

THE LILY OF

Fairest flower that ever



THE MOHAWKS

bloomed among true men

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DEVOTION, IMITATION, INVOCATION

Devotion—Veneration for Kateri Tekakwitha is not the ordinary esteem or fondness we have for famous persons or places, but the honor and affection—devotion—we should feel for a heroine in God's service.

Imitation—This is the greatest honor we can pay her, and this is easy, since her virtues were manifested principally in love of the Cross, the Chapel, the Sacrifice of the Mass, Holy Communion, and the Rosary.

Invocation—The fact that Kateri has been officially proclaimed Venerable should confirm our belief that she has power to obtain blessings from God. This belief began with her death, and has never ceased. Our mail bulges with reports of favors that come daily from priests, sisters, the laity, often from non-Catholics. The latter pages of this bulletin give recent examples.

TEKAKWITHA THE VIRGIN

The reopening of the Shrine at Auriesville for its annual pilgrimage season recalls the airways beacon maintained at Tekakwitha's birthplace by the U. S. Government, and the well-known poem about it from the pen of Father Alfred Barrett, S.J.

By courtesy of *The Messenger of the Sacred Heart*, here is the story of the poem: This story begins with a coincidence. Or did God plan it that way? Strange how Uncle Sam can sometimes serve the cause of

piety—and poetry! But that is the point of the story.

He had been asked to write a poem, this Jesuit Father, who, in company with fellow priests of the Society of Jesus, was stationed on the very spot where Jesuits had died for Christ, three hundred years before, and where Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha, the Indian Maiden was born. He wanted to write that poem about the Jesuit Martyrs and the *Lily of the Mohawks*, but wanting was not enough, until Uncle Sam helped out.

The place was Auriesville, in the beautiful Mohawk valley of New York State. Government officials charged with the safeguarding of airways had chosen the summit of the hill where St. Isaac Jogues, St. Rene Goupil and St. John de Lalande were martyred, and where Kateri was later born, as an ideal spot for one of those airline beacons that dot the land. But,—the thought came one night long after bedtime,—how many flashes had the government assigned to the Auriesville beacon? One glance from the window and the symbol for a poem was supplied: pulsing in the darkness were three red flashes, followed by a beam of white light,—modernity unwittingly honoring the three Jesuit Martyrs and the *Lily of the Mohawks*.

Ossernenon was the Indian name of Auriesville, and Ossernenon is the title of this poem that attempts to memorialize the holiest spot in America. This is the way it goes.

OSSERNENON

Along the Mohawk River strangers mark
 An airline beacon flashing in the dark,
 Nor pause to wonder why,
 Above the piney summit of a hill
 At Auriesville,
 Beauty should so touch this particular sky.
 Look! White—
 And now three flashes play
 Rose-red, as the circling beam
 Completes its bright bouquet!

Oh, how beautiful is the chaste generation
 with glory,
 How beautiful with light
 The chaste generation, the elect, the few,
 Whose story
 That beacon tells at night!
 For this was Ossernenon
 This was an Indian town,
 The heart of the savage wood.

Here once Father Jogues wept, climbing,
 Gazing down
 In pity upon his Jerusalem;
 Here he stood
 Braving the imminent tomahawk;
 Here he died;
 And with him the woodsman, Lalonde,
 And before them Rene, the surgeon—
 And here in her cradle cried
 Tekakwitha the Virgin.

This was Ossernenon
 And they were of those
 Who follow the Lamb
 Whithersoever He goes—
 Martyrs into the fiery furnace,
 Maidens into the snows.
 Look! White—
 A lily of light!
 And now three flashes play
 Rose-red, as the circling beam
 Repeats its bright bouquet!

KATERI HELPS IN SO MANY WAYS

"One of the ladies afflicted with cancer, for whom we made a novena to Kateri, made a very pronounced and rather sudden improvement and it was quite apparent that there might be an almost cure. The doctors and all concerned were amazed and did not know what to say. A local doctor, not a Catholic, who attended her, told her and several others, that if she became well, medical

science could take no credit for it, but that it would come from a Power higher than that of man."

—Manson, Iowa.

"Thanks for being spared a major operation through the intercession of Venerable Tekakwitha. A bad condition was developing in my health and the doctors were expecting that an operation might be necessary.

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

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I asked a priest and a nurse to bear witness to the fact that I was asking Tekakwitha to help me in this crisis, and at the same time I committed myself to a special good work in her honor. The seriousness of my condition began to lessen, and in a week I was out of the hospital and again back at my regular work.”

—Crookston, Minn.

“Although I heard of Kateri Tekakwitha some time ago, it was only recently that I beseeched her for a favor. She answered my request almost immediately. My sister, after loosing her first child at birth, was three weeks over-due on her second one. If the baby had not arrived within four days, the doctor was going to perform a Caesarean operation. On the second day a healthy baby boy was delivered. Many thanks that I am not able to express with words are due to my “Lily of the Mohawks.”

—Denver, Col.

“I have loved Kateri for many years. Sixteen years ago I had a thyroid operation. The day after the operation I was very ill with a high fever. My two sisters, Holy Cross nuns, were visitors at our local convent at the time, one was a nurse. She was called at ten o’clock at night to come to the hospital, the other sisters prayed for me at the convent. A relic of Tekakwitha was applied and in a few hours the fever broke and I started to get better.”

—Lancaster, Pa.

“Little Catherine has never yet failed me. This time it was my father. He had a stroke and it was serious enough for the doctor to say I had better stay at the hospital all night with him. I pinned Catherine’s reliquary on him and in three days he was able to leave the hospital. He has recovered completely.”

—Detroit, Mich.

“Enclosing a thanksgiving offering to Kateri for having answered my frantic prayers to combat the acute ear infection suffered by my four year old son. Not only was I dis-

tressed over his danger and pain but I worried over not being able to teach the next day. Being recently widowed and raising three boys the prospect of being docked worried me. Kateri helped me by having him awaken with the pain gone and well enough to be left with the family who minds him as I teach.”

—Pleasantville, N. Y.

“A neighbor gave me the novena prayers to Venerable Tekakwitha and I have said them daily and asked for the recovery of the children in minor illness. My father had a serious operation and complications which made his condition very critical. I again asked Kateri to intercede for his recovery which she did.”

—Coachella, Cal.

“A few months ago I developed a bladder infection. I prayed to little Catherine to be cured. I am thankful to say I am cured and feel as good as I ever felt.”

—Evansville, Ind.

“In the past, I have obtained many favors through my prayers to Tekakwitha but have never reported any of these. However, recently a friend told me of a physical weakness her son had. She was very much disturbed about the condition as it prevented him from doing many things that his ten year old friends enjoyed. I suggested that she and I make a novena to Tekakwitha. She asked her son to join, and he prayed devoutly for the nine days. About two weeks after our novena she called to tell me that he had overcome his weakness completely. She had tried everything in the way of medicine previously and nothing had helped. I have attributed this wonderful recovery directly to Tekakwitha.”

—Oakland, Cal.

“Kateri has been living up to her name—‘putting things in order.’ The sister whom I said has not been helped by Kateri’s relic, now assures me that the doctor has found a definite change. She also says that she feels Kateri has given her a better spirit of acceptance.

"Another answer to my prayer was in my brother's regard. He had been layed off work due to a shortage of material. As he said every work-day counts to one who has a family, he accepted work which was a constant danger to his life. He was discouraged and weary when he wrote. I sent him a medal of Kateri and asked him to pray to her. I also joined in this prayer. Within a week he wrote to tell me that the company had called him back, as they were too rushed without him."

—Chadron, Neb.

"Enclosed is an offering in appreciation for the many favors granted me since a friend asked me to carry Kateri Tekakwitha's picture with me daily. Rearing a son, now nine years of age, has caused me many financial difficulties. Also turned down offers to make extra money in order to spend more time with him. Finally his teachers begged me to enroll him in a Catholic academy for boys. I did so reluctantly not knowing how I would pay his added monthly bills, uniforms, etc. Well, I'm sure the Lily of the Mohawks interceded as many wonderful offers of good work and opportunities have come my way. Most of all I feel a great peace of mind knowing he is well taken care of."

—New York, N. Y.

"Here is a little thanksgiving for the Lily. It seems that she is helping in the Missions."

—Wilber, Neb.

"Wish to give a delayed thanksgiving to dear Kateri Tekakwitha. Two men got much needed work through her intercession. A father of a young family never successful before has splendid employment close to home—not too hard—good pay—and full of promise. A young man, a diabetic, driving twelve miles and working too hard, now working near home."

—Rochester, N. Y.

"Am enclosing an offering as promised for a favor granted. At a recent banquet I distributed about fifty of the folders and many of the girls were so pleased as they did not know where to secure the leaflets."

—Oak Park, Ill.

ADDITIONAL FAVORS

Cures	5	Financial Aid	6
Apartment	1	Property Sold	4
Conversion	1	Relief in Distress	12
Employment	2	Safe Delivery	1
Not Specified			64

PETITIONS

Cures	20	Relief in Distress	15
Apartments	4	Safe Delivery	2
Employment	8	Sale of Property	4
Financial Aid	16	Not Specified	40

Obituary

Most Rev. Moses E. Kiley, Milwaukee, Wis.
 Most Rev. Patrick J. McCormick, Washington, D. C.
 Rev. Charles J. Denecke, S.J., Woodstock, Md.
 Rev. James A. McCarl, S.J., Philadelphia, Pa.
 Sister Marie Dolores, Mt. St. Joseph, Ohio.
 Miss Amalie Grob, New Braunfels, Texas.
 Mr. Paul Keaney, Des Moines, Iowa.
 Miss Agnes Saul, Washington, D. C.
 Miss Frances A. Sprague, San Francisco, Cal.

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TEKAKWITHA LEAGUE

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