

THE LILY OF

Fairest flower that ever



THE MOHAWKS

bloomed among true men

VOL. XIV, No. 2

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER, 1949

Greetings

The V. Postulator for the canonization of the Venerable Tekakwitha and his assistants wish all clients of Kateri throughout the land the sweetly-monotonous 'Merry Christmas,' and a New Year bubbling with peace. May it be a year, too, in which the Lily of the Mohawks makes great strides towards the happy consummation of all our hopes, her Beatification and Canonization.

IN MEMORIAM

On Wednesday, November 30, a special Mass was celebrated by Father Coffey for the soul of the late Father John J. Wynne, S.J., who died just a year ago. The Mass, attended by the League staff, was offered at the Altar of the North-American Martyrs at St. Francis Xavier's Church, Manhattan. It is thought that a brief memento of the late great Father Wynne should be included in this month's Message. The following article appeared in *Pilgrim* for March, 1949:

THE MONUMENTAL FATHER WYNNE

Father John J. Wynne, S.J., went to his eternal reward on November 30, 1948, at the age of eighty-nine. Few, outside of his Jesuit brethren, attended the quiet funeral at Fordham's Memorial Chapel — but that was to be expected. Father Wynne was like the last leaf on a tree.

His last visit to the Shrine, whose Director he had been for eighteen years, 1891-1909, was in the Tercentenary year 1946 — a relaxation he allowed himself in honor of his seventieth anniversary in the Society of Jesus.

We visited him recently. He ushered us graciously into his office on Fordham Road in the Bronx, where he managed the Tekakwitha League and the Gilmory Society. We could hardly believe, as we sat in his erect, stately presence, and listened to his keenly alert comments on the day's events, and to his remarkable cosmopolitan reminiscences — that he had been a Jesuit for seventy-two years and a priest for fifty-eight.

Truly deserving of the Pauline compliment, "A workman who needs not be ashamed," Father Wynne deserves a major part of the credit for undertaking the gigantic *Catholic Encyclopedia*, the canonization of the *North-American Martyrs* in 1930, and the Papal

Decree of January 3, 1943, declaring *Venerable* the Indian maiden, *Kateri Tekakwitha*. There were multitudinous other things, too, right up to the end.

Another famous New Yorker would have said: "Let's look at the record." And here it is, in partial summary:

- 1859 Born, September 30, New York City.
- 1870-76 St. Francis Xavier College, Bachelor of Arts.
- 1876-79 Jesuit Novitiate, West Park, N. Y.
- 1879-82 Woodstock College, Philosophy and Science.
- 1882-86 Professor of Classical Languages, St. Francis Xavier's.
- 1886-87 Boston College, Mathematics.
- 1887-91 Woodstock College, Theology.
- 1890 Ordination to the Priesthood, August 24th.
- 1891-1909 Director, *Apostleship of Prayer*; Editor, *Messenger of the Sacred Heart*; Director of the Shrine; Promoter of the Canonization of the Martyrs; Organizer of the *Holy Hour*; Editor of the *Catholic Encyclopedia*; Knight of the Order of Leopold II for protecting Congo Mission interests.
- 1909-10 Founder, *America*, Catholic weekly review.
- 1912-17 Chaplain, New York Chapter, Knights of Columbus.
- 1916-21 Moderator, Xavier Alumni Sodality.
- 1918-25 Lecturer on Religion, Manhattanville.
- 1923 Vice Postulator, Cause of Tekakwitha.
- 1926 Doctor of Sacred Theology, Catholic University.
- 1930 Doctor of Letters, Fordham University.
- Author, *The Jesuit Martyrs of North America*, and *The Life of Tekakwitha*.

"There hasn't been much since," he told us on that last visit, over his work-cluttered desk, and against the clatter of his staff typewriters — "just a few things here and there." The "few things" just then included furthering international interest in Tekakwitha, and seeing a new edition of the *Encyclopedia* through the press.

May our constant patron and pilgrim, the great Father Wynne, rest in eternal peace!

A PLEA TO TEKAKWITHA'S CLIENTS

The late Father Wynne devoted the major part of his laborious days towards the Cause of Canonization of the North-American Martyrs and Kateri Tekakwitha. He saw the happy day when the Martyrs were raised to the altar in 1930, and that other joyful moment in 1943 when Pope Pius XII declared Tekakwitha Venerable, because of the proven heroicity of all her virtues.

Upon Father Wynne's death a year ago, Father John Killeen assumed the task of furthering her Cause. Because of the pressure of other duties, Father Killeen relinquished his task as Vice Postulator to me last month. So, too, did Father John Hooper, who has been carrying on the duties of Director of the Tekakwitha League. In humility I accept both these offices. For nine years, while at Kateri's Birthplace, the Shrine at Auriesville, I have learned to marvel at the life of the Marvelous Maiden — and I have also come to know the almost fanatical devotion that the Lily has attracted throughout all America.

I sincerely hope that with your interest and generosity we can make some positive progress shortly towards the fulfilment of our wishes — that Tekakwitha may soon be declared Blessed, and then Saint.

Up at Auriesville we use to hear this question asked once in a while: 'What time are the miracles scheduled?' Well, it's not *that* easy! And so with Tekakwitha. This we know: God does work marvelous cures as the reward for real faith, or for His own good reasons, using the occasion of the intercession of some Servant of God. What His will is in regard to the exaltation of Tekakwitha we do not know, but we are allowed to 'storm

heaven' as it were — to exhibit a holy impatience for signs of His pleasure in our faith and her intercession.

Probably the most important thing to be done by clients of Tekakwitha is to make sure that when a favor is being sought through Kateri's intercession, we have enough faith and patience to invoke *her alone* for a definite period of time, using meantime her relic-picture or a prayer for her interest, so that the cure may be surely attributable to her solely. The League will help you in this by explaining the procedure, sending forms for report of cures, etc.

Another thing we think should be brought to your attention. Many of Kateri's clients send us offerings to help further her Cause, and to help bear the expenses incident upon preparing for her Beatification. The best procedure will be to make out checks and money orders to Tekakwitha League — not to an individual Father connected with the Cause.

I beg your continued interest and generosity.

FATHER THOMAS J. COFFEY, S.J.,
Vice Postulator.

TEKAKWITHA LODGE

At long last some definite progress has been made in regard to the Tekakwitha Lodge, made possible by the many friends of Father Wynne. A suitable building, embodying all of Father's ideas, has been prepared at Auriesville, with the foundation and exterior work completed. It is hoped that further financial assistance will make possible the completion of the museum-interior before long. We hope to have a photograph of the Lodge for the next Message.

A NEW MESSAGE

The interesting little magazine, *Kateri*, published at Caughnawaga by Father Henri Bechard and the Tekakwitha Guild at the site of Kateri's death, is highly recommended to our readers. Address: Mission Saint Francois-Xavier, Caughnawaga, P. Q., Canada.

TEKAKWITHA STATUE

A limited number of copies of the latest official statue of Kateri Tekakwitha are available in cast stone, cream terra-cotta color. Three feet high, \$55.00 F.O.B. Boston.

Same as above 20" at \$5.00 cast in composition for inside use.

14" at \$2.50

The sculptress is: Miss Adrienne Bouvier, 39 School Street, Brookline, Mass.

TEKAKWITHA HELPS SO MANY

BROTHERS

"Enclosed find a small offering in thanksgiving to dear little Kateri Tekakwitha for wonderful help for my brother who underwent a very serious chest operation."

—San Diego, Cal.

"Enclosed please find an offering for a great favor. My brother is seriously ill with

a heart ailment and was not expected to live last Monday. I prayed to Kateri for his return to health and last night when I visited him he said he felt much better. This morning he said it seemed as though a miracle had been wrought, he felt so much better."

—Lowell, Mass.

"Last May I had you say a Mass in honor of the Lily of the Mohawks, that through her intercession my brother would be successful

in a Civil Service examination. He just received the results a few days ago, and passed number one. Now I would like to have a Mass in thanksgiving in her honor."

—San Francisco, Cal.

DAUGHTER

"This thanksgiving offering I owe to Kateri for a special favor received. My lovely daughter was born July 29, and she was christened Kateri Marie."—New Castle, Del.

SONS

"My son had a very serious operation for a kidney ailment. The doctor operated on him, but was not sure that it was successful. He thought a second operation would be necessary to remove the kidney. We all prayed to Tekakwitha and asked her to help him and through her help my little boy is better, and the doctor said it was a miracle that he got along so well without the second operation."

—Fort Wayne, Ind.

"Enclosed please find a little donation. My little boy had a paper route he wanted to get rid of—he wanted to quit. It's hard to get someone right away to take one's place. I promised Venerable Kateri I would give an offering to her Cause if she helped him. He only delivered papers once after that. I was so grateful and so was my boy. Thanks to Kateri."

—Niagara, Wis.

IN SO MANY WAYS

"I promised 'Little Kateri' a Mass offering if she would help us out of financial troubles and shortly after we were offered help from an unexpected source. Many times when I have been desperately short of money I have called on Kateri for help."—Rochester, N. Y.

"Kateri continues to bring me the business that affords her a donation each month. Enclosed is offering for same in thank you to the Indian Maiden."—Highland, Md.

ADDITIONAL FAVORS

Cures	2	Spiritual	1
Financial Aid	3	Relief in Distress	4
Not Specified	84		

PETITIONS

Cures	8	Spiritual	5
Apartments	4	Financial Aid	6
Employment	10	Not Specified	20

Obituary

Most Rev. Thomas M. O'Leary, D.D., Springfield, Mass.
 Rev. Charles J. Mullaly, S.J., Wernersville, Pa.
 Rev. Joseph D. Podskoc, Edwardsville, Pa.
 Rev. Matthias J. Daly, New York, N. Y.
 Rt. Rev. Msgr. George A. Metzger, Woodhaven, N. Y.
 Rev. James H. Downey, Quincy, Mass.
 Miss Mary A. Kesselem, Youngstown, O.
 Miss Rose A. Britt, Rydal, Pa.
 Mrs. Robert Leyland, Oil City, Pa.
 Mrs. James Strohmeyer, Wilmington, Del.
 Mrs. Mary McElhatton, Philadelphia, Pa.
 Mrs. Elizabeth J. Murray, Philadelphia, Pa.
 Mr. Ben Moss, Refugio, Tex.
 Mr. L. J. Johnston, Milford, N. H.

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

TEKAKWITHA LEAGUE

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

REV. THOMAS J. COFFEY, S.J., V. Postulator for Her Canonization