

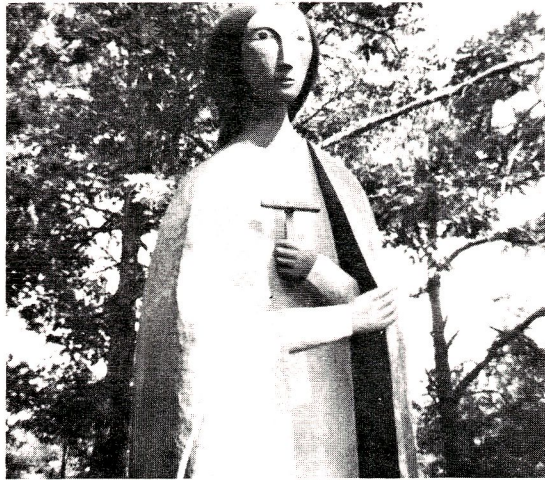
Lily of the Mohawks



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Kateri Tekakwitha League, Clarence Center, N.Y., 14032

Fall 1971

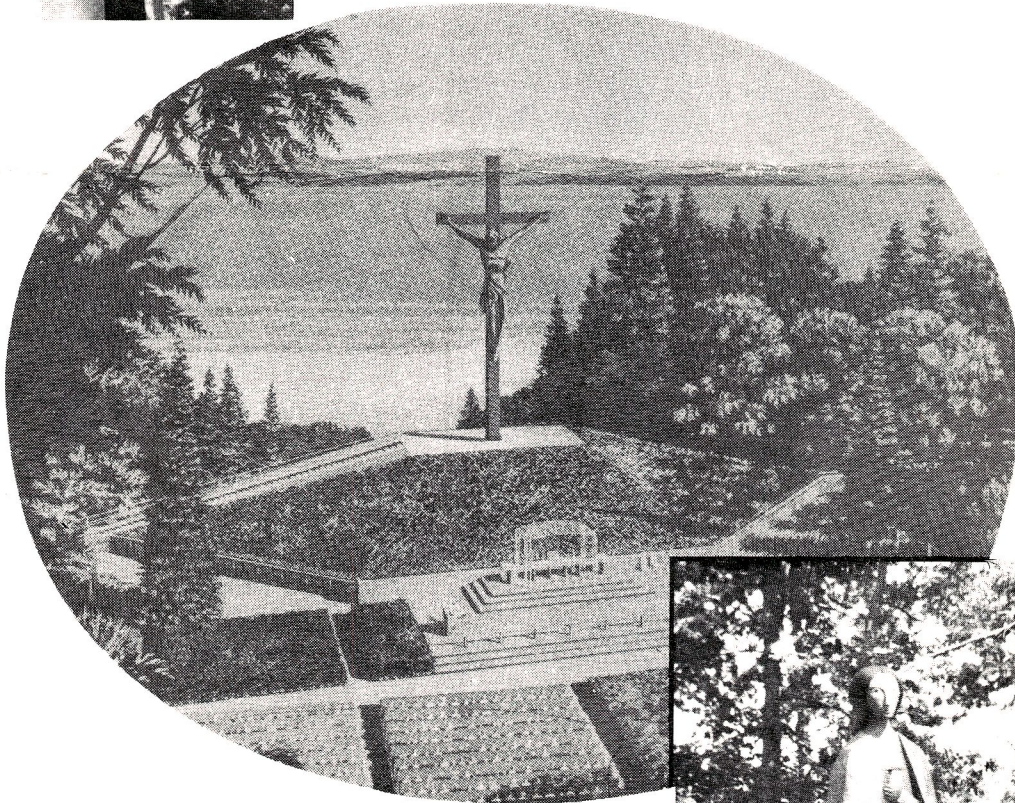


WITHIN THE SHADOW OF THE WORLD'S LARGEST CRUCIFIX NESTLES THE LATEST ARTISTIC CONCEPTUALIZATION of the Indian Maiden Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha. This scene is at the Catholic Shrine, Indian River, Michigan, on the shore of Burt Lake.

Sculptored by Gerald Bonnette, a Mohawk Indian and renowned religious sculptor, the new Kateri statue was blessed at a special ceremony on July 4, thereby culminating another extensive tour in behalf of the Kateri cause by Father McBride S.J., vice postulator, Mary-Eunice and Joe Spagnola of Mary Productions, Belford, N.J.

The statue is the product of many hours of search and research of Father Thomas M. Dominiak, pastor of the Shrine. Several years ago

(Continued on page 4)



NOTES FROM THE BARK

by father mcbride

Office Moved — Slithering over icy roads last winter on the way to my Buffalo office, plus one accident, definitely decided that I take advantage of an offer of space at the St. Ignatius Retreat House in Clarence, N.Y. Here all League business is transacted. Auriesville remains as the devotional center for Ven. Kateri.

Play Goes On — Fourthgrader Mary Mary Lutzo, St. Gerard's School, Detroit, wrote: "I wrote to tell you about our play Kateri Tekakwitha. In the play I was Kateri (Lucky me). I memorized my part well, then something horrible happened. Irona got sick (the mumps). So Tom Gerhert took his place. The play turned out well! We used tissue paper for the fire and cardboard for logs. For rocks we used paper rolled up. Sr. Louis was director (and a very good one)." Small Pox never stopped Kateri and the mumps didn't impede this production. Congratulations, kids!

South Seas Play — "This coming December we hope to see our first Tanga boy ordained to the priesthood," writes Sister M. Mildred from East New Britain. "In honor of this occasion, we would like to present the play 'Kateri Tekakwitha, Lily of the Mohawks.' A few years ago we staged the play with the mixed race children with great success. Our native people have much in common with the Indian. Along with the play, we could start an interest in her cause. Perhaps the prayer and inspiration of Kateri Tekakwitha's life may work a similar miracle here — 'The Lily of the South Seas'." Thus does the devotion to Kateri grow and grow.

A Real MESSENGER — Is one that gets around. Judging from the response to an interview article in the July-August Sacred Heart MESSENGER, America's one and only, we know it does circulate. And thanks to editor Father Fred Powers S.J. for conducting the interview! The article is "A Girl Named Kateri."

Truk Remembrance — For your intentions the First Friday Masses, from September to February, are being offered by Fr. John Doolan S.J., Catholic Mission, Truk, Caroline Islands. This is one of the benefits of League membership.

Great Devottee Dies — No one has said and led others in saying the prayer for Kateri's beatification more than Father Anthony Schirmann S.J., assistant director at the Auriesville Shrine. Day after day at the Shrine he would recite the prayer at the public devotions in honor of the Martyrs. Weakened from a year's illness, Father died on July 19 and was buried in the hillside cemetery overlooking the Coliseum and the Shrine grounds where he often preached and talked about the Martyrs and Ven. Kateri.

Impact — Former vice postulator Father William Schlaerth who is celebrating his Golden Jubilee as a Jesuit has thanked the LILY many times over for the article run in the last issue about him. Only too glad to help an old friend are we. The article has brought countless notes of congratulations.

No Goal? — 1971 was set to obtain 10,000 members in the League. At mid-point '71 the goal seems unreachable. So far the deletions have outnumbered the new names. Several hundred introductory packets were sent out after the last issue when names were submitted. So, let's hope the end of the year will see us closer to the 10,000 mark!

Wearable Cards — The favorite holy picture of Kateri with the prayer on the back is now in laminated form. Stiff is \$1.00 and the soft \$.75, obtainable from the Office of the Vice postulator.

Rough Report — Receipts for 1970 were \$8,291.82; expenses \$7,119.16. A new book-keeping system has been adopted which will develop a better picture of the League's financial status. Next year's report will be based on the new breakdown of both receipts and expenses. Nothing was deposited to the Savings Account at the end of 1971 but the balance was used for operating expenses for 1971.

At the Top — Along side of the new Kateri statue at the Catholic Shrine at Indian River is a donor's list to cover the cost of the statue and the landscaping around it. Each name on the list represents one hundred dollars. Shrine Director Father Dominiak has listed the *Ven. Kateri Tekakwitha League Members* in first place. Look with pride when you visit the Shrine and see yourself as part of this newest of artists' conceptions of the Indian Maiden.

FATHER DOMINIAK ELECTED TO EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF LEAGUE

Father Thomas M. Dominiak, pastor of the Catholic Shrine, Indian River, Michigan, was elected to the Executive Council of the Tekakwitha League at a special meeting on July 4. He will serve as Special Assistant to the League President.

Appointed pastor of the Shrine in 1968, Father Dominiak has worked tirelessly to use it as a scene of devotion to Venerable Kateri. Through his urgings the new Kateri Statue blessed on July 4 was conceptualized and brought to completion for the opening day of the shrine's 1971 season.

"Father Tom's enthusiasm, interest and zeal for the Kateri cause adds an unique member to the Board," commented Father Joseph McBride S.J., vice postulator and president of the League as he extended congratulations to the newest board member.

Special Message Sent

At the same meeting, Mr. Chet Adams, third vice-president, presented a statement which the Board approved and empowered the president to submit to Cardinal Dear-don, Archbishop Raimondi, and Bishop Szoka upon the establishment of the new diocese of Gaylord, July 20, the see of the Indian River Shrine.

The statement recalled the heroic virtues of Venerable Kateri and gave reasons why her cause should be given every support and endorsement.



Father Paul Stander

Mary-Eunice

KATERI FILM IN THE MAKING

A 16 mm color film on the life of Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha is finally in the making.

Father Paul Stauder, pastor of the Immaculate Conception Church, Bridgeport, Illinois, and Member of the National Free Lance Photographers Association, is the producer.

The film will present Mary-Eunice as Venerable Kateri telling her life story from heaven. This is the favorite character sketch monologue with which Mary-Eunice closes the Kateri Tour Program. It will take six to eight months to produce.

"Three Crosses on the Mohawk" is the first seven minute documentary film produced by Father Stauder and was used on the recent promotional tour of the League. This film tells the story of the Auriesville Shrine in the eastern part of New York State and is available from the Shrine Office for private or group showings.

Father Stauder photographed the shrine scenes for "Three Crosses on the Mohawk" and collaborated with Fr. Thomas Egan S.J., Shrine Director, in writing the script. He also is the narrator for the film.

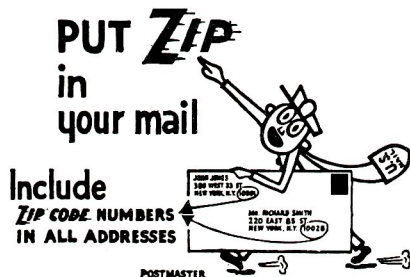
APPEAL FOR BABY'S CLOTHES MADE BY MISSION PASTOR

An appeal for baby's clothes was made by Father Richard Jones S.J., pastor of St. Charles Parish, St. Francis, South Dakota. Sizes should range from age 1 to age 3. Diapers especially are needed.

Often Father Jones finds himself with one or more abandoned infants on his doorstep. While proper assistance is arranged through social agencies, Father must do his best to provide clean, warm clothing for the little tykes.

Apart from being engaged in child care, Father has an active parish who helps in many ways. One of the great devotions he fosters is that of having Kateri statues blessed and sent to the homes of his people.

Packages with baby clothes should be clearly addressed: Rev. Richard Jones S.J., St. Charles Parish, St. Francis, South Dakota, 57572.



he commissioned Mr. Bonnette to do the statue, to portray the agony and the ecstasy of the Indian, whose lands the white man appropriated, who was decimated and degraded, his proud heritage trampled upon, and who strives today to regain his identity with America.

Visitors come upon the statue beneath the large Crucifix surrounded by woods. Kateri is viewed as in an apparition, as one emerging from a pagan past into Christianity, manifesting the workings of belief the Cross activates in a soul.

An old friend Mrs. Mary Deer House, a Mohawk Indian and Mrs. Mary DeGuvaro, Chippewa-Ottawa Indian, in full costume presented the gifts at the Offertory. Mrs. DeGuvaro is the author of the Last Supper in beads. This work is 11½ feet by 5½ feet, weighs 43 lbs. 5 oz., using 1,788,761 beads and 121 different shades of beads and 10½ miles of nylon thread. The masterpiece may be viewed at 1212 Curtis Ave., East Bayview, Petoskey, Michigan.



*"Glory of the Indian Race"
St. Francis Mission, South Dakota*

National Prayer Day

The main destination of this year's promotional trip was the St. Francis Indian Mission, South Dakota, for the National Prayer Day. The program was arranged by the Rosebud Educational Society and Fr. Bernard Fagan S.J., the Mission Superior.

Scheduled was an afternoon feast with elite Buffalo Stew, Wojapi, Fried Bread and elegant tasty side dishes, followed by Mary-Eunice's superb character sketches, climaxed by a concelebrated Mass and ceremonies before the Kateri Statue.

Father McBride gave the homily at the Mass and conducted the prayer event at which he introduced the Kateri Rosary and led the Sioux gathering in the prayer for the beatification of the "Glory of the Indian Race."

Other Mission Visits

Unexpectedly the Kateri Program was staged at the Holy Rosary Mission, Pine Ridge, at the Mother Butler Indian Center, Rapid City, and at the opening session of the Catholic Sioux Indian Congress, Milk's Camp, South Dakota.

Lasting will be the impressions of these visits — the warm friendship of the many Indian people, the selfless dedication of the Jesuit priests and students, the generous work of their lay assistants, and the love and pride all find in Venerable Kateri.

Surprise Engagements

An overnight stop in Bonesteel, So. Dakota, introduced us to the hospitality of Fr. Bill Lambert, a native of Rochester, N.Y. His Rochester coffee enticed us to stay for Mass the next morning and for a show at his summer school in Fairfax. Fr. McBride asked the children what his Indian jacket is made of. "Bricks," one youngster responded probably because of the weight and the child's weak muscles. The Governor declared this day as "Indian Day," the day we left for Davenport, Iowa, where we had a pleasant visit with Joe Spagnola's old army chaplain, Fr. Straub, a faculty member of St. Ambrose College.

At Bridgeport, Illinois, Father Paul Stauder welcomed us and the trio in turn are overjoyed at meeting the producer of the seven minute film "Three Crosses on the Mohawk." Father introduced us to the audience at Lawrenceville and the next day he and Mary-Eunice went to work filming the monologue of Kateri telling her story from heaven.

Father Stauder arranged a stop at Ancilla Domini, Donaldson, Ind., where the delightful Mother Clarice and her associates called for an afternoon and evening performance. The Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ invited us back again next year.

Two appreciative audiences at the Sisters of St. Joseph in Rochester, N.Y., and Clarence, N.Y., threatened to keep Mary-Eunice because of her winsome and personable acting.

Old Friends Revisited

Kateri's most enthusiastic promoter Sister Winifred extended the Franciscan Sisters' usual hearty welcome and had two appearances set up, one for the sisters in the infirmary and the other for a general audience in the well-equipped auditorium of the Motherhouse, Rochester, Minnesota.

Sister expects her Kateri penny bank to fill so that she can attend Father Schlaerth's jubilee celebration in September at Buffalo.

Marytown, Kenosha, Wisconsin, was another reunion. Father Bernard Geiger, O.F.M. Conv., superior, Father Evarist, the Friars and Brothers never ran out of ways of making us feel at home and of billing two shows in order to enhance Kateri's popularity.

A super-duper reception was tendered by Father Howard Rafferty, O. Carm., his staff — Joannie, Kaye and Dorothea, and the Carmelites at the National Scapular Center, Aylesford, Illinois. Well in advance invitations were sent out to the friends of the Carmelites to attend a dinner and the Kateri Program, Sunday, June 27. A generous gift to the Kateri cause lightened the rest of journey, and the spirit of oneness in prayer for the beatification of Kateri at the Center added new thrust to the League's efforts.

At Hamburg, N.Y., a small but fervently interested group of the Sisters of Charity-Refuge, interrupted their work loads to receive the show once again. Here Sister Gemma, Sister Cortona, and Sister Queen unveil the Kateri Puppet. Tuned to past exhortations of Joe Spagnola's health food menus the Sisters had ready a snack of sun flower seeds, watermelon seeds, nuts, celery-carrot cocktails, and a large plate of cheese and crackers. To the amazement of all Joe devoured the chlorophylls.



*Sister Winifred and Joe
Assisi Heights, Rochester, Minn.*



1,788,761 beads portray The Last Supper, Author is Mrs. Mary De Guvano shown with assistants - her husband, son Joe and a friend.

Repertoire Delights

Included in this year's repertoire of Mary-Eunice were three new monologues, Our Lady of Czestochowa, Ultra Modern Art Gallery, and Albert the Lion. Three Crosses on the Mohawk, a seven minute film about Auriesville, was used to introduce the inspirational character sketch by Mary-Eunice, The Story of Kateri as She Might Tell It from Heaven.

In the first monologue Mary Eunice recounts the story of the Black Madonna in the person of the Mother of Father Maximilian Kolbe who will be beatified in October. It tells the story of Father Kolbe, the founder of the Militia of Mary Immaculate.

The second is a comedy treating of a mod artist and a description of her ultra-mod paintings. The third is a recitation in verse of young Albert and his being swallowed up by a lion.

Unforgettable Moments

Besides meeting wonderful people all along the way there were moments that forever will be amusing.



National Prayer Day
St. Francis Mission, South Dakota

At St. Francis Mission after Mary-Eunice and Father were taking a bow a young lad presented the plastic fish used in a monologue to Mary-Eunice. What an in-opportune time!

Racing over the plains of South Dakota with a thimblefull of gas to the nearest filling station. A moment when even a tiger cub would do in the tank.

Many think Mary-Eunice is real Indian. One nun exclaimed "How well she speaks English!" That's nothing, you should hear her Mohawk.

Sister Winifred's introduction "This is Mary-Eunice who acts up."

"Doesn't he look like Cardinal Cody?" a comment from a Chicagoan seeing Father McBride celebrating the liturgy.

Happily ended are 5,162 miles of bringing a message of love and hope and some fun through the story of the wonderful Indian Maiden, Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha.



Summer School
Fairfax, South Dakota

ARTHRITIS CURED

This note is to convey to you the good news of a cure of Arthritis which was obtained through the powerful intercession of the Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha.

I visited a cousin of mine in Mill View, Ireland, who told me that she suffered severely from Arthritis for a very long period. She was unable to do anything for herself and had to be fed and dressed. A young nun who is stationed in Tenaflly, N.J., was home on holidays and gave my cousin a leaflet with a prayer of this saintly girl Kateri Tekakwitha. She started to pray to her and spread devotion to her and by degrees the Arthritis left her completely and now she is very well and free from pain and able to do her daily housework. She is anxious to spread devotion to this holy girl and by her prayers and those of others obtain her being raised to the honors of the altar by Holy Church. If there is any more information you would like to have about the matter I'll be only too glad to obtain same from my cousin. — *Kilkenny, Ireland.*

WARTS DISAPPEAR

I am enclosing a check for \$20 for favor granted by Tekakwitha and to further her cause. A friend's son's feet were covered with warts and even though doctors burned them off repeatedly they would re-appear. Finally, the Mother received literature about the wonders of Tekakwitha and began praying to her for help — the warts disappeared and it has been several years now and they have not re-appeared. — *Lafayette, La.*

OLD HOUSE SOLD, NEW OBTAINED

I became acquainted with Kateri last July. Since then she has favored us a great deal. She has done great things for us such as selling our old house, helping us to obtain this one. Things that are too numerous to mention. I'm sorry I didn't know of her sooner but maybe she entered my life at the right time. — *Fairport, New York.*

SON EMPLOYED

Enclosed \$5.00 is to help the Kateri Tekakwitha League. This is for the favor granted — an employment for my son. — *Detroit, Michigan.*

LABOR-MANAGEMENT DISPUTE SETTLED

Settling a Labor Arbitration Case, a walkout signing up a new shop, and a test case for all shops across the country. . . . Leaders were against a national strike which couldn't be stopped by the Union Officers. . . . Prayers were said to Kateri. . . . Where it was a landslide for a strike the day before the vote, the day of the vote, Kateri interceded, and it was a landslide not to strike. . . . Voting was in favor of the contract and to go back to work; all shops across the country signed the contract.

Union feels it owes something to Kateri Tekakwitha, so they are making a donation in behalf of her cause. God bless the League. — *New York, N. Y.*

CLOSE COLLEGE ACCEPTS SON

Enclosing a small present for the cause for Kateri has made a marvelous miracle for us. My son applied to several colleges and was accepted by two far away from our home. The one near home rejected him. Suddenly I began the novena. A friend urged that I call a certain person in the college we wanted. He promised to review my son's papers. The second day of the novena this person called and told us that the boy was accepted. We are praying and thanking Kateri everyday. — *Rosemont, Pa.*

"The Virtues Of Tekakwitha Were Heroic."

- Pope Pius XII

Father Claude Chauchetiere S.J. was an eye-witness throughout the entire period the Servant of God remained at the Sault and was also present at her death. In his "Life of the Good Katharine Tegakouita" kept in the archives of St. Mary's College, Montreal, the following testifies to the statement of Pope Pius XII above.

Her Faith

One cannot sufficiently marvel that a young Indian girl should have the lively faith in our mysteries that Katharine had. Though she lived but four years after she knew the faith, her devotion to the Blessed Sacrament and her other practices are sufficient to prove this fact. She had a good and agile mind, learned her prayers in a short time, and made her profession of faith without fear. In her lodge where she was the only one baptized, although they treated her badly, because she wished to resemble the Indians at the Sault, and although they sometimes pointed her out as a sorceress, her faith did not slacken.

Her Hope

It was said that she had had a positive promise which held the revelation of her eternal happiness. They were surprised that she readily promised prayers at the hour of death, not having wished to do so during her life, for she said she was too young in Christianity to be able to pray to God for others.

Her Love of Her Neighbor

The vice of slander was never known to her and those who knew her never had cause to reproach her. Everyone loved her because she was blessed with charity. When slander twice assailed her and she had reason to complain of others, she never spoke ill at home or abroad of those who had unjustly accused her.

Her Love of God

She spent her life saying these words, which she repeated three times, "Jesus, I

love Thee." And this love which fortified her in her maladies, her work, and her harsh penances, finally gave her strength when she exemplified herself wholly, with only a few hours to live. It was often said of her that she never lost sight of God, above all in the forest, where she supplied for the exterior graces which were to be had in the village, but not in the forest.



This was said of her through admiration, for none could conceive that she could be so attached to God.

Her Chastity

This is the most beautiful flower in all her crown. It is a miracle that she should have escaped the deluge of impurity which flooded the land inhabited by the savages. Men, God, and her conscience have testified to the truth that Katharine never committed a single sin of the flesh. When they questioned her at her baptism, when they questioned her at her death, she replied in a firm tone that she did not fear to be damned for this sin. God wished her to appear after her death to two people who were in doubt of what they should think concerning her and her purity. God made the first cure of the sick in confirmation of Katharine's chastity. If someone had thought to have her make the vow, the vow of chastity would not have been wanting to her, who was not wanting to the vow; and this makes me believe that she had the merit of the vow. The priest was sorry after her death not to have let her make it. The experience of two inhabitants of Laprairie and that of two

people in Montreal, manifests the power she has to preserve people from the demon of impurity.

Her Prudence

She shone gloriously in the various temptations she met. She kept from occasions of offending God and was always successful in them, even though she lived two years among the Iroquois in constant danger of offending Him. As for a third Indian maid, wishing to join her, partly to serve God but also partly through vanity, Katharine discerned between the spirit of her companion and that of the third young girl, for she mistrusted hypocrisy and vanity. She showed her good sense in her little exhortations. She was prudent even in her

excesses. These corresponded to the violent attacks made upon the savages by sin, of which she knew, or rather, from which she apprehended contamination. She went, therefore, to excess, not in obstinate persistence, but to seek for the intermediate course she observed after the priest had advised her.

Her Penance

In this particular, it was admirable that though having been always exempt from grave sin, she was throughout her life such a great penitent. Her confessors testify that she was an angel and her companion could not express sufficient admiration of so pure a conscience as Katharine's, for she did not know what she had done against the law of God, either before or after her Baptism. The hatred of sin into which she had not fallen, or perhaps into which she feared to fall, was the cause of all her excess of penance. She so importuned Our Lord to take her from this corrupt world that she died in the flower of her age, for she could not live in a body steeped in the waters of penance. Furthermore, she showed the way to heaven to the young Indian girls who did not wish to succumb to temptations.

NOVENA of MASSES

for all League Members

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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 First 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, October 11 to October 19. 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:
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