

THE LILY OF

Fairest flower that ever



THE MOHAWKS

bloomed among true men

VOL. XVIII, No. 3

MAY-JUNE, 1954

NEW BIOGRAPHY

Marie Cecilia Buehrle, author of *Saint Maria Goretti*, has just published (Bruce, \$3.00) a very readable biography of Tekakwitha under the title, *Kateri of the Mohawks*. The Rev. Henri Béchard, S.J., and the Rev. Thomas J. Coffey, S.J., Vice-Postulators for Canada and the United States respectively, both have forewords, and there is an introduction by the late Edmund J. Rhodebeck, M.D., Fellow of the New York Academy of Medicine. Miss Buehrle adheres closely to the facts about Kateri's life

as submitted to Rome in the *Positio* of the Historical Section of the Sacred Congregation of Rites. She has animated the narration with her own simple and colorful style. This book should do much to increase interest in the *Lily*, and move us to storm heaven for the required miracles, so that the time will be hastened when, we hope and pray, she will be, at long last, *Blessed* and *Saint*. Copies of this interesting new book may be ordered (at \$3.00) from your bookstore or through this office.

MORE ON THE MADONNA OF THE MOHAWKS

It was in 1669 that the statue of *Our Lady of Foy* was carried to New France. This we are told in the 1670 Relation: "Last year there was sent to our Reverend Father Superior a statue of the Blessed Virgin, made of the wood of the oak in which was found several years ago a miraculous statue of *Our Lady of Foy*. Those who sent the statue manifested their wish that it should be set up in a chapel where the savages commonly meet for their exercises of piety. There it is hoped they will honor the Mother of God and ask from her graces necessary for the conversion of all the nations of New France. This was sent to the little church which had just been completed in a settlement of the Hurons a short distance from Quebec."

On the removal of the Hurons from Que-

bec in 1675, the image was carried into what is now the Mohawk Valley, by Father James de Lamberville, where it was borne from village to village (Auriesville, etc.) and venerated until the destruction of the missions by the English in 1684.

This is the statue which disappeared. It may have been destroyed in the fire, or it may have been, like its old-world model, concealed in the trunk of some tree. Most likely it is that the Christian Iroquois carried it with them in their flight to the safety of Canada. But thus far no trace of it has been found, though it has been eagerly sought. Several ancient wooden statues have been found in various places, but none that answers exactly to the description of *Our Lady of Foy*.

Two hundred years after the destruction of the Mission of the Martyrs, devotion to Our Lady was revived at Auriesville, site of the martyrdoms of Jogues, Lalande and Goupil, and birthplace of Tekakwitha—under the title of *Our Lady of Martyrs*. There is a special fitness in this title. It is the idea which prevailed at Foy: not *Our Lady of Faith*, but *Our Lady of Constancy*. She stood by the Cross. She thus became *Queen of Martyrs*.

Popular conception of our *Virgo Fidelis* was confirmed by the action of the Church. The Mass of *Our Lady of Martyrs* was granted to the Church of *Our Lady of Foy* at Duay and at Tournay. And for ten years Our Lady was venerated under her old title at the Mohawk Mission, inaugurated at Au-

riesville in the blood of martyrs, blossoming at Fonda in the Baptism of Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha by Father Lamberville, who had first carried the statue to this region.

Some years ago, through the generosity of the Mead family of Buffalo, a marble representation of *Our Lady of Foy* was made for the Shrine, and it is this image which is venerated in the Chapel of the Martyrs at Auriesville. In this there was no attempt to do other than idealize the original.

It is with joy that we add to our objects of devotion at the Shrine this actual replica of the image before which the Mohawk converts prayed. There is another copy enshrined at Tekakwitha Shrine on the north bank of the Mohawk, near Fonda, New York.

Kateri Continues to Favor Many

"When a miscarriage threatened, I began to pray every day to Catherine Tekakwitha, and promised if all went well and if the child was a girl to name her Margaret Kateri. Our seventh child and fourth daughter was born—a beautiful child. I feel sure that St. Margaret and the Lily of the Mohawks helped by their intercession." —St. Paul, Minn.

"Thank you for your prayers for my eye. I am definitely certain that our little Kateri has taken care of the cataract as it shows no cause for alarm and the doctor has given me drops to retard the growth of the cataract."

—Kansas City, Mo.

"Enclosed is for the promotion of the Cause of our mutual friend, Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha. I promised this if she helped me to recover from a spell of pharyngitis, as she did once before. I sincerely believe that she has helped me."

—Vine Grove, Ky.

"You sent to us a couple of months ago, a relic picture of Kateri to help my husband's incision heal. It did so well that the doctor was surprised. Although there was not the necessary evidence that it was a miracle, we feel that it was due to Kateri."—Quincy, Ill.

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.

A Bi-Monthly Message, 60 Cents a Year; Two Copies, \$1.00

"My cousin, mother of eight children and carrying her ninth, was dangerously ill from all kinds of complications. Operation for an intestinal obstruction, an embolism and loss of her baby which was dead for six weeks before delivery. All hope was given up, and I sent her my medal and relic picture of the 'Little Indian.' She recovered, and also had a serious kidney removal. Please join me in thanking God and Kateri for her recovery."

—Brookline, Mass.

"Kindly find enclosed my modest offering. In the first place it begs to be a token of gratitude for many favors obtained through Venerable Kateri's intercession; especially for her helping me to obtain relief and finally getting me entirely cured of a very severe sore throat which had been clinging to me for over two months."

—Plattsburgh, N. Y.

"Lately I came across a leaflet of Catherine Tekakwitha which my brother (a Priest, S.J.) sent me from Australia some years ago. I read it now with more interest and I asked for a special favor which I wanted immediately, and I got it. It was quite remarkable so I decided to try and spread devotion to 'Catherine.'"

—Dublin, Eire.

"Enclosed is an offering which I promised Catherine Tekakwitha for helping me find a cure for an allergy."—Garden City, N. Y.

"Just a little gift for a successful operation through the intercession of Venerable Tekakwitha."

—Burlington, N. J.

"My husband was suffering great pain from bursitis and was very restless. I placed a picture of Kateri Tekakwitha with silk applied to relics on his shoulder and he quieted down a great deal. Many thanks to dear Tekakwitha."

—Worcester, Mass.

"Enclosed please find money order as the first installment of the donation that I promised little Kateri to send in response to numerous favors. The latest of a long series of blessings from her hands occurred as a result of my prayers one Sunday for financial aid.

"Sunday—Prayed for financial aid.

"Monday—Was given an eleven dollar a week increase on my current job.

"Wednesday—Was offered a position at thirty-one dollars more a week than the current job, and more in my own line of work.

"Friday—Accepted a position paying thirty-six dollars more a week than I was making. The man who hired me added the five dollars on his own.

"Following Friday—Received an extra week's pay from my old place of employment although I had only been there a short time and since I quit had no claim to such payment at all.

"Following Wednesday—Was offered a job teaching night school for six dollars an hour instead of the three and a half an hour that I was getting.

"Following Thursday—Out of a clear blue sky I was asked by a total stranger to 'ghost write' a book he was trying to put together. He asked me to name a figure and while I was trying to get up courage enough to name a figure, suggested an amount three times that large.

"I think that you will agree that this is an impressive answer to a short prayer."

—Oak Park, Ill.

"I am sorry that I have no evidence to prove the help Tekakwitha has given me for a year and a half, but I, who suffered from arch trouble for years, have walked with ease on the lightest of arches with no adjustment required, ever since Tekakwitha took over in January, 1952. I am very grateful to her."

—Rochester, N. Y.

"Through the intercession of Venerable Tekakwitha my little family was baptized and we are all so happy. I have a birthday the 20th of this month and I told everyone that is the nicest gift I ever received in all my 76 years. Little Kateri is so good."

—Cincinnati, Ohio.

"I was desperately in need of an apartment as I had to move. Everyone was telling me how impossible it was to find a place and I was discouraged. A nun gave me a card of Catherine Tekakwitha and told me to pray to her and she would pray also. In two weeks I had an apartment. Later I needed financial aid and the nun and I started a novena and in less than a week our prayers were answered. Two weeks ago my niece's husband, who is in service, was moving to Virginia. He had no apartment and his furniture was going in storage. He had only four days before shipping out. His wife and children were in Boston with me and he had to go to Virginia with his family. I started a novena to Kateri on Sunday and on Monday night he called from Virginia and said he had found an apartment. I am so thankful to the Lily of the Mohawks. I will do all I can to spread devotion to her."

—Roxbury, Mass.

ADDITIONAL FAVORS

Cures	4	Spiritual and	
Apartment	1	Temporal	2
Financial Aid	4	Successful Election ..	1
Relief in Distress	5	Not Specified	44

PETITIONS

Cures	51	Relief in Distress	13
Apartments and Home ..	3	Sell Property	3
Conversions	10	Spiritual and	
Employment	6	Temporal	5
Examination Success ..	4	Successful Operation ..	3
Financial Aid	13	Not Specified	48

Obituary

Most Rev. William J. Hafey, Scranton, Pa.
 Rt. Rev. Msgr. J. Wurm, Crookston, Minn.
 Rev. William J. Bauer, S.J., Jersey City, N. J.
 Rev. Patrick Dowd, Westfield, Mass.
 Rev. Conrad Eiben, C.P., Union City, N. J.
 Sister M. Donula, O.S.F., Wilmington, Del.
 Sister Mary Eugenia, Jamaica, L. I., N. Y.
 Sister Mary Loretto, Brooklyn, N. Y.
 Mr. Frank I. Barrett, San Francisco, Calif.
 Miss Beatrice Brown, New York, N. Y.
 Miss Marion A. Byrne, Philadelphia, Pa.
 Miss Mary A. Dempsey, Millbury, Mass.
 Miss J. A. Kiernan, New York, N. Y.
 Miss Angela Mattingly, Binghamton, N. Y.
 Miss Mary Schindler, Hooversville, Pa.
 Mr. Bernard J. Troy, Brooklyn, N. Y.

TO MAKE TEKAKWITHA KNOWN AND LOVED

LEAFLETS

- I—Sketch and prayers.
- II—Novena, with daily reflexion.
 5c. for 2; 25c. a dozen

LIFE

By Wynne, 32 pages, illustrated, 20c.

MEDAL

Image and title "Lily of the Mohawks,"
 special metal, 15c.; silver, 60c.

PICTURES

- Small—lithograph, color, sketch and prayer... 10c.
- " lithograph, color, silk applied to relics... 20c.
- Large—lithograph in color, 12 1/2 x 8 1/2 inches,
 mounted so as to need no frame; for
 class or private room 75c.

Bookmarks, 20c. a dozen

Reduction on quantity

TEKAKWITHA LEAGUE

30 WEST 16TH STREET, NEW YORK 11, N. Y.

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