

Fairest flower that ever



THE MOHAWKS

bloomed among true men

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MARCH-APRIL, 1953

CANADA STORMS HEAVEN

Father Henri Bechard, S.J., one of the Canadian Vice-Postulators for the Cause of Wenerable Kateri Tekakwitha, embarked on a vigorous campaign to bring to the attention of every Catholic parish and institution in Canada the importance of prayer and more prayer, that through the intercession of the Lily, God will deign to produce the two miracles needed for the furtherance of her Cause.

Large posters were placed in all the churches and institutions, spotlighting the fact that Kateri who is one of the protectresses of Canada, was the first non-martyr in the history of the Missions to have prac-

ticed the Christian virtues in heroic degree. And the hope was expressed that the needed answers to prayer would be soon forthcoming, so that they may be adjudicated by the proper Church authorities in Rome by 1956, the tercentenary year of her birth in New York State.

We know that more and more devotees of Kateri in the States are getting answers to their prayers. We hope that their efforts to further the Cause of the *Lily* will be heartened by the example of the all-out effort of our brother, the Vice-Postulator in Canada, and the members of his Kateri Guild.

NEW BEAUTY AT KATERI'S BIRTHPLACE

We can confidently hope that the beatification of Tekakwitha will bring a "Second Spring" to the ever-beautiful Ossernenon, site of her birth, which has now blossomed into the popular Martyrs' Shrine. ville is the modern term for Ossernenon, but it has many nostalgic memories within its palisades which make it look almost untouched since the time of Jogues and Lalande and Goupil and our Kateri. In preparation for the new pilgrimage season which will begin shortly, there have been new embellishments. Directly inside the main portal, pilgrims and visitors to the Shrine see a large rustic sign with each letter hand carved by an expert craftsman on a slab of pine tree: Ossernenon, Land of Crosses. And a glance at the lovely Shrine grounds shows a hundred redwood crosses on the trees of old Ossernenon. Beneath each cross is the Holy Name of Jesus, with each letter carved in the French script extant at the time of Jogues and his successors and Tekakwitha.

This is a re-introduction of the practice of Father Jogues. Alone, forsaken by man and almost, it seemed, by God, with no food, friends, clothing, shoes, forbidden to teach, say Mass or baptize, Jogues tried to live by faith in the presence of God. He gave external expression to the inner devotion by carving the name of Jesus, day after day during his captivity, on hundreds of trees in the forests around Ossernenon and the hunting grounds in what is now the Adirondacks,—and he cut the bark of many trees into the form of crosses.

BEHOLD THE CROSS

Jogues firmly expected, each time that he returned to the village where he was a slave of the Mohawks, to be beaten to death. In the midst of his desolation of soul he sought consolation in the woods, where he had built a bark cabin—his chapel. Of this time he says: "How often though in a strange land did I sing the canticle of the Lord; and the woods and mountains about resounded with the praises of their Creator, which never, from their creation, had they heard.

"How often on the stately trees of the forests did I carve the most sacred Name of Jesus, so that seeing it, the demons might take flight, and hearing it, they might tremble with fear? How often did I strip off the bark from those trees, and fashion on them the most holy Cross of the Lord, so that at its sight the enemy might flee before

it, and through it, O Lord, my King, You might rule over the enemies of the Cross."

A visit to this hallowed altarstone of American sacrifice, which exudes the sweet odor of Jogues' sacrifice and Tekakwitha's chastity, is a thrilling experience. We recommend that every client of Kateri make a pilgrimage to this sacred spot where she was born, and also to the other old Mohawk village across the river, Caughnawaga, now Tekakwitha Friary, Fonda, New York, where she was baptized.

APRIL 17

Tekakwitha died April 17. The day of death of children of God is the day of their birth, because on that day they enter immortal life, the life that never ends. Let all who read this ask God to hasten the time when April 17 may be Tekakwitha's Feast as well as Birthday.

MAKING TEKAKWITHA KNOWN

"A few years ago I suffered a severe stroke. The whole left side of my body was completely paralyzed and two doctors said I would never walk again. Although at that time I was a non-Catholic, I prayed each day to little Kateri to help me, and she did. Through her help I became real well again and can walk as well now as I ever could. Since then I have received Baptism and Confirmation in the Catholic faith and am very happy."

—St. Petersburg, Fla.

"Shortly after I received a prayer card to Catherine Tekakwitha with silk attached, we had a sudden and unexplainable cure in our home. Our eight-year-old son had a very bad cough which we had been unable to stop. It was always very bad at night. He couldn't sleep and was in constant sweats as a result of over exertion. One night he was coughing so badly we didn't know what to do. Then, I thought of the prayer and relic of Tekakwitha. I asked her help and touched his throat with the bit of salk and he stopped coughing at once. He had a wonderful sleep and never had another symptom of cough or cold. This may have been a small gift to those who have worse suffering or incurable diseases but to a mother whose heart was torn for a suffering child it was a wonderful cure, and so grateful."

-Detroit, Mich.

Present subscribers are asked to renew their subscriptions at this time and to obtain new members.

Those who have already renewed their subscriptions are asked to ignore this request.

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"About four years ago my daughter's skin began to break out. We bought every remedy we heard of and finally went to a dermatologist—he didn't help at all. After spending seventy-five dollars, I just couldn't afford to keep it up and decided to do nothing but pray exclusively to Kateri promising that if through her prayers my child's skin would clear up without a scar I would have it published. Well, it's almost like a miracle the way it has cleared, and we are very grateful."

—Philadelphia, Pa.

"My sister had a nervous breakdown. She was treated for several weeks and finally was hospitalized. About a month after her illness began she started to use a reliquary of Kateri and to say the prayer to her. From then on she continued to improve and is now back at her office."

—Brooklyn, N. Y.

"I had an unusual growth on my lip for the past six months. I was very worried as it seemed to be getting larger. I prayed to Kateri and after a few days it vanished."

-Chicago, Ill.

"The enclosed I promised Tekakwitha for healing an ulcer on my leg. I made two novenas, and before the second one was finished my leg was all healed. Mank thanks to her." —Baltimore, Md.

"I believe that Catherine Tekakwitha's intercession with God helped in our cause. We were praying that we would be able to adopt a baby, and now he is legally ours. The case was very unusual, and many things were not in our favor."

—Dearborn, Mich.

"This is to keep a promise I made to Venerable Kateri. What I asked her to obtain was a free and peaceful home. I did not specify how it was to be brought about, through more money from our business, more health for my husband, or conversion for another person. Each might have been a means. Any of these solutions seemed extremely remote,

bordering on the impossible. Now we have our free and peaceful home and not by any of the means that I had thought of. It is much better than anything I had imagined. Much effort and suffering went into it, but the result was undreamed of at the time I began to pray to Venerable Kateri. It must have been her intercession that caused the strange chain of events leading to our having, with our two children, the first home by ourselves that we have had in the ten years of our marriage."

—Portland, Ore.

"My husband had some property which he wanted settled but we feared the lawyer's fee would leave very little. I had prayed to Venerable Tekakwitha and she answered my prayers on several occasions. I suggested to him to make a novena to Kateri which he did and he promised to send her an offering if things came out satisfactorily. He was so pleased at the way everything was settled that he is sending her this generous offering. I am also sending my contribution for favors received."

—Georgia.

"Please excuse the writing for I am ten years old. Enclosed find a little offering for the help I have received from Kateri Tekakwitha. She answered my prayers when I asked for help to pass a patch test for T.B. X-ray."
—Detroit, Mich.

"When in 1941 I began to buy U. S. War Bonds to build up the Building Fund of our new church, I deposited them in a safe deposit box at the bank. Among other medals and holy pictures I placed those of your heroine Kateri. As a matter of fact after reading so much of her aid in financial matters I really give her most of the credit together with the North American Martyrs if today we have a new church and a hall, which can be made into a school. Thanks a million times for their aid."

-Nesquehoning Pa.

"I have received great financial help through novena to the Lily of the Mohawks. Not only success in my profession as music teacher but a gift of stock in a large enterprise. I am deeply grateful."

-San Antonio, Tex.

"Offering enclosed is in thanksgiving for the many favors God has bestowed upon me through the intercession of Catherine Tekakwitha. I am a recent law school graduate who successfully passed two bar exams and I have obtained a fine position with a law firm. All of this I feel was certainly not without Tekakwitha's intercession."

-Kansas City, Mo.

"Enclosed is an offering in honor of Kateri for helping my daughter get back her office job after the reopening of the plant which had been closed for several weeks. Being the newest one, she did not expect to be called back. Thanks to Kateri for this and many other favors received."

—Methuen, Mass.

"The enclosed is for a favor little Tekakwitha obtained for me—bringing back a friend to God who had been away from the Church for some time. Will always be most devoted to Tekakwitha."—Columbus, Ohio.

"I entered some poultry in a local fair and promised Catherine an offering if she would let me win a prize. 'Won first prize' thanks to her."

—Roanoke, Va.

"My son won a national scholarship a year ago after entering a contest. We are sure our prayers to Tekakwicha helped as she seemed to solve so many problems in unexpected ways when appealed to."

-South Ozone Park, N. Y.

"Enclosed is an offering for use in the promotion of the canonization of Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha. This is a thanksgiving for her intercession that my mother would suffer no ill effects from a fall."

-New Orleans, La.

ADDITIONAL FAVORS

Cures	8	Relief in Distress 17
Employment	1	Safe Delivery 1
Financial Aid	3	Sale of Property 2
House	1	Temporal 1
Not Speci	fied	89

PETITIONS

10143
Financial Aid15
Safe Delivery 2
Not Specified 35

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DICTURES

PICTURES	
Small—lithograph, color, sketch and prayer " lithograph, color, silk applied to relics	
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