

## INITIATION CEREMONIES MARK KATERI'S FEAST DAY



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Venerable Kateri's feast day, April 17, 1970, marked the initiation at Hogsburg, N.Y., of Father Joseph McBride S.J., vice-postulator, and Mary-Eunice Spagnola, actress and writer, as honorary members into the Mohawk Nation as a chief and as a princess.

"This honor or privilege of becoming honorary members of the Indian Tribe," commented Father Michael Jacobs S.J., Mohawk priest in charge of the initiation ceremonies, "is generally conferred upon people who have given outstanding contributions to the Indian cause or have worked constantly to spread the fame and glory of one of their ancestors of the 17th Century."

The greatest name in the history of the Five Nations of the Iroquois is the Mohawk Maiden, Kateri Tekakwitha, known throughout the United States and Canada as the "Lily of the Mohawks." Kateri, a Mohawk, born in 1656, was the daughter of a Mohawk Chief and of an Algonquin Christian mother who was captured near Three Rivers, Quebec.

In this special plan of Divine Providence Kateri represents the two greatest nations of North America, the Algonquin Nation of Canada, and the Iroquois Nation of New York State. When she is beatified and canonized she will be the first native of North America to receive these honors of the Roman Catholic Church. Her cause is being vigorously advanced both in the United States and Canada. Kateri was declared a Venerable in 1943 by Pope Pius XII.

In recognition of their ardent work in proclaiming the fame and saintliness of

(Continued on page five)



# Some Of Kateri's Answers

**NURSE ACHIEVES** — My prayers to "Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha" have aided me to achieve good grades at nursing school which I am attending. — Detroit, Michigan.

**NEW FRIEND HELPED** — I first heard of Kateri about two months ago when my husband brought home a leaflet from a Holy Name Banquet. I seemed to need so much help in many small matters and so I decided to pray to Kateri. She's just marvelous and has answered my prayers on nearly every matter. My daughter lost her glasses several months ago and despite all our searching we could not find them anywhere. I begged Kateri to show me where they were - she did in just 2 or 3 days after I started a novena! Several times she has answered my pleas concerning money matters and I am most grateful. I promised a donation and letter. I am enclosing \$3.00. Please enroll me in the Tekakwitha League. — Orchard Park, N.Y.

**PAR FOR THE COURSE** — Enclosed is a check for \$6.00 for a favor granted. I prayed to Tekakwitha that I would play a real good round of golf to win a certain golf tournament and I did. I don't think I could have won it without her help. Will you please send me two silver medals. For years I have kept her medal on my person. However, I gave my medal to a young lady who is emotionally distressed in hopes that we can get the "big miracle." Please help in praying for this 15 year old child. — Lafayette, La.

**DEVOTION RENEWED** — Several weeks ago a Joe O'Brien, president of the Chevrolet Automobile Inc. in Cleveland, Ohio, rejuvenated my devotion to Kateri Tekakwitha. I say rejuvenated because of my former devotion to her when as a young nun I taught the Sioux Indians on Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota.

Mr. O'Brien had said, "Ask her for favors. She'll never let you down!" So when a family here in Canton needed help and needed it badly, I offered to join them in a novena asking for help of our Venerata and promised publication if the favor were granted. Father....., pastor of....., here who also has a great devotion to the Indian Maiden gave me a statue and literature on her.

The day after the novena ended, the answer came unexpectedly, almost abruptly and more than we ever expected. A young seminarian was exonerated of all guilt in a case that threatened a jail sentence or, at best, ruin of his reputation in the parish and city. The trouble was in no way

publicized and all charges were dropped. I speak for the family when I say that it was Kateri's intercession that gained us this favor. — Canton, Ohio.

**COLLEGE & HAPPINESS** — Last year at this time, my husband was very puzzled about his future and very unhappy at his work. Within a month, a blessing was bestowed on him, and he decided to attend college after being absent from school for over 10 years. Just recently, he received his grade for the first semester - 2 solid C's. Enclosed is \$5.00 in thanks for my petition and hope Kateri continues to help us. — Clerk, N.J.

**METS SECRET REVEALED** — I am sending this donation in thanksgiving for the answer to the prayers of my third grade pupils whom I had praying that the Mets would have a successful season and win the pennant. — Brooklyn, N.Y.

**NO PLACE LIKE HOME** — Enclosed you will find a check for \$50.00 to be used through your Tekakwitha League to spread devotion to Kateri. Several years ago we started to look for another home and always seemed to be faced with some obstacle. Last fall, I prayed to Kateri to aid us in our search. Within a week our previous home was sold and we found and purchased a house which suited us just perfectly. At the time I started to ask Kateri for help, I promised her I would write to you telling of any assistance she could see fit to give me. I also promised her the enclosed amount to help spread devotion to her. I am very grateful to her for this favor and others she has granted to me in the last several months. — Albany, N.Y.

**NO TIME LOST** — About a month ago I fell and was getting settled in bed with an ice cap to relieve the swelling on my thigh, when a Sister came to my room bringing the Fall copy of the Lily of the Mohawks. A friend has just received it and remembered that I had devotion to Kateri when we were missioned together. I read it from cover to cover and could hardly wait for the hour to end when I could get up to get the relic I had put away at one time and had forgotten to take it out of safe keeping when I came home. I applied it to my injured area and said the prayers. I promised Kateri that I would send my first Christmas gift for promotional materials, if she helped me. Here it is, Father, because God heard her interceding for me, and relieved me of all pain. The swelling was as large as half a grapefruit, the discoloration was horrid. I didn't lose one minute from my duties which call for much walking. — Framingham, Mass.



# WELCOME MATS OUT FOR KATERI PROGRAM

Friends of Kateri between Belford - Buffalo and Rochester, Minn., have welcomed Vice - postulator Father McBride and Mary-Eunice and Joe Spagnola on this promotional tour which begins May 21, 1970, from Belford, N.J.

In Detroit Mr. Chet Adams, 19901 Woodbine Rd., is in charge of program arrangements. Mr. N. J. Shuman, director of the Block Rosary Apostolate, also has welcomed the Spagnolas while in Detroit.

From the Carmelite Headquarters, Westmont, Illinois, an invitation to present the Kateri program has been extended by Fr. Howard Rafferty, O. Carm.

From the mid-west terminus of the trip, Rochester, Minn., Sister Chabanel and Sister Winifred have informed us that June 8 would be best for the program. They feel that Assisi Heights will be blessed by the visit.

Other stops such as in Milwaukee, Duluth, St. Louis, Dayton, Ohio, will be made although at this writing definite times and places have not been finalized.

Father McBride urges anyone connected with a parish society or a parochial school who may wish to schedule the Kateri Program to contact him at 12 Central Park Plaza, Buffalo, N.Y., 14214, as soon as possible. No group is too small or too large to listen to the Kateri message. "We aim to enlist

the interest and enthusiasm of many people in the cause of the beatification and canonization of the wonderful Indian Maiden.", Father declared.

Even while en route invitations to speak about Kateri will be accepted. The time table is listed so that possible contacts may be made along the way; May 21 - Mary-Eunice and Joe leave Belford and arrive at Clarence Center on Saturday, May 23; May 26 - leave Buffalo for Detroit; May 29 - leave Detroit, arrive in Chicago; June 1 - leave Chicago, arrive in Milwaukee; June 4 - leave Milwaukee, arrive in Rochester, Minn.; June 9 - leave Rochester, arrive in St. Louis; June 14 - leave St. Louis, arrive in Eaton or Dayton, Ohio; June 16 - leave Dayton, arrive Canfield, Monaco; June 18 - leave Canfield, arrive Windber, Pa.; June 20 - arrive in Buffalo.

The principal feature of the program to be presented on the tour will be the dramatic characterizations written and played by Mary-Eunice on the life of the Lily of the Mohawks. Father McBride will talk about the present status of the Kateri cause and what can be done to further it. He will also show slides on the recent initiation ceremonies when he and Mary-Eunice were made honorary members of the Mohawk tribe. Joe Spagnola will act as Master of Ceremonies. A question and answer period may follow if time permits.

## KATERI IS THE NAME

Introduced for the first time at the Kateri Week End last year was the new arrival at the McGarry Family, Kateri. She was born on June 7, 1969, and is now the sister of Laura, 9, Frank, 6, Jimmy, 5, and Mary Maria, 1. The proud parents of these children are Mr. and Mrs. Francis McGarry, 23 Teakwood Drive, Elora, N.Y.

This is the first picture to enter the Kateri Album to be made up of youngsters who have been named after the Lily of the Mohawks. Readers are invited to submit black and white photos of other Kateris. For the next LILY send entries before Sept. 1, 1970.

LILY OF THE MOHAWKS







## INITIATION

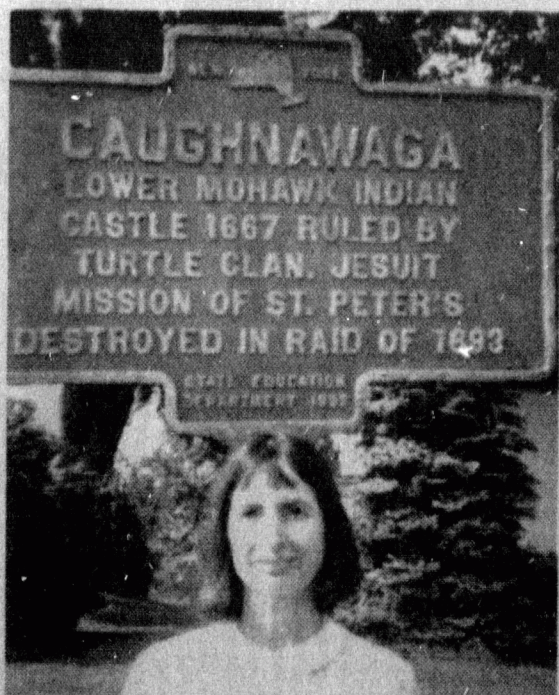
**Part One** - Princess Esther reads the proclamations as chief-to-be and princess-to-be listen along with guests.

**Part Two** - Chief Sunday and Chief Gorrow have finished their examination of the chief-to-be. All seem happy that Father McBride qualifies after doing the solo Indian dance.



**Part Three** - Chief Rakeni Karonhiio, Chief Blue Skies, sports his headdress, peace pipe, and decorative belt.





**HISTORICAL STOP** — Caughnawaga is now Fonda, N.Y. on Route 5, about five miles north-east of the Martyrs' Shrine at Auriesville. Here Kateri received her baptism. Curator of this commemorative spot is Father Thomas Grassmann, O.F.M. Conv., author of "The Mohawk Indians and their Valley", a work culminating twenty-five years of research. Mary-Eunice stops here often.

## INITIATION

(continued from page one.)

Kateri Tekakwitha Father Joseph McBride will be given the name of Chief Rakeni Karonhiio, Chief Father Beautiful Blue Skies, Mary-Eunice will receive the name of Princess Kateri Kasenniiostha, "she who makes the name of Kateri beautiful."

The initiation was conducted by Princess Esther Phillips, assisted by Chief Peter Gorrow and Chief Louie Sunday, Mrs. Annie LaHarbe, Mrs. Mae Montour, and Mrs. Agatha Taylor-Foote.

Flanked by Chief Gorrow and Chief Sunday Father McBride was first tested as to his ability to assume the staunch role of a chief. After the pro-

clamation by Princess Esther he was led in a dance by the two chiefs, then was directed to do the dance alone. All this met the approval of the committee and Father was presented with the chief's head-dress, the Bear Tribe jacket, a belt and the peace pipe.

Mary-Eunice was cited for her acting roles in portraying Kateri's life and for her writing skits about Kateri, especially for her one act play "Maid of the Mohawks." She, too, had to engage in a dance, then was presented with a beaded necklace and head band.

Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament followed in St. Regis Church, Father Henri Bechard S.J., vice-postulator for Canada, was celebrant and the famed choir from Caughnawaga sang.

The final ceremonies took place at the Kateri Center in the village of Hogansburg. Father Bechard, Father McBride and Mary-Eunice spoke. The choir again sang. And prayers to Kateri in French, Mohawk and English were recited before the outdoor statue of Kateri on Route 37.

"You are wonderful people" Fr. McBride opened his remarks. Then he described how so many folks in the United States and Canada are attracted to Kateri because of the wonderful life she led. He mentioned how he has noticed the generosity, the willingness to do things, and the beauty of the



**POW-WOW CAKE** — This huge cake was the center of attraction at the dinner following the initiation ceremonies. Note the rosary and the lilies, symbols of Kateri's prayerfulness and purity.

## TREASURE OF THE MOHAWKS

*The Story of The Indian Maiden*  
**KATERI TEKAKWITHA**

By TERI MARTINI

128 pages - \$2.00

Order From  
St. Anthony's Guild Press  
Paterson, N.J., 07503

LILY OF THE MOHAWKS

Mohawks in the members of the choir, in the young princesses who danced in the Auriesville Coliseum last year, and in the grand people responsible for this memorable event today. "Is it any wonder that you are so wonderful? You are the reflections of the Lily of the Mohawks now in her glory in heaven!", Father concluded his talk.

A banquet in Kateri Hall climaxed the series of events which had started at three o'clock in the afternoon on the banks of the beautiful St. Lawrence River.



# Pierre Toussaint's Cause Soon To Be Introduced

Definite approval of the Congregation of Rites has been granted Terence Cardinal Cooke of New York to further the work of investigating the life of Pierre Toussaint, preparatory to introducing his cause to the Congregation in Rome.



PIERRE TOUSSAINT

An extraordinary Catholic layman, outstanding for his care of the poor, troubled and plague-stricken, a shining example of charity and brotherhood toward all of his fellow men, Pierre Toussaint was born in slavery in Haiti, 1766. He died in 1853 in New York City, where he is buried in the Church Yard of Old St. Patrick's on Mulberry Street.

More information about Pierre Toussaint's cause may be obtained from Mr. Arthur Sheehan, Pierre Toussaint Guild, 335 Broadway, Room 1101, New York, N.Y., 10013.

## FR. BECHARD TO INVESTIGATE CURE

A possible cure brought about through the intercession of Venerable Kateri will be investigated by Father Henri Bechard S.J., vice - postulator for Canada.

The cure involves a young girl who was operated on for a brain tumor at the Montreal Neurological Institute about ten years ago. The doctors then claimed she would never be cured. A radio station even collected \$4,000.00 in small coin to ensure her one final, happy vacation with her mother before she died. Last November she married. The girl promised to give any information needed for the cause.

## LEAGUE'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTS FR. JACOBS, BRO. FLANAGAN, MARY - EUNICE AND JOE SPAGNOLA

At the annual meeting of the Tekakwitha League's Board of Directors, March 13, 1970, Fr. Michael Jacobs S.J. was chosen as second vice-president and Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Spagnola, the first laymen to be elected as members and officers, were selected as special assistants to the president.

The resignation of Fr. Ronald Sams S.J. was accepted since he is to take up a new assignment in the Marshall Islands. In his place Bro. Patrick Flanagan S.J. was recognized as an authorized delegate to handle financial business.

Following is a complete list of the officers of the Association: Joseph S. McBride S.J., president; Thomas F. Egan S.J. and Michael Jacobs, S.J., vice - presidents; William J. Schlaerth S.J., secretary; Patrick T. Flanagan S.J., treasurer; and Joseph and Mary-Eunice Spagnola, special assistants to the president.

1656



1680

Lily of the Mohawks

## THE VENERABLE KATERI TEKAKWITHA LEAGUE

**PURPOSE OF THE LEAGUE:** To spread the life story of Kateri Tekakwitha by passing out her holy cards and literature, by promoting her cause as a project for your club, organization or society, or through the schools in your area.

**OBLIGATIONS:** 1. Recite daily the prayer for the beatification of Venerable Kateri. 2. Offer some work for the intentions of the League Members.

**BENEFITS:** 1. Each 1st Friday—a Mass is offered for all League Members by a missionary priest in the Caroline Islands. 2. Annually—a Novena of Masses for League Members, Sept. 18 to Sept. 26. 3. Our publication LILY OF THE MOHAWKS is sent to all members. 4. Daily remembrance in the Mass of the Vice-Postulator. 5. A sharing in the spiritual works, and apostolic labors of over 5,000 League Members.

Address all communications to:

Office of the Vice-Postulator  
12 Central Park Plaza  
Buffalo, New York 14214


LILY OF THE MOHAWKS



# SIoux ERECT KATERI STATUE

Thirteen years ago at the end of 1956 the much loved superior of St. Francis Mission, South Dakota, Fr. Joseph P. Zuercher S.J. was sick with terminal cancer. A novena in honor of Kateri Tekakwitha for his cure was made by everyone at St. Francis Mission School and by many Sioux throughout the Reservation from Christmas day 1956 to January 2, 1957.

At the time a shrine in honor of Kateri was promised. It was the thought of all at the Reservation that this shrine would be erected whether or not God chose to grant Fr. Zuercher's cure through Kateri's

 **EARTH'S SAINTS ARE THOSE**

**WHO TO THE LAST**

**CLING TO BEAUTY'S BROKEN MAST**

**THEN STRIKING**

**BOLDLY SEAWARD REACH**

**THE SMOOTH-STONED SLOPE**

**OF HEAVEN'S BEACH +**

HENRY M. ROBINSON (20TH CENT.)

intercession. It was God's will to call Fr. Zuercher and he died in April, 1957.

Hundreds witnessed this promise fulfilled on Sunday afternoon, May 10, 1970. An impressive program worked out by Fr. Bernard D. Fagan S.J., superior of the Mission, included the Celebration of the Liturgy, blessing of the Statue, a feast for the public, and a pow-wow.

Attending were Bishop Harold J. Dinnmerling, bishop of Rapid City, South Dakota, Fr. Michael Jacobs S.J., a Mohawk Indian of the same tribe as Kateri, Fr. Joseph McBride S.J., vice-postulator of the cause of Kateri in the United States, Fr. Henri Bechard S.J., vice-postulator in Canada, and the people who made the shrine possible.

With the help of local people a fund was begun

Fr. Joseph Karol S.J. took a special interest in the project and contacted F. Bechard of Canada who assured him that it was possible to get an exact replica of the statue of Kateri at the national shrine in Canada. The well-known sculptor of the original, Mr. Emile Brunet, still had the mold and agreed to do the new statue.

Some very generous benefactors interested in the Sioux people, Mrs DeMaris Birmingham and Miss Barbara Birmingham of O'Neill, Nebraska, offered to donate the considerable sum needed. Two more friends, Mr. James Stengel and Mr. Jack Stengel who operate the Dakota Quarry at Milbank, S.D., offered to give and have inscribed a beautiful granite pedestal. Brother Joseph Schwart S.J. with his Indian staff agreed to do the erection of the statue. The statue was done in Paris, France.

Fr. Fagan pointed out that the erection and blessing of the Kateri Statue culminates the highpoints in the history of the St. Francis Mission. In recalling the Mission's history Father stated that not long after the Brule (Sicangu) Tribe of the Sioux Nation was settled in the area of the present Rosebud Reservation in south central South Dakota, its chiefs led by Spotted Tail frequently requested that Black Robes (Sina Sapa) come to teach their children. The Sioux had never forgotten the earlier visits of Fr. DeSmet as far back as 1839. They sent delegations both to Washington and to Bishop Martin Marty of the Dakota Territory. In 1885 a building was begun on land donated by the Tribe. This building was made possible by the generosity of Katherine Drexel, later the foundress of the Blessed Sacrament Sisters. Bishop Marty entrusted the new mission to the Jesuit Fathers and Franciscan Sisters. Father John Jutz S.J. took charge of the mission on January 1, 1886, and Mother Kostka, O.S.F., came with the Franciscan Sisters in March of the same year.

The eighty four years since that time have been a steady growth of Christ's Kingdom among the Rosebud Sioux. Today the school has an attendance of 475 students. The small group approach is made possible by a large faculty of Indian Aids, Lay Volunteers, Franciscans and Jesuits. In recent years the mission chapels, once 30 in number and visited only once a month or several times a year, have been consolidated to make it possible for each of the main communities to have Holy Mass every Sunday. An Indian Lay Advisory Board helps determine the direction of the apostolate. Serious thought is being given to a program for Sioux who may be called to serve the Lord as catechists, deacons, and priests.



## NOTES FROM THE BARK . . . by *father mcbride*

\* **FR. THOMAS J. COFFEY S.J.**, former vice - postulator, will celebrate his golden jubilee in the Society of Jesus on August 14, 1970. He resides at 144 Grand St., Jersey City, N.J., 07302.

\* **PAGING THROUGH THE PAST ISSUES** of the LILY, I noticed that a list of deceased members was frequently published. I wanted to revive this custom but found the number of names is very large. Instead, a list is kept and names are always remembered along with the intentions of all League Members.

\* **THE KATERI NOTEPAPER SENT OUT** at Christmas time was favorably received. A larger size with the same pictures at the bottom will be forwarded with all acknowledgements. The objective of this practical item is to have you use it when writing to friends since the four photos tell briefly about the Lily of the Mohawks. Then, you may add why you have devotion to Kateri - a personal touch that always wins friends and influences others.

\* **CURRENTLY THE FIRST FRIDAY MASSES** for League Members is being offered by Fr. William Rively S.J., a missionary stationed on Lukunor of the Caroline Islands. This is to memorialize the fact that Kateri was helped to become a Christian through the Black Robes who came from France to plant the Faith in North America. We in turn now help a missionary bring the Faith to others thousands of miles from the United States.

\* **ON MARCH 20 WE SAID GOODBY** to Fr. Ronald Sams S.J. who founded the Jesuit Bureau and now takes up a new assignment on Guam. Fr. Sams was my landlord. The Jesuit Bureau is the supply organ for missionaries of the New York Province. Through his many suggestions about promotion and printing Father Sams contributed much to the progress of the League. Therefore, the League extends its thanks to him and wishes him many blessings as he succeeds Bishop Neylon in training prospects for the religious life. We are assured that the name of Kateri will be well publicized in the Trust Territory of the Pacific and that a shrine to Kateri will be erected on Guam, an island of 90,000 inhabitants.

\* **A SCRIPT FOR A MOVIE ON THE LIFE** of Kateri and authored by Mary - Eunice of Mary Productions is now ready. Film companies will be contacted to produce the film. If you know of any producer interested please write to me immediately.

\* **FR. RONALD GRAY, O. CARM.**, director of the Conference - A - Month Club, Teaneck, N.J., took upon himself the extra work of including a copy of the last LILY in his January mailing.

\* **AT THE END OF 1969 OUR FINANCIAL PICTURE** looked like this: Receipts from members and friends was \$10,012.93, including \$2,226.13 from the Savings Account; paid out was \$9,276.12. The Savings Account primarily is to finance any investigations into cures and the beatification process. No major expenditures are foreseen this year so perhaps the amount drawn from the Savings Account can be paid back.

\* **MARY-EUNICE AND HUSBAND JOE JOINED** Father McBride in presenting the Life of Kateri to school children of St. Christopher's, Parsippany, N.J., March 6. Mary - Eunice also presented one of her comedy skits, The Newly-Weds, to the amusement of the entire student body.

\* **CATHERINE DE HUECK DOHERTY**, foundress of the Madonna House Apostolate, Combermere, Ontario, Canada, sent in an excellent article she wrote entitled 'Red Like Me.' She points out that there is a distinct difference between sympathy - feeling for - and empathy - feeling with - someone. Her article offers a brief empathetic meditation on the Indian and may be obtained by writing to her.

\* **TREAT YOURSELF TO A VISIT** to the Martyrs' Shrine at Auriesville, N.Y., this summer. The Shrine season runs from the first Sunday of May until the last Sunday of October. Indian Sunday occurs the last Sunday before Labor Day. Many motels in the vicinity accomodate pilgrims.

\* **'KATERI OF THE MOHAWKS' BY MARIE CECILIA BUEHRLE**, a popular, good - selling paperback, is out of stock and out of print. Future plans envision having this book reprinted.

\* **WHILE CRUISING ALONG IN THE SUMMER** breezes why not sport a Kateri decal on your car window? Send 15 cents to my office with your name and address. This covers cost of decal and postage.

\* **MAY I CALL YOUR ATTENTION** to the Red Cloud Indian School, Pine Ridge, South Dakota, 57770, the nation's largest private school for Indian children. This school is operated for the Indian children by the Jesuit Fathers and Franciscan Sisters. Write for their copy of "An Indian Prayer" and for more information about the zealous work being done there.

\* **FINALLY, SHRINE DIRECTOR FR. THOMAS EGAN** asks League Members to pray for an alleviation of the burdensome taxes levied upon the new Cafeteria. An appeal has been made for an outright exemption enjoyed by religious property or at least a more equitable assessment of the property in light of its seasonal use. This present burden forbids expenditure on needed repairs and desirable improvements.