

THE LILY OF

Fairest flower that ever



THE MOHAWKS

bloomed among true men

VOL. XII, No. 2

NOVEMBER, 1947

INDIAN SUMMER — MEDITATION

It is here now, or did it begin a month ago? Our weather bureau political appointees seem to know little about weather, and they ignore this lovely season altogether, and even a poet has spoken of it as the melancholy days, saddest of the year. I knew him; he was city bred, rarely, if ever, out in the fields of an October morning, woods still aglow with color and already partly carpeted with the rustling leaves; melancholy by no means, but most exhilarating, the air, like champagne, non-intoxicant.

That was the time choser for Kateri's pilgrimage to the Christian Indians haven for their faith in Canada. By river, through wood, over lake, in open field with her protective companions, no train schedule, sleeping in the open, her ornament a rosary, along over the two hundred odd miles without fatigue, but buoyant with the prospect of a home where 'the Prayer,' as her people styled the Christian faith, was the very atmosphere, far away from the village where all the deadly vices ruled. Thank God, I have made that pilgrimage more than once and I have seen the Tekakwithas at Caughnawaga and their braves who credit the Venerable Tekakwitha with their fidelity to the religion which flourishes there.

A FAIR QUESTION — ANSWER NO SURPRISE

If Tekakwitha were as innocent and holy as all who knew her believed, why do we speak of her as endowed with a spirit of penance?

Her spiritual directors stress this point, and they tell not only of her sorrow for what she considered sinful, but of her bodily penance by severe self-chastisement, so severe that at one time it was thought too extravagant to be heavenly inspired. Indeed, the Secretary of the Sacred Congregation of Rites once told this writer that he thought she went too far in her corporal punishment, until he learned how cruel her people were, and how savagely they treated their prisoners, St. Isaac Jogues, for instance, and St. John de Brebeuf. Tekakwitha wanted to make reparation for the inhumanity of her tribesmen.

This, however, is not the full reason of her 'spirit of penance.' The real reason is that after her baptism, her belief in God became so vivid, and her love of Him so ardent, that she feared she might have displeased Him exceedingly by the petty vanities of her younger days. After all, love of God is the supreme motive of our own contrition when we fear we have offended Him.

RAPID

"Two hours after I placed a relic (borrowed) in our doorway, we sold our home; we had been greatly discouraged previous to this time." —Chicago.

RARE PROXIMITIES

"They know Venerable Kateri is as much a part of my existence as the air I breathe and I've left no stone unturned to tell them (my relatives) how close you are to the North American Martyrs also." —South Boston.

MASS AND MORE THAN ONE MEMENTO

"Enclosed is a check and may I ask a Mass—or at least a memento in Mass—in thanksgiving to Kateri for slow cure of skin cancer on my nose. It is not entirely cured, but I hope for a cure through your intercession to her, and my confidence in her, to soon have a complete cure." —Punxsutawney, Pa.

THRICE BLEST

"Enclosed is an offering and I would like a Mass in thanksgiving to the Sacred Heart of Jesus in gratitude for great favors received. Family of six children helped very much through the whooping-cough and also a happy delivery of seventh child; also mastoid cured without operation."

—Natrona, Pa.

FAVOR INDEED

"For a few years I have been wanting to acknowledge a great favor to the Lily of the Mohawks—one was for my marriage to be blessed as I married a non-Catholic who didn't even want a saint's picture in the home. After five years he consented that my marriage be blessed and built altar in my home. She also helped me financially. I always have Masses of thanks to her."

—New Orleans.

KATERI KNEW HER WOODLANDS

"I made a novena to Kateri to help me and my brother and sisters to sell timber on some

land, belonging to our deceased father, which was located in an isolated place, almost inaccessible for timber operations. This is cut-over land and the good timber was cut years ago, but some kind of operation is going on as I received two checks and I am now enclosing this for Kateri's Cabin Shrine, which I promised mentally months ago."

—Pawhuska, Okla.

AND GRATITUDE IS IN ORDER

"I want to express my gratitude to Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha for her help in answering my prayer. I had something growing near my eye which started last June. When I was at the doctor's I asked him about it and he said he would not touch it on account of the nearness to the eye. He called it a wart, and referred me to a skin specialist. On account of its proximity to the eye it bothered me. That was in July. I then asked dear Kateri if she would help me and over a period of about three weeks it gradually dried up and it finally disappeared last Friday."

—Flushing, L. I.

OUR PRAYERS GO WITH HER

"Enclosed please find my humble offering for the construction of the Tekakwitha Cabin. Through her intercession I have obtained many favors. I pray to Kateri every day and ask our Blessed Virgin for her canonization. I am having all my relatives and friends pray to her, because I am positive Kateri has so much influence on the beloved Heart of our Lord. Father, I am sailing in five weeks for Athens, Greece, on a diplomatic mission for the Canadian Government. I shall spend from two and a half to three years there. Please pray to Kateri with me that my trip is a good one."

—Ottawa, Canada.

AND WE PRAY WITH HER

"In July I had a severe infection on my leg, which the doctor finally called weeping eczema. After having been sick all spring, this made me very miserable, as I had not

much strength and was very nervous. I started making novenas to Catherine to cure me. After two or three novenas the eczema left me entirely and my nervous condition has improved wonderfully. I'm still praying so that she will cure my nervousness entirely and help make me strong and well, and I'm sure that she will. This is the second cure she has obtained for me. In 1939 I recovered from what the doctor called a miraculous cure from a kidney infection. My family interceded to Catherine and I was cured."

—Freeburg, Mo.

HOW THE GOOD WORD PASSES

"I became interested in Kateri when upon confiding to one of my co-workers that my mother was very ill since early July and I was beginning to despair. She, in turn, spoke to her mother, who immediately sent me the prayer leaflet and an article on Kateri's life, which she had on hand. Upon my arrival at home that evening I read the article to my mother and we decided that we would pray to Kateri together every night, which we did, and while it was difficult to notice my mother regaining her strength while she was in bed, we had hoped that besides getting stronger she might be able to walk again. On the ninth day we were both very happy when, after several unsuccessful attempts before, she was able to take a few steps with the aid of her cane. Since then she has been making very good progress with her walking—and strength—and we have every confidence that soon she will get around as she did before she became so ill."

—New York.

'ENGINEERED' IS THE WORD

"Several years ago, 'nine to be exact,' a friend came to me with a little leaflet that introduced me to 'Kateri Tekakwitha': she has become my closest friend, dear Father, and has proven so with ever so many kindnesses during these past years. At the time of Kateri's introduction into our home I was

nursing a critically ill husband; he passed away a very short time after the friend's visit with Kateri's little pamphlet, and only God and Kateri know how hard those first few years were for me, as I had three wonderful little children to support, ages eight, ten and twelve. In nine years I have received eighteen different favors that no one but a saint and God Himself could have 'engineered.' "

—Southgate, Cal.

KATERI LOVES HER OWN

"I have received your letter of July 16 and want to express my appreciation for the medal and picture that you enclosed, as the first picture I received I had blessed and I presented it to the little Indian girl, who was so grateful for it after I had told her the story that she never left it out of her sight. On the day she went to her final reward it was clasped in her little hands, and, Father, I can still see her kissing the picture and rubbing it over her pain-wracked body, but, oh, with such faith and reverence; and I want to tell you that I made a novena to Venerable Catherine Tekakwitha and on the ninth day she took her out of this world to a heavenly place. I am enclosing a check to help the Cause along, and also a list of names that I had promised, and know that some good results will come from these people, who might help Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha's Cause. Will do all that I can in the future to help this worthy Cause."

—Baldwin, Cal.

"Enclosed find donation for Kateri Tekakwitha for the favor I have received in finance. I pray morning and night to Kateri and I receive my favors."—Philadelphia.

"My daughter, Marilyn P., was critically ill, due to a serious trolley-bus accident. We feel that it was only through Kateri Tekakwitha that she pulled through."—Brooklyn.

"Enclosed is a money order—just a little bit for a whole lot."

—Chicago.

"We had a storm headed here—I prayed and asked Little Kateri to please help us and she did—very little was done around us."

—New Orleans.

"We are great believers in her, as she has awarded us a lot of favors. We are doing all we can to make others have faith in her."

—Lafayette, La.

"I made a novena to Kateri Tekakwitha that I might be able to get a position. Thanks to her intercession I procured a clerical position in a Catholic hospital."—Indianapolis.

"Enclosing a few pennies toward the Cause of the canonization of the Venerable Catherine Tekakwitha. She is helping our Church tremendously."

—Burlington, N. J.

"Enclosed is in appreciation for a much-wanted favor just received. I have received one of your pamphlets and prayed to the 'Lily of the Mohawks' for only a few weeks, when my wish was granted."

—Irvington, N. J.

"I am enclosing this as I promised to Kateri Tekakwitha for a very special favor she did me, that of getting well from a very serious sickness."

—Wagner, Mont.

"On two different occasions in the last few weeks I have promised Kateri Tekakwitha

that I would send you this if she would grant me a special favor. She granted them both!

—Carroll, Ia.

"I promised a donation in thanksgiving for steady employment for my son. Me request was granted. Kateri Tekakwitha has helped me many times and I hope to be able to spread devotion to her."

—Chicago.

"Last June my car was hit by a truck and badly damaged. Thank God, I was not injured. Again I asked Kateri Tekakwitha for help and said I would send a donation to you for her Cause if the claim for the damage to the car was paid. This finally was done."

—Troy, N. Y.

"Enclosed is a check. I promised all the pennies I saved from the first of January until the first of June for Little Kateri."

—Inglewood, Cal.

"Enclosed is in thanksgiving for favor received, which I have prayed for for thirteen years. I want to offer this in honor of Kateri Tekakwitha. Please send me leaflets so I can encourage devotion to her."

—Detroit.

ADDITIONAL FAVORS

Cures	2	Employment	1
Financial Aid	2	Safe Delivery	2
Relief in Distress	1	Conversion	1
Not Specified	41		

PETITIONS

Cures	4	Apartments	4
Financial Aid	3	Not Specified	25

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, mounted so as to need no frame; for class or private room	60c.

Prices include postage
 Reduction on quantity

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

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