killing that compulsory training bill."

—Great Falls, Mont.

Still no Tekakwitha medals, but they are in process.

## TEKAKWITHA IN EVERY FIELD

### WHAT NEW ORLEANS CAN DO

"I have been appointed chairman of a committee to assist Mother Xavier in her pageant depicting the life of Tekakwitha. It will be presented to the general public in the Municipal Auditorium on March 19, 1945. This will help us in promoting the Cause."—Rev. Vernon P. Aleman, New Orleans, La.

### AN EXAMINATION AND PRAYER

"My son, Edward, who was at an advanced navy school, had to take a test, which he hardly expected to pass. He wrote and told me that one hour before the test he received a letter from me, containing a reliquary of Kateri Tekakwitha. He said he kissed it and placed it in his wallet and said the prayer to Kateri which he knows so well. To his surprise he passed with very high marks. Since then he has been promoted to petty officer and is now at a Naval Air Station in Florida. He will be nineteen years old on November 27."

—Brooklyn, N. Y.

### BUSINESS AND DEVOTION

"Enclosed find a small offering to further the Cause of little Tekakwitha—and will you enclose my intentions as right now I am in need of a favor. She has been so generous to me in the past, I am truly grateful. Our mutual friend first told me of her. He is devoted to her and as I am a buyer of rosaries in a large jewelry shop I am in a wonderful position to further devotion to her. I have given out every medal and leaflet you sent me. I hesitate to ask for more, but I can certainly use them—I have about 200 customers a day. If you could send some I shall see that they are well distributed. Please ask little Kateri for this one more favor for me and thank you, Father."—Arlington, Mass.

### GRACES OUTWEIGH SUFFERINGS

"At last you are to receive back your precious relic of Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha.

Our Blessed Lord did not see fit to answer our long continued prayer by a cure of my dear sister, Effie (Mrs. Charles H. K.), but did He not grant something far better when, just shortly before her death, she said, 'Well, it has been a year more or less of suffering, but the graces and blessings far outweigh?' This was an immense consolation to me and I thank little Tekakwitha for her share in it. We had so earnestly hoped that this miracle might be a big help to Tekakwitha's Beatification, but God's Holy Will be done. Thank you so very much for all your kindness and especially for lending us the relic, which we are returning with deep gratitude by registered mail."—Towson, Md.

### ANTICIPATING CATASTROPHE

"You will be pleased to know that in August I had the most successful fair in the history of the Country Missions and the success was due to our mutual friend, Kateri. I was deep in debt due to the building of three churches and so was praying to Kateri to make the function a success. I distributed leaflets among the people and asked them to say the prayer daily. When the party was over we had netted almost £291, which is five times as much as a good country fair brings. I must also give credit to our Blessed Mother for keeping the rain away. It had been raining all week and up to midnight before the fair. The non-Catholic people thought we were foolish to go ahead, but we went ahead and had a beautiful day of sunshine. Twenty days after the party we had a very bad hurricane which did over £500 damage to my mission. Where would I be now if it had not been for the fair! Please pray to Kateri for me, dear Father, that she will send me the money to repair the damage done by the hurricane and to proceed with the plans for my mission."

—Linstead, Jamaica, B. W. I.



"Enclosed find check in thanksgiving to Kateri Tekakwitha; she is truly wonderful."

—Broussard, La.

"I promised to send one dollar a month for a period of one year if I obtained a raise in my salary."

—Hartford, Conn.

"Enclosed is a small offering which I promised in my prayers to Tekakwitha in thanksgiving for a favor received."

—Philadelphia, Pa.

"It is my offering for the Cause of Catherine Tekakwitha as I received two financial favors through asking her prayers."

—Mobile, Ala.

"Enclosed is an offering for the Cause of Catherine Tekakwitha to thank her for favors which I ascribe to her intercession."

—Bayfield, Wis.

"I was granted the favor I asked from the 'Lily of the Mohawks.' I wish to have a Mass said for her Cause for my good intention."

—Iron Mountain, Mich.

"Enclosed is offering for favors received through the intercession of Katherine Tekakwitha. I pray to her daily for my intention, and she has done many things for me and my family."

—Salix, Ia.

"Am enclosing offering for Mass in honor of Tekakwitha's Cause; also \$1.00 to cover two dozen each No. 1 and No. 2 leaflets for distribution in thanksgiving for her interces-

sion in selling a flat which has caused us a lot of unhappiness."

—Detroit, Mich.

"Mother had a fall a couple of weeks ago and I promised to enroll her in the League if she was able to walk. She is now walking with crutches and is improving rapidly."

—Raceland, La.

"Please accept the enclosed to further the Cause of the 'Lily of the Mohawks.' I have a lot to be grateful for to Kateri Tekakwitha. In fact, I have obtained anything, or, should I say, everything, I asked her."

—Carteret, N. J.

#### ADDITIONAL FAVORS

Cure .....	2	Property Sale .....	1
Employment .....	3	Financial Aid .....	7
Examination Success .....	1	Relief in Distress .....	4
Not Specified .....	50		

#### PETITIONS

Cure .....	4	Relief in Distress .....	7
Financial Aid .....	6	Not Specified .....	40

#### Obituary

Most Rev. John A. Duffy, Buffalo, N. Y.  
 Rev. John J. McAllister, Grand Rapids, Mich.  
 Rev. John A. Lynch, Livermore, Cal.  
 Rev. John F. Mongovan, Adams, Mass.  
 Rev. Joseph McMahon, St. Louis, Mo.  
 Rev. Arthur McGuinness, Blissfield, Mich.  
 Rev. Charles Augustine, O.S.B., St. Benedict, Ore.  
 Rev. C. H. Cloud, S.J., Detroit, Mich.  
 Rt. Rev. Msgr. Charles J. Finnegan, New York  
 Rev. Edward M. Farrell, Montclair, N. J.  
 Rev. Mother C. L. Martin, Washington, D. C.  
 Mr. John Charles Coney, New York  
 Honorable Alfred E. Smith, New York

### 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

- Small—with sketch and prayer ..... 5c.  
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 " lithograph, color, silk applied to reliqs. .... 20c.  
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