



Sr. M. Fides Glass

## KATERI TEKAKWITHA

# The Lily of the Mohawks

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*Prayers and Thoughts for a Private Novena invoking the aid of Tekakwitha are to be found on the pages following.*

## Thanksgivings

"It was 22 years ago that my mother's and aunt's prayers to Kateri, asking her to ask God to let me live, were answered. Being just 11 years old, I had a large malignant growth between my bladder and ovary and though the doctor removed it he could not say it would not return. Since the doctor said my insides were like a newborn baby's, as nothing grew to normal size, he thought I must have been born with this growth. If I lived he said he doubted that I would ever bear children. Thanks again to Kateri, I now have three wonderful healthy children. When I was expecting my third child, since I had a boy and girl, and my daughter wanted a sister very much, I asked Kateri if she could tell me in some way what my baby would be. One Sunday morning while we were dressing for church my husband said to me, "you know I had a dream last night that someone left a baby girl by our front door." I was sure that was Kateri's way of telling me our baby would be a girl. We named her Mary Kateri. When people ask us where we got her name we are happy to tell them about Tekakwitha. While I was in the hospital, one of the nurses told me her husband was in the Veteran's Hospital for quite a long time with a nervous breakdown and didn't seem to be getting better

at all. I gave her the prayer to Kateri and before I left the hospital she came to tell me her husband's doctor had called her and told her that her husband had asked to go home. There was such a change in him that she had the doctor's permission to take him home."

WILKES-BARRE, PA.

"I started a novena for my sister who was going for a complete check-up. She feared the worse. Thank God, all reports were most favorable. Also an aunt over seventy had to have a serious operation on both eyes. I again started a novena. The operation was successful and she returned home after a few days in the hospital. The eye specialist was greatly surprised to find the vision so much better than he had hoped for. I know the little Lily of the Mohawks is responsible for this, and many more favors I have received. I shall continue to make her known. Enclosed donation is in thanksgiving."

PHILADELPHIA, PA.

"Enclosed please find offering in thanksgiving for favors of health received through the intercession of Catherine Tekakwitha."

ZURICH, SWITZERLAND.

## PRAYER FOR THE CANONIZATION OF VENERABLE KATERI TEKAKWITHA

O God, Who, among the many marvels of Thy grace in the New World, didst cause to blossom on the banks of the Mohawk and the St. Lawrence the pure and tender Lily, Kateri Tekakwitha, grant, we beseech Thee, what we ask: (here mention your petition) so that this little lover of Jesus and His Cross may soon be raised to the honors of the Altar by Holy Mother Church, and that our hearts may be enkindled with a stronger desire to imitate her innocence and her faith, through the same Christ Our Lord. Amen.

Imprimatur:

† Most Reverend Edmund F. Gibbons, D.D.

For further information on her cause:

*In the United States:*

Rev. Vice-Postulator, Cause of Tekakwitha  
30 West 16th Street  
New York 11, N. Y.

## NOVENA THOUGHTS

### I Day—Prayer—Union with God

"The Prayer" was the Indian name for religion; "praying Indian" the name for a Christian Indian. All was open in an Indian Village, and the priests had to pray publicly. Their converts assembled in the chapel for prayer. The Indians were not wrong: prayer is union with God, and what else is religion?

When Tekakwitha saw the missionaries at prayer in her uncle's cabin the sight irresistibly attracted her. It helped to unite her with God, until her life became an act of prayer, of union with God.



### II Day—Grace—A Child of God

Grace is the thought that comes with mention of Tekakwitha. Unbaptized until her twentieth year, through no fault of her parents or her own, she still was a child of grace, which means that she grew up in God's favor, because she avoided all that might lead to the abominable habits of her people. She did all the good she could to retain God's favor. Kateri was a child of grace. May we, like Our Lord, grow in wisdom, age and grace!

## Thanksgivings

"My family of eleven pray every night in our family prayers to Kateri Tekakwitha. She is just wonderful in answering our prayers, even for the very smallest things. My last little girl, Kateri Ann, had to have a plastic surgery operation. She came through just fine and was back to normal in just a few days."

"Last summer my husband got poisoned by an insecticide while spraying for termites. We thought he was going to die. I got my Tekakwitha medal and reliquary and pinned it on him. Immediately he began to get better and was back to work in about three days."

FANCY FARM, KY.

"Please accept this offering of thanksgiving to Kateri. She has helped us once more. My wife had a serious operation and came through it just fine."

PITTSBURGH, PA.

"Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha helps us out in our financial problems, besides obtaining for us many spiritual favors. In gratitude therefore is this check sent to promote her Cause."

TRINIDAD, COLO.

"I keep saying to myself, 'I must sit down and write a letter to my favorite League and thank them for their prayers and express my gratitude once again to our dear little Indian maiden.' Several months ago I asked if you would pray that my son-in-law would get some position. He did get a very good position and has never been as happy in his work. Those prayers! They are wonderful! Enclosing a small check."

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

"We have just returned from a thirty-two hundred mile trip to see our daughter. Before we left, I made a novena to Catherine for a safe trip, and also that my husband would be able to stand the trip. He drove all the way with no difficulty whatever. We are most grateful to Catherine for her intercession, and enclose a thanksgiving offering."

SAN JOSE, CALIF.

"A friend of mine, a diabetic, was in danger of having had to have a toe removed. I made a promise to Tekakwitha to send an offering if they did not have to operate. She is home from the hospital, and the toe was not removed."

PHILADELPHIA, PA.

### III Day—Holiness—Heroic Virtues

The missionaries who formed Tekakwitha were holy men. Not content to train their convert Indians in ordinary habits of devotion, they aimed at making them holy. Holy are those whose faith, hope and charity are extraordinary, who cultivate the virtues, prudence, justice, temperance, fortitude, and the good habits which grow out of these, prayer, humility, obedience, patience, resignation, penance. In all these Tekakwitha excelled.

### IV Day—Names of Kateri

All her names inspire admiration and affection.

Kateri, Iroquois form of Catherine, her baptismal name, means pure, and she was purity itself.

"Lily of the Mohawks," lily is emblem of purity.

She is known as "The Good Catherine," because so many have received favors by invoking her.

St. Genevieve had saved Paris of Old France: Kateri was named Genevieve of New France after she had saved the mission and the missionaries.

Tekakwitha means "putting things in order," or, "moving all before her." She put order among her people, and moves all by answers to prayer.

This flower of our American wildwood is already Venerable; may she soon be named Blessed and Saint!

"Heartfelt thanks to Catherine Tekakwitha and Our Blessed Lady for the return to the Sacraments of a relative after a lapse of three years."

CINCINNATI, OHIO.

"I had trouble eating. Seems my food went down the wrong way and it was quite painful. I asked Kateri that if she would help me, I would help her Cause. To my surprise, the very next day I could eat normally. Enclosed is a donation and thanks again to Tekakwitha. She has helped me many times."

METHEUN, MASS.

"Enclosed offering is for the Cause of Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha for graces and favors received and for obtaining and regaining my intentions and petitions."

LATROBE, PA.

"For sometime I seemed to have taken for granted the help I received through Kateri's aid. Recently I had to really talk to her, and only this morning made it clear we needed this aid in renting a room which was vacant for sometime. The income is real necessary to us in financing our home. Today we rented it, and I promised the first rent, and my grateful appreciation for the many favors received in the past."

ROME, N.Y.

### V Day—Innocence

One who is innocent will harm nobody, nor see evil in others; will not shock, scandalize or grieve them, but give them edification, pleasure, and win their admiration and affection.

Tekakwitha's surroundings were dreadful. Vice flourished in the most shocking way, pride, anger, gluttony, lust, sloth, hatred, cruelty, idolatry, superstition, sorcery, yet she remained innocent of all this, thought no evil, harbored no suspicion, entertained no ill-will, as if she were not of this world.

### VI Day—The Blessed Sacrament

Out from her Caughnawaga cabin at dawn and straightway to the chapel to adore the Blessed Sacrament, hear every Mass; back again during the day to hear instruction, and at night for a last prayer or Benediction. Her neighbors sought to be near her when she received Holy Communion as her manner excited devotion. The monsterness in which she beheld the Sacred Heart is still at Caughnawaga, Canada, where her relics are.

### VII Day—The Cross

Tekakwitha loved the image of the Cross. During the hunt she made an oratory in the woods by cutting a cross in the bark of a tree. The first picture of her, the only portrait of an Indian of that long ago, represents her venerating a small cross. It moved her to do penance in order to imitate Our Lord in His Passion.

"I am enclosing a small donation in thanksgiving for favors granted. Through Kateri's intercession my real estate business has been very good and my grandchild's speech is progressing nicely."

PONCHATOULA, LA.

"In payment of a debt for an accounting problem solved surely by the Lily of the Mohawks."

PERU, ILL.

"I was very sick with the virus and felt very weak. It seemed the virus had settled in my kidneys. Kateri cured me, and I owe her many thanks."

WORCESTER, MASS.

### OBITUARY

Most Reverend Joseph J. Annabring, D.D., Superior, Wis.  
Most Rev. M. J. Keyes, S.M., D.D., Washington, D.C.  
Rt. Rev. Msgr. Joseph B. Illig, Midland, Mich.  
Rev. Salvator M. Burgio, C.M., Emmitsburg, Md.  
Rev. Alphonsus R. Schmitt, S.J., Chicago, Ill.  
Rev. Gabriel A. Zema, S. J., New York, N.Y.  
Mother M. Gertrude, O.S.U., New Rochelle, N.Y.  
Miss Anna Borgerding, Dallas, Tex.  
Miss Catherine L. Bowen, Norwich, Conn.  
Miss Alice Doyle, Larium, Mich.  
Miss Julia L. Gannon, New York, N.Y.  
Miss Elizabeth Herbermann, New York, N.Y.



## VIII Day—The Blessed Virgin

The faithful Indian convert women would tell her how affectionate her mother was. That would help her to know how affectionate the Mother of Christ was and still is in heaven. To the beads Indian girls wore for ornament she preferred her rosary. The Litany was a favorite prayer of hers. More than once she walked or canoed the ten miles from her Mohawk village, Caughnawaga, to Tionontoguen, where the statue of Our Lady was venerated under the title, Virgin most Faithful.

## IX Day—Invocation

Although we are not yet permitted to express publicly the belief that Tekakwitha is among the Blessed in Heaven, it is our private belief and we pray that the Church may soon declare it. While awaiting this, we invoke her aid. Wonderful are the favors attributed to her. While praying for our own needs, we should pray for her canonization.



### BRIEF LIFE OF TEKAKWITHA

By: Fr. Coffey — 10¢

Fr. Wynne — 20¢



For information, address:

TEKAKWITHA LEAGUE

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

## TEKAKWITHA AND HER CAUSE

The "Lily of the Mohawks" was born in 1656 at Ossernenon, near Auriesville, N. Y., where Saint Isaac Jogues and companions were martyred, 1642-46. Her mother, captive Christian Algonquin, and pagan father died when she was a child unbaptized.

She grew up innocent, industrious, chaste. When eighteen a missionary came to her people. Baptized Easter, 1676, she was persecuted by wicked Indians. She escaped to La Prairie, Canada, autumn, 1677. She was a model of prayer, love of the Holy Eucharist and of the Blessed Virgin. She received First Communion at Christmas, resisted a second attempt to have her marry, and made the vow of virginity, first of her people, feast of the Annunciation, 1679.

She died April 17, 1680. Remarkable cures have been effected by using objects applied to her relics. She is called wonder-worker for the many favors obtained by invoking her aid. The Cause for her beatification is progressing rapidly in Rome.

"A spectacle for men and Angels."—Pius XI.

May 9, 1939, the Cardinals of the Congregation of Rites recommended the Introduction of the Cause for her Beatification and their decision was sanctioned by our Holy Father, Pope Pius XII, May 19.

June 12, 1942, His Holiness approved the decision of the Congregation that Tekakwitha's virtues were heroic. To proclaim this, on January 3, 1943, he signed the Decree in which she is styled—

VENERABLE

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### ADDITIONAL FAVORS

Cures .....	5	Safe Delivery .....	1
Employment .....	2	Spiritual & Temporal .....	2
Financial Aid .....	2	Successful Exams .....	1
Relief in Distress .....	7	Successful Operation .....	2
Safe Trip .....	3	Not Specified .....	51

### PETITIONS

Cures .....	61	Peace of Mind & Soul .....	2
Apartments & Homes .....	7	Relief in Distress .....	22
Conversions .....	4	Sale of Property .....	8
Employment .....	11	Successful Operation .....	2
Financial Aid .....	7	Successful Trip .....	2
Not Specified .....	44		

## TO MAKE TEKAKWITHA KNOWN AND LOVED

### LEAFLETS

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

### LIFE

By Wynne, 32 pages, illustrated, 20¢.  
By Coffey, 32 pages, 10¢.

### AMERICA'S MARTYRS

A pamphlet by Fr. Coffey, 10¢.

### MEDAL

Image and title "Lily of the Mohawks,"  
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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