

THE LILY OF

Fairest flower that ever



THE MOHAWKS

bloomed among true men

VOL. IX, No. 7

APRIL, 1945

A NOTABLE CENTENARY

The church of the Saint Francis Xavier Mission, at Caughnawaga, Canada, was built one hundred years ago. This is the mission in which our Venerable Tekakwitha spent the last years of her life. The mission was then situated about four miles below its present site near the Lachine Rapids. It is the sixth church that was built for the Iroquois, principally their Mohawk people, since they sought a Christian refuge in Canada in 1667.

This century-old structure is quite different from those that preceded it. They were all of wood and necessarily of flimsy construction. This one is of brick, and it stands on a slight promontory overlooking the St. Lawrence within sight-seeing distance of Montreal. The interior is quite attractive, the altar an urn-shaped importation from France; and the services are as solemn and impressive as anywhere else, the choir chanting the Mass in Iroquois harmoniously as trained Indian voices can.

True to Indian fashion the celebration will be civil as well as religious and it will last a good part of the year. Beginning May 20, the anniversary of the laying of the cornerstone, there will be commemorations during the summer and autumn which will end on the Feast of Saint Francis Xavier, December 3, the day on which the church was dedicated and the altar consecrated.

The Indians of Caughnawaga expect their people of various other missions to join with them in thanking the Father of all for the blessings which in His good Providence they have received through the medium of their church.

ANNIVERSARY — GOOD NEWS

April 17 is the anniversary of the death of Kateri Tekakwitha. Some day, soon we hope, it will be her Feast Day as one of the Blessed in heaven. Apropos of this wish, it is a pleasure to report that the instructions received from Rome about obtaining the testimony of witnesses to the second miracle attributed to Tekakwitha are being followed. The witnesses in military service have been located and the tribunal is interrogating them in due form by mail. Pray that all may go well.

AT LAST — MEDALS OF TEKAKWITHA

Now in process are Tekakwitha medals of special metal, which it has taken us nearly a year to get. The war restricts the use of certain metals, but the war is not to blame for this unreasonable delay. Taking advantage of the war, certain manufacturers have been unreasonable, but through the kind offices of a dealer in religious articles we have at last succeeded in getting what has been in great demand for our men, or, should we say boys, in service.

MAY IT BE SOON!

"I have promised Tekakwitha a monthly offering until she is canonized, or longer, if I am able, for the return of my health and help in other matters."
—Cornwall, Pa.

WOULD IT WERE SO FOR ALL!

"A soldier-friend of mine was seriously wounded on the European battle-field. I made a private novena to Catherine Tekakwitha for his recovery with the intention of notifying you if the request were granted. He seems now on the road to complete recovery. So, here is my note of thanksgiving."
—Wernersville, Pa.

GOOD FOR THE FIFTH GRADE

"I am a fifth-grade student at St. Boniface School in Sister M. Vitalis' class. She told us of your need for money to meet expenses for making Tekakwitha better known. Danny M., another boy in my class, and I are sending you this money for this purpose."
—Evansville, Ind.

PROVIDENCE

"Through her intercession my prayers that my brother-in-law would receive a furlough before being sent overseas were answered. His receiving this furlough enabled him to bring my sister and their small son home, who otherwise would have had to remain alone on the West Coast for quite some time before being able to obtain transportation."
—New Orleans.

OLD AND YOUNG

"Mr. D. has had serious trouble with the veins in his legs. It meant giving up the work he had always done if he was to get any relief. He got a position where he is off his feet more and much better financially. We also feel our prayers to Tekakwitha had much to do with the safe arrival of our little daughter, who is now two years old, and, thank God, a healthy, happy, little girl."
—Scranton, Pa.

KATERI AND HER OWN

"Three times in the past, we had recourse to the intercession of Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha, when we were somewhat in a desperate situation, and every time our petitions were granted almost immediately. The subject of the favor thus obtained is our boys' supervisor. Every time his health became so bad that there seemed no hope for him to continue his work, we had recourse to the Venerable Kateri, and his health improved suddenly. We had promised to have these favors published in your 'Monthly Message,' but neglected to do so. I hereby do repair for my neglect. We are anxious to see the day when Venerable Kateri will be proclaimed patron of our Indian schools."
—St. Paul, Alberta.

A MOVING STORY

"The following favor I obtained for someone who was in dire need of help; this is the story: Just a few days before the District Court adjourned for the Fall session, and just a few hours before the Court convened for the day, I was approached by the lawyer whose defendant, one of my young parishioners, had pleaded guilty to forging checks—six heavy counts against him, and whose sentence would have amounted to at least five years in the State penitentiary—that I should come to the rescue of this young man, asking the Court to be lenient and let him off with a five years' suspended sentence. This was a mouthful to ask and I was convinced that it would be useless even to try to approach the Court unless someone very dear to me would obtain this favor, namely, Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha. I spoke to the District Attorney, the Sheriff and finally the District Judge, all of whom had set their hearts on the young man paying the penalty. Praying between acts to Venerable Kateri, and promising I would have it published in case I would succeed, I kept up pleading with the Court which at last gave the young man

a five years' suspended sentence and paroled the young man to me. I am positive that this was nothing but the work of Venerable Kateri. I am constantly in debt to Venerable Kateri for the many favors she has obtained for me." —Pastor, V., Tex.

AN HONEST DOCTOR

"On September 16, 1943, my father, who was seventy-eight years of age, developed pneumonia. As a result of the drug and treatment given him he was extremely ill for weeks and the doctor stated that he would not recover. As I returned to my father's room, after the doctor left, I placed all things in Our Lady's hands, begging her, that if God wished Kateri Tekakwitha's canonization, she ask her Son to grant my father's recovery as an indication of this wish. I then went into my father's room and placed the picture with the little piece of silk touched by the relic, under his pillow. Within twenty-four hours my father had regained consciousness and showed a change for the better, and in forty-eight hours the doctor told us that we could hope for his recovery, stating at the same time that he could not get over it—that it was not anything that he had done—that it was just a miracle. While his comeback was a slow process, my father fully recovered.

"During the summer of 1944 I noticed some swellings or lumps and accompanying symptoms which caused me concern. I arranged to have an examination and again asked Our Lady to ask her Son to grant that I had nothing that could not be cured, as a further indication of His wish for Kateri Tekakwitha's canonization. The examination developed that the lumps were nothing serious—did not require even treatment and would never become malignant. The symptoms were from an entirely different cause which medicine cleared up promptly. I regret not having reported them more promptly." —Philadelphia.

AND HOW THEY TRUST IN HER

"Our little son, John, who is not quite five years old, has been suffering from an allergy since he was fourteen months old. At one time his whole body was covered with sores due to scratching which caused infection. We finally, after several doctors gave him up, got a doctor who gave him shots in his legs which relieved him somewhat. This went on for three years. Last summer he had a new attack that broke out on both legs from hips to toes. He was a pitiful sight once more. My husband and I became despondent as we had offered prayers and novenas and now it looked as though he were going right back to where he started. One night while I was sitting with him wondering what to do next, I happened to think of a statue of Tekakwitha which my sister received as a gift from her husband's family who had visited Kateri's shrine. I went to her apartment, got the statue and gave it to my son to hold. He talked to her as if she were in the flesh. It was pathetic to hear him, in his childish way, ask her to make him better. After searching almost all over Pittsburgh we finally got him a statue of his own which he takes to bed with him every night. It has been three months now since he has had a shot, and thank God his skin is healthier now than it ever was and he scratches very little. Many people have noticed the change in him and he speaks right out and tells them Tekakwitha made him better. We are all very grateful. Accept this offering which is all we can send at present. The new penny is a prize possession of John's, but he sends it as a gift. We advised him it is not the statue that helps him, but Tekakwitha's intercession to God for his relief." —Pittsburgh, Pa.

A GOOD SUGGESTION

"When a relative of a sodalist passes away we enroll the departed in the League, thus getting others of the family interested in the 'Lily of the Mohawks.'" —New Orleans.

"This is in thanks for the favors I feel I have obtained through her intercession."

—Kansas City.

"Enclosed you will find offering in thanksgiving for favor I received for myself and others."

—Lawrenceburg, Ind.

"Among the many favors granted me was part-time employment which I needed when going to college."

—Kansas City.

"I am still receiving favors through her intercession, and I hope to do my 'little bit' toward her Cause."

—Marion, O.

"I promised this if I received a favor I asked through Kateri—promised it to further the Cause of her canonization."

—Dallas, Tex.

"I have been in the hospital with a bad condition of the left eye. I am grateful and thankful it is getting better."

—New York, N. Y.

"Enclosed is an offering of thanksgiving to further the Cause of Kateri—Lily of the Mohawks; she gave me aid when I needed her assistance badly."

—Clayton, Del.

"I recently received a very great favor from her, one which I thought was almost impossible to get. She has also helped me on several other occasions and I am very grateful."

—Sioux City, Iowa.

"Please use the enclosed check to hasten the canonization of Tekakwitha. It is in thanksgiving for some money my husband received from an unexpected source."

—Kansas City.

"My son came home from work very sick with neuritis in his foot and suffered a lot. I was so worried as it is such a long drawn-out sickness. I promised if the pain would ease, and he would have a speedy recovery I would send an offering for Mass. He was up in three days and back to work a week later with no pain at all."

—Alameda, Cal.

"Enclosed find donation; could I have two masses said as I had two favors granted concerning my two sons? As I have already mentioned in my last letter my son was wounded and received the Purple Heart. I am so grateful he is all right again I will try all my life to send this small mite."

—New Orleans, La.

ADDITIONAL FAVORS

Cures	1	Employment	1
Financial Aid	2	Vocation	1
Not Specified	20		

PETITIONS

Cures	4	Relief in Distress	6
Financial Aid	5	Safety	10
Not Specified	30		

Obituary

Most Rev. Paul Rhode, Green Bay, Wis.
Rev. Daniel Kiernan, Lake Mahopac, N. Y.
Rt. Rev. Msgr. Henry B. Laudénbach, Buffalo, N. Y.
Mother Grace Dammann, New York, N. Y.

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.; silver, 60c.

PICTURES

- Small—with sketch and prayer 5c.
" lithograph, color, sketch and prayer 10c.
" lithograph, color, silk applied to relics 20c.
Large—lithograph in color, 12½ x 8½ inches,
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Prices include postage
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REV. JOHN J. WYNNE, S.J., V. Postulator for Her Canonization

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