

THE LILY OF

Fairest flower that ever



THE MOHAWKS

bloomed among true men

VOL. XIII, No. 1

OCTOBER, 1948

THE SPIRIT OF PENANCE

In the prayer for the canonization of Venerable Tekakwitha a phrase occurs which may suggest difficulty to some, viz.: 'the spirit of penance.' Why should one so innocent have a spirit of penance? Yet we are told she was a penitent, regularly making her confession and bewailing her sins as if she had committed them, and as if they were very serious.

Quite frequently we read of Saints who committed little or no evil, but who considered themselves great sinners, and who were notable for their 'spirit of penance,' Saint Aloysius, for instance, who wept over a boyish prank as if it had been an evil enormity. The trouble is that we do not know or love God like the Saints. They have such a conception of His goodness, His justice, that they consider themselves unworthy to serve Him, and presumptuous to offer Him their worship. They love God so purely and so ardently that they look upon the slightest affection they show one of His creatures as rapine in the holocaust of their love. Extravagant, some will think? No, but quite rational and normal for them, as it should be for all human beings if they fully know and love God.

With this full knowledge and love of God Tekakwitha was blessed. To her He was present everywhere, in the chapel, in her cabin, in the fields, on the waters, in the very air she breathed, in her own person, as her fellow tribesmen felt when they wanted to kneel near her at the Communion-rail.

ALASKA WANTS THE STATUE

Is it strange that the first orders for the new statue of Tekakwitha should come from far-off Alaska? No, and the very active missionary there gives the reason (see page 3, col. 2). He wants his people to know that one of their race has been declared Venerable by the Church of God, and that it is possible for them also to be innocent and pure. He has in mind what happened when Tekakwitha died. When her people realized that they could become something like she was, there was a marvellous change in their lives. Men gave up their paramours, women sought to live chaste, young people took pride in avoiding dissolute habits. No, it is not strange. Father Fox knows his people and he knows his history. The Catholic missionary priest today is the same as he was hundreds of years ago, not content with mere acceptance of the faith, but insistent on something more, on holiness of life, on the actual performance of the virtues of a Christian life, and, in many instances, of the heroic virtue for which Tekakwitha has been declared Venerable.

CONSCIOUS TO THE END

A very devoted promoter of the Cause of Venerable Tekakwitha tells of attending the funeral of his mother, who died at ninety-four years of age, conscious to the end.

LAW COURTS AND HEAVENLY COURTS

"I am sending you donation which I promised to do if my prayers to win our court case was answered. My novena ended on the ninth day, and on the following day our attorney called us by phone and said that we won all our money we had sued for. I'm sure that our dear Kateri Tekakwitha had something to say about this."

—Waite Park, Minn.

NOTHING LIKE FAITH IN PRAYER

"You often wrote to keep faith and pray for him to Venerable Kateri who would intercede that God and Our Lady would give him time for preparation to receive the last Sacraments. True, he was ill, sick six months, the last month in Veterans' Hospital, Alexandria, La. He received Holy Communion four times weekly. The Catholic Chaplain said his death was beautiful." —Brooklyn.

NOT TOO LATE

"The letter reporting your efforts to build a cabin to house the relics of Tekakwitha was misplaced on arrival. I hope I am not too late to make a slight donation to so excellent a cause. Enclosed please find check. I am proffering it in the name of Dr. M. K., as a birthday offering from her to the Cause of Tekakwitha. Dr. K. has made many people acquainted with Tekakwitha."

—Arcadia, Cal.

SAINTLY, BUT NOT YET SAINT

"You know, Father, Kateri is my dental saint. Sixteen years ago I was in an automobile accident and had all my teeth loosened and a corner chipped, rather broken, off one of the front teeth. All this happened in a large New England city where there were

many dentists and from all information there was only one who specialized in pin inlays. At the time it was put in by him I invoked Kateri to take care of the preservation of the very delicate piece, at least until I had reached my fiftieth year. I am now in the fiftieth year, and with my teeth fairly presentable."

—Manchester, N. H.

CHURCH OVERLOOKING RIVER

"My church is progressing very well. We plan to lay the corner-stone on September 5. We are praying very hard for the canonization and we are suspending naming our church for that reason. I did give some thought to another name, but feel very obligated to the Venerable Kateri for the many things that have made the church possible. I have property valued at \$30,000 given to us. I had her medal put in the ground when I first saw the site and it seems miraculous that we got it. Financially Kateri has done wonders. My income during the nine months winter runs about thirteen dollars a week from the parish. There are so many, many things—I just feel I must wait."

—Indian River, Mich.

FROM FAR-OFF INDIA

"I owe many 'favors' to the intercession of Kateri, but a recent one deserves special notice. At the peak of the summer heat, here, an annoying bladder-infection manifested itself. Had not penicillin been available (and more often it is in short supply) the situation might have been, let me say, *would* have been very unpleasant. Kateri saw to it that penicillin was available, and what could have meant many weeks of suffering was cleared up in short order.

"Since 1939 I have been a promoter of Kateri's Cause and have won many new friends for her. One of the brethren here — from whom you should be hearing soon — was plagued for years with the excruciating pains consequent upon kidney stone. About four

months ago, I told him about Kateri, and we kept making novenas. The other day he told me that the stone so long anchored just outside the kidney has been passed. Another 'cure' through Kateri's intercession."

—Patna, India.

"P.S.—You have heard from Miss Vera Dooley, Chicago, re 'Maureen.' It was I who suggested that she get Kateri 'on the job.' Please God, Maureen's growth may become normal, and a real miracle if granted."

THE TIME LONG, BUT WELL SPENT

"What a long, long time to hear from a so-called friend! Believe me that you are not far from my prayers and my thoughts, ever. It was such a great disappointment to miss my trip east again because of the events told of in the enclosed clippings. Our mutual friend, Father Taelman, had to have me in his vacation schools while he was jubilating again. Bless his gallant heart! I was glad to do it for him, but I surely hated to give up the possibility of seeing you again.

"There were compensations for remaining in the West. Some of the clippings show the new Indian Jesuit, Father Brown. It was my pleasure to assist at the First Mass he celebrated at De Smet after the ordination in St. Ignatius. Some of your men from Jesuit Missions were out from New York for the affair, and Father MacFarlane should have gotten some splendid pictures (he took enough). Why don't you ask your secretary to invite him to 'run over' with them? I'd like you to see those he took of the magnificent vestments made for Father Brown by the Cœur d'Alenes. They were of white deerskin embroidered with thirty dollars worth of beads—really beyond describing. Father Brown gave a memorable talk to his people at a turkey banquet served by my former club women. I stood back and watched their efficient and *really* co-operative endeavors and smiled to myself thinking what such

an attempt would have been ten years ago. It really wasn't too bad to gloat a little, was it? Joe Garry was toastmaster and did a fine job. He is the newly elected head of tribal affairs for his own people and is everything I ever wished him to be. So you see, Tekakwitha moves all before her in time. You kept telling me that.

"Remember me to the Jesuit Martyrs in September as I shall pray for you. I am very happy to be back at the college where they like my sociology courses."—College of Great Falls, Great Falls, Mont.

ST. LAWRENCE MISSION
MOUNTAIN VILLAGE, ALASKA

July 23, 1948.

My dear Father Wynne:

P.C.

It is not very often that I write. But when I do it is generally to trouble you for some favor. This time your LILY OF THE MOHAWKS, May, 1948, that I just got, gives the occasion. I note that you write a new statue of Kateri has come out. I wonder if you could put in an order for one about 26 inches high for me here, if it is already available, or one about that size. I would like to put before these natives a reminder that one of their race is "Venerable." Enclosed is \$5 for your efforts on her behalf. And if the statue is available I'll pay for it as soon as I know the price and that the statue is on its way. It should be shipped to the above address. If the three-foot figure you speak of is the only size available that will be OK, too. I'm not worrying about not being able to put it in church just now for public veneration. I'm sure that by the time the statue would get to this place she would be about due for beatification, too. And, anyhow, I can put her in a nice niche in the people's waiting-room or the children's play-room.

REV. JOHN P. FOX, S.J.

"God willing and through the help of Venerable Catherine, we hope to see a shrine erected here in her honor before long."

—Lac du Flambeau, Wis.

"Enclosed herewith is offering for a Mass honoring Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha in thanksgiving for successful operation on my sister."

—Bloomington, Ill.

"Enclosed you will find a little offering in honor of our Lily of the Mohawks; she has helped me so many times, in favors I have asked of her."

—Philadelphia.

"Enclosed please find a small check, for once more Catherine has helped me financially, when conditions looked impossible. The enclosed is what I promised her."

—San Antonio, Tex.

"Enclosed please find an offering in thanksgiving for a favor received. I prayed to Kateri for improvement in my health and thanks to her feel very much better."

—New York.

"In my parish, the Queen of the Miraculous Medal, we have church circles, and have named my circle—The Tekakwitha Circle—and thought perhaps you might have some suggestions for special devotion to Kateri."

—Jackson, Mich.

"Please accept \$3.00 in thanksgiving to Venerable Katherine Tekakwitha for two favors quickly granted. A toothache quickly

relieved and tooth removed without needle, painlessly. The other—it was made possible for two nephews to stay in their own home to get to school, instead of adding them to our three children."

—Lemay, Mo.

CONGRATULATIONS TO WINNER AND KATERI

"I wish to express my thanks to Kateri Tekakwitha for a favor granted recently. A position of high rating was open for which a competitive examination was given to about one hundred and fifty of the personnel. Thanks to Kateri, I came out first and have now been officially appointed to the position. Some years ago Kateri also helped me get my first raise in pay over very adverse circumstances."

—Roslindale, Mass.

ADDITIONAL FAVORS

Cures	7	Safe Delivery	2
Financial Aid	3	Examination Success ..	3
Employment	3	Relief in Distress	6
Not Specified	50		

PETITIONS

Cures	5	Apartments	4
Financial Aid	4	Not Specified	20

Obituary

Rt. Rev. Frederic N. Dunne, Trappist, Ky.
Rt. Rev. Msgr. John F. Cherry, Brooklyn, N. Y.
Rt. Rev. Msgr. William A. Courtney, New York, N. Y.
Miss Mary L. Downey, Philadelphia, Pa.
Miss Margaret Donovan, Johnstown, Pa.
Miss Rebecca O'Donnell, New York, N. Y.
Mrs. George Schindler, South Covington, Ky.

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
317 EAST FORDHAM ROAD, NEW YORK 58, N. Y.