

THE LILY OF

Fairest flower that ever



THE MOHAWKS

bloomed among true men

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MAY-JUNE, 1952

AURIESVILLE

HOLY HILL

We know of an American who once visited a famous European health resort in frantic search for some relief from an ailment of the bones. On arriving there, the doctor in charge told him that the best possible source of relief from his particular ailment was a little spa just *seven miles* from the gentleman's own home in America.

Increased travel facilities have made us more pilgrimage-minded. It is possible to visit Rome and Lourdes and Assisi and Fatima within the time allotted for our vacations. Yet how many Americans are aware of the important Shrine in their own "back yard," so to speak!

The Mohawk River today winds its lazy way between the low hills and friendly countryside in upstate New York. Just before it reaches Amsterdam, it swerves sharply to the left, away from one hill on its right bank. That hill is Auriesville. At first glance it is as quiet and unassuming as all the rest, but, unlike the others, it is the holiest hill in the United States. Pope Pius XII described Auriesville as "Nature's own reliquary"—the verdant hill that slopes up from the quiet, easy flowing river of the Mohawks.

THE REASON WHY

It is the holiest hill in the United States because a series of events took place there three hundred years ago which make one of the most extraordinary stories in the annals of man's heroic struggle to better this world.

Elsewhere in the United States there are permanent visible signs of the prodigious efforts of the early missionaries of our land—Dominicans, Franciscans, Jesuits, Recollets, Diocesan clergy. At Auriesville only the hill remains in view. But in its rich brown earth lie the blood and bones of its martyrs. Beneath its soft green grass lie the remains of the face and features, the mangled hands and bruised bodies of Jogues, Goupil, LaLande, first canonized Saints of New York State. Goupil's body is certainly in the ravine there; and most likely the skulls of Fathers Jogues and John LaLande elsewhere on the hill. Auriesville is holy, too, for the added reason that ten years after the 1646 martyrdoms, Tekakwitha, first fruit of the Martyrs' blood, was born. And only a few miles west, on the north side of the Mohawk, she was reborn through Baptism.

There are Shrines today at Auriesville and Fonda, worthy of pilgrimage. The Indians have all but vanished from New York. But altars mark the spot of the martyrdoms. The whole Auriesville earth is an altar. The Church has gloriously flourished in the country watered by their blood. And the fairest flower of Indian womanhood, Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha, will one day, please God, be raised to the glory of canonization, completing the happy ending to the story of "three men and a maid" who have sanctified this holy hill.

HOW TO GET THERE

Take the New York Central either to Amsterdam from the East, or Fonda from the West; thence by taxi to Shrine.

Via plane, to Albany-Schenectady Airport, airport taxi to Schenectady, thence bus to Amsterdam.

By car, from Buffalo: Route US 20, from 20 to 5-S by 80, 10 or 148.

By car, from New York City: Henry Hudson Parkway to Sawmill River Road to Taconic State Parkway to 199 to US 9 at Redhook to Albany to US 20 to 148 at Sloansville, right on 148 to Glen, right on 161 to Shrine Road, 288.

By car, from Boston: US 20 (Commonwealth Avenue) through Albany to route 148, etc., as from New York.

NOTES ON THE CAUSE

We were asked by a newspaperman recently whether we had *arranged* to have Tekakwitha's canonization in 1956, the three hundredth anniversary of her birth at Auriesville. Man proposes—God disposes! But in our case we dare not even propose! We are at a stage in the Cause which is entirely in the hands of God. We must wait prayerfully and patiently for the sign of God's approval. That approval will come through miracles granted through Tekakwitha's intercession. Our pages testify to the fact that people all over America are invoking her aid. Be sure to let us know if you think important favors that have been granted you or others might warrant further investigation by the Church as cures of a miraculous nature.

TEKAKWITHA HELPS IN SO MANY WAYS

"Enclosed find an offering which is a donation to the Tekakwitha League. I was troubled with a very annoying wart. One morning I decided I would go to a doctor and have it burnt off. Before doing so I said a prayer to Little Tekakwitha and it wasn't three minutes later when I was washing the affected area when the wart fell off. To me it was a miracle." —Lafayette, La.

"For over two years I have been wanting to write telling you how thankful I have been for Kateri's help in so many of my needs. She has proved to be one of my most zealous and faithful intercessors. With typical human ingratitude, however, I have so many times put it aside. However, just recently, she has again 'come through'—always when

I need it most, and when I am most sincere. Everything from helping to bring my mother and father back to Church after more than twenty years; through helping my brother into college; helping me through college, and obtaining for me innumerable personal graces. My enthusiasm has been so unlimited that my mother and brother have taken to calling on her in all necessities—and her intercession has been faithful and continual. But miracle of miracles, my father wants to make a novena to her! (Wonderful advancement!)" —Bloomfield, N. J.

"I am happy to inform you of another answer to prayer through the intercession of our little friend, Catherine. My sister had been informed by the Board of Education

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that the city was to buy her house and she would be obliged to vacate it. She was given six months' time to do so. After purchasing another home to live in she was informed that they had changed their minds, and that she would not be able to receive any compensation for two years to come. I suggested to her to begin a novena to Catherine Tekakwitha. We have been begging her to implore this petition from God for us since March. Last week my sister was ready to despair of all help from Catherine, when she remembered that I had asked her to put a picture of Catherine in the house she wished to have settled. She placed the picture in the home on Thursday of last week and to her great joy and surprise the settlement was made on Friday. I am enclosing a small offering which she is sending in thanksgiving for the furtherance of the Cause of our good little friend."

—New York, N. Y.

"Keeping my promise to Kateri Tekakwitha, I write to you. Two weeks ago, due to a mistake made by our bank and insufficient funds to cover another check, my husband's business would have suddenly stopped. The biggest company he deals with refused shipment of any merchandise if the entire check was not covered immediately, and not having it he could not pay it. This had happened before and made it worse all because someone had a name similar to ours. Two days before I read about all the help Kateri was giving. The entire family started to pray to her and behold a day later this same company's president called and the entire matter was settled with an apology plus extra time to cover this check saving us from I don't know what. Thanks to Kateri and hoping she continues to answer our prayers."

—Illinois.

"I just learned of your League through a copy of the *Register*. We live on a ranch 45 miles from the nearest railroad town, ten

miles from a post office, three miles off a graveled road. I had never heard of Kateri Tekakwitha until then. I read just a fragment of news about her in some newspaper. I was certainly worried about our road situation in and out to our home. My husband had tried to get some improvement made by the county on our road but he had always been turned completely down. So I prayed early the next morning to Kateri. She had lived in the most primitive places. Somehow I felt she would help me, but was totally unprepared for such a good answer. Before noon the county highway superintendent came and told my husband to come with him to find a road out. He found a cow trail up a hill that contained (wonders of wonders) no sand and the county built a wonderful road. I never for one minute have doubted that it wasn't a miracle."

—South Dakota.

"Less than two weeks ago I started praying to Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha for help in changing positions of work. Conditions had progressed steadily worse over a period of a few years and I could not see any relief or chance to better the future. Through almost no effort on my part I succeeded in renting a very desirable site to open my own business and also raised the needed capital to start operations. I know it was due in the largest part to Kateri."

—Florence, Ala.

"I am enclosing an offering to help the Cause of canonization of Venerable Kateri. My daughter wanted a summer position very much to help pay her tuition through college, but in taking the medical required there appeared to be some doubt as to her getting this job on account of her sight. I prayed very sincerely and earnestly to Kateri and am very thankful for her prayers and intercession as my request has been granted."

—Arlington, Mass.

"Please say a Mass of thanksgiving for many favors received from God after asking His help through Little Catherine's intercession. I started a novena to ask her help in getting us a good used car and also a buyer for our old one. Before the novena ended both deals were closed." —Sioux Falls, S. D.

"I have received many favors through the intercession of Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha. In return for one great favor (position during unemployment two years ago for my husband), I have named my baby girl Kateri, as I promised. In a small way I am able to get many people interested in the Cause of Kateri, as everybody is interested in the twin babies and their names, and then inquire about the name 'Kateri' which leads to an opportunity of making her better known. Already I have won her quite a few friends who pray for her canonization."

—Hyde Park, Mass.

"I am sending a small check to you to further your work and that of the Church in the canonization of Kateri. She has showered me and the entire family with so many wonderful blessings. I have had special devotion to her in my first two years of medical school and prior to that time. I feel she helped me in being accepted for the work I love. Promising continued devotion and prayers for her eventual sainthood."

—Kansas City, Mo.

"I have every reason to believe that Venerable Tekakwitha has interceded for me and my family at the Divine Throne. Three members of my family say the prayer for her canonization each night in thanksgiving; also, please accept the enclosed offering."

—Tulsa, Okla.

"Thank you for our membership card in Tekakwitha League. Since we have been enrolled in her League, our little friend, Kateri, has interceded for us and we have had wonderful success in our real estate."

—St. Petersburg, Fla.

ADDITIONAL FAVORS

Cures	3	Relief in Distress	12
Employment	3	Safe Delivery	1
Financial Aid	4	Not Specified	81

PETITIONS

Cures	10	Employment	5
Apartments	3	Relief in Distress	10
Not Specified	89		

Obituary

Rev. T. Joseph Brown, S.J., New York, N. Y.
 Rev. Edward P. Duffy, S.J., New York, N. Y.
 Rev. Thomas B. Kelly, Mamaroneck, N. Y.
 Rt. Rev. Msgr. Fred C. O'Neill, Newark, N. J.
 Rev. Edward C. Phillips, S.J., Poughkeepsie, N. Y.
 Rev. Henry I. Westropp, S.J., Patna, India.
 Rev. Henry A. McGarvey, S.J., New York, N. Y.
 Mother Mary Myles, Baltimore, Md.
 Sister Mary Madeleine, S.N.D., Roxbury, Mass.
 Mrs. Fannie Brubaker, Canon City, Colo.
 Mrs. Ruth Ann Gale, Dayton, Ohio.
 Miss Lena Ginalska, Warren, R. I.
 Mrs. N. Landry, New Orleans, La.
 Mr. Andrew A. Ondich, Kingston, Pa.
 Miss Winifred Ondich, Kingston, Pa.
 Mrs. W. H. Ross, Milbank, S. D.

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