

THE LILY OF

*Fairest flower that ever*



THE MOHAWKS

*bloomed among true men*

VOL. XVII, No. 4

JULY-AUGUST, 1953

## THE GLORY OF OUR RACE

### *A Plea From Kateri's Own People*

Probably the most picturesque, and certainly among the most touching petitions received by our Holy Father, were those written by Tekakwitha's own people, begging for her speedy glorification.

Several years ago petitions from Indian tribes in the United States and Canada, containing close to ten thousand individual signatures, were gathered. These petitions, wrapped in parchment of undressed leather ornamented with their native pigments, were prepared by the Indians themselves and duly inscribed to His Holiness. They were encased in a box made of oak from a tree which was growing at Auriesville, Kateri's birthplace, 297 years ago.

### *Arapahoe to Zuni*

Among the United States tribes petitioning were: Navajo, Yuma, Soboba, Gros Ventre, Penobscot, Pueblo, Zuni, Flathead, Arikarra, Cree, Colville, Papago, Apache, Chippewa, Sioux, Passamaquoddy, Arapahoe, Blackfeet, Kootenai, Shoshone, Comanche, Morengo, Pima, Maricpoa, Assiniboin, Onei-

da, Crow, Cupano, Menominee, Winnebago, Ottawa and Cheyenne.

From Canada these tribes sent petitions: Cree, Carrier, Shushwap, Chilcolen, Chipe-wayen, Hagwilget, Squamish, Sauteux, Iroquois, Sekanese, Malicite, Micmac, Weymontaching, Mancewan, Blackfeet, Obedjiwan, Tchipweyan and Chesassen.

### *Kellys and Rattlesnakes*

The signatures are a study in themselves. Big Chief Big Bear George and Chief William Weaver sign for the tribe at White Earth, Minnesota. For the Oglaba Sioux, Emil Cetan Kokipapi (Emil - Afraid - of - Hawk) Lynch is listed with Rabbit and Buffalo. Wolfe, Skunk, Saddleback, Rattlesnake and Small Boy (a girl) are among the Crees. But there are also Driscolls, Cavanaghs, Kellys, Dionnes, Lafertys, Dohertys and Mitchells, along with Thelma Good Thunder. From Canada some of the names were: Joseph Shortneck, Patrick Firestone, Charlie Roasting, Nancy Twins, Helen Cutnife, Madeline Lightning and Pete Bruised Head.

*Some of the Letters*

The petitions are heartwarming. Here are a few:

*"We poor Indians, Natley people, Stella people, Sbaraton people, Thatley people, Sbeslatta people, Huncha Lake people, B. C., Canada, wish to tell our Father at Rome we want very much to pray to our Indian girl Catherine one day, the same way we pray to St. Agnes and St. Theresa.*

*"Chiefs Maxime, David, Isidore, Paddy, etc."*

*"To the Great Father of the Prayer, Rome.*

*"I am an old chief of the Indians living at Fort Smith, Canada. My hand shakes as I am writing, for I know that you are great. But our good Bishop Breynat told us that you were our Father and You loved us very much. For this reason I am pleased to write you a few words to ask you a favor in the name of all my subjects. We would all be so glad if you would declare Holy one of our country, maiden Catherine Tekakwitha. I am 86 years old. Perhaps tomorrow God will call for me. How I should be happy to learn before I die that You have said Yes to my demand.*

*"Your son that loves and prays for You.*

*"Peter Squirrel."*

In four languages the Kamloops School asks:

*"We, the little Indians of the Shushwap tribe, kneeling at your feet, humbly beg your Holiness, the common Father of all Christians, to beatify our little sister, Kateri Tekakwitha."*

And from the Cariboo School, British Columbia:

*"To our Father the Pope, Chief of all the Catholics in the world.*

*"We kneel down before you, our Father the Pope, to ask you to have Tekakwitha 'beatified' as the white men call it. We like her. She helps us sometimes in our sickness and gives us a strong heart in our struggles against soil."*

For "the people of the Stone," West de Pere, Wisconsin, Sachem James Cornelius writes:

*"Holy Father: I am one of the Oneida Indians. I am sorry that we were cruel to your first missionaries years ago. Nowadays it is different. We would rather have peace. We would like you to tell us that our little Kateri Tekakwitha is praying for us poor sinners."*

His Holiness could not fail to be touched by these stalwart petitioners, begging him to exalt the "glory of their race." The Blackfeet address His Holiness: *Omakb Natoapia-picoon*; for the Menominees his title is *Kina Kaz Maz Machotachkonien*. But in every case it is the language of loving, devoted hearts.

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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## RECENT FAVORS

"My husband was suffering from violent headaches, which when he had similar ones three years ago, were classed migraine. However, because of their peculiarity and severity the doctor suggested he be hospitalized. Four X-rays of his head, chest X-rays, cardiograph and many other tests were taken. The evening of the day the relic arrived we were told that he had no head injuries and had a definite sensitivity to histamine causing the headaches. Injections of a new drug were suggested, but again we resorted to Venerable Kateri for help in making our decision. It was decided not to take the injections and we began the novena. The relic was applied and on the ninth day my husband's headaches subsided. He has not had one since, thanks to the intercession of the Lily of the Mohawks.

"While he was in the hospital he allowed another man to apply the relic. He gave him the prayer, since this was the first he had ever heard of Kateri, and he was very interested. He, too, learned that what had been diagnosed as rheumatic fever was actually allergy to penicillum."

—Brooklyn, N. Y.

"Just recently my brother who had not been to the Sacraments for at least thirty-five years passed away. In those years I have made many novenas for his return. About ten years ago he developed a throat ailment which finally became very serious. Two days before Christmas he came home to see his parents. He was suddenly taken ill and had to be sent to a hospital. I was afraid since he was gradually losing his voice that something would happen and he wouldn't get back to the Sacraments. I happened to read about Catherine Tekakwitha and immediately started a novena to her for his return before he should become

too ill. I finished the first one and nearly a second praying also that he should not be alone if he should die, since he was in a veterans hospital out of the city. Thank God and Kateri both requests were answered."

—Lancaster, Pa.

"I have turned to her for health, when troubled, when my worries seemed to crush me, and each time my prayers to Kateri were answered. The first time I prayed to her was in 1941. I wanted a baby so badly and yet when I would become pregnant I would suffer miscarriage. In April of 1942 I had a beautiful baby girl. I'll never forget my joy and thanksgiving. I had a second baby girl a year and a half later."

—Youngstown, Ohio.

"I can't begin to enumerate all the favors Tekakwitha has obtained for my family and I. I had a severe kidney infection and she spared me from an operation. She has given us financial help when it appeared to be impossible to get."

—Fancy Farm, Ky.

"Again I want to thank the Lily of the Mohawks. My son had a rash on his face and I asked her to help him. It left without any trouble. Kateri is wonderful to help you out if people would only ask her."

—Mitchell, S. D.

"I started to pray to Kateri when I was very ill with pneumonia and paralyzed eye muscle. Now I am fine, thank God, and I can never forget Tekakwitha."

—New Orleans, La.

"An offering toward the Cause of Kateri Tekakwitha because a questionable lung X-ray turned out to be not tuberculosis."

—Schenectady, N. Y.

"I was suffering with terrific pains in my arms and hands and after praying to this little servant of God they suddenly vanished."

—Detroit, Mich.

"I received the enclosed check from one of my parishioners to be used in advancing the Cause of Tekakwitha. Prayers were offered to Kateri for her baby, suffering from a serious heart ailment from birth eight months ago today, and to me its improvement is wonderful." —Adair, Iowa.

"In 1937 I first heard of Kateri Tekakwitha. I made a novena to her and the Blessed Virgin for a position in the police department. I got the job and since then have received many favors through her intercession. The latest, again making a novena to my little Indian Kateri and the Blessed Virgin that I would be within the first five on a competitive examination list. I came out fourth. On April 9th, I received my promotion. I am now a lieutenant in the Pittsburgh police department." —Pittsburgh, Pa.

"I have been a contributor to the Cause of Kateri Tekakwitha for many years, but until recently I have never had cause to make a serious novena to her. Life has always been good to me and I've felt that she has been greatly responsible for my many blessings. However, recently I ran into serious difficulty in trying to sell my home. I couldn't find a single eligible buyer. As time dragged on my circumstances became more desperate. It was imperative that I

sell and find a smaller home. I decided to pray to Kateri and invoke her aid. She rewarded my prayers beyond my wildest dreams. My home sold at a more than expected price, and I found another within two days that was a dream come true. I shall always be grateful to her. I urge all who need help to put their faith and trust in her and pray to her in deep sincerity and earnestness." —Pittsburgh, Pa.

"I wish to report as I promised, that through the intercession of Catherine Tekakwitha my son's family has been reunited when divorce seemed inevitable." —Manitowoc, Wis.

#### ADDITIONAL FAVORS

Cures	5	Financial Aid	4
Conversion	1	Relief in Distress	8
Employment	2	Not Specified	57

#### PETITIONS

Cures	33	Financial Aid	15
Conversions	4	Safe Delivery	6
Employment	10	Sale of Property	8
Not Specified	45		

#### Obituary

Rev. Francis E. Lavelle, Amenia, N. Y.  
 Rev. Cyprian McGarvey, C.P., Union City, N. J.  
 Rev. Domhnall A. Steel, S.J., New York, N. Y.  
 Rev. John Vogel, Oelrichs, S. D.  
 Miss Kathryn Aufehide, St. Louis, Mo.  
 Mr. William F. Coyne, Chicago, Ill.  
 Mrs. Eleanor Mackenzie, Dorchester, Mass.  
 Mr. R. J. Young, New York, N. Y.  
 Most Rev. John J. Boylan, Rockford, Ill.  
 Rev. John J. Cassidy, S.J., New York, N. Y.

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