

Lily of the Mohawks



VOL. XXXIX NO. 1

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

SPRING, 1975

BICENTENNIAL KATERI COMMITTEE FORMED



Front row: Mrs. Esther Phillips, St. Francis Reservation, Caughnawaga, Canada, Fr. Ronald Schultz, OFM Conv., Fonda, N.Y., Mary-Eunice Spagnola, Belford, N.J., Dr. Solomon Cook, Ph.D., St. Regis Reservation, Hogansburg, N.Y., Fr. Henri Bechard, Canadian Vice Postulator, Fr. Thomas Egan, Auriesville, N.Y. Second row: Sarah Monroe, Liverpool, N.Y., Mr. Thomas Constantino, Amsterdam, N.Y., Joseph Spagnola, Belford, N.J., Mr. Joseph T. O'Brien, Cleveland, Ohio, Mrs. Joseph O'Brien, Mr. Chet Adams, Detroit, Michigan, Fr. Joseph McBride, U.S. Vice Postulator, Fr. Robert Fleig, Auriesville, N.Y., Fr. John Barrett, Syracuse, N.Y.

Two influential Mohawk Indians, Mrs. Esther Phillips of the St. Francis Reservation, Caughnawaga, Canada, and Dr. Solomon Cook, Ph.D., of St. Regis Reservation, Hogansburg, N.Y., were unanimously chosen to be chairpersons of the newly formed Bicentennial Kateri Committee to commemorate the tricentennial of Ven. Kateri's Baptism in 1776.

The next meeting of the Committee will take place in the Kateri Memorial Mohawk Museum, Fonda, N.Y., April 18, 19, and 20, 1975.

At the first meeting last November an input of material - talks, slide-lectures, dramatic presentations - was made in view of formulating a program to be presented at the Eucharistic Congress in Philadelphia, August 1 to 8, 1976. The same program is intended for other bicentennial celebrations throughout the country.

The April assembly will handle business matters along with the knitting together the valuable material into an hour to hour-and-a-half performance.

Father Walter Conway, Eucharistic Congress Chairman, has suggested that there be a liturgical celebration with an Indian theme. Part of this will

involve the famous Mohawk Indian Choir from Caughnawaga.

The Committee has already pledged to work with the Catholic Bishops Committee for the Bicentennial. Kevin R. Farrell, Assistant Director of the Bishops Committee, has written: "We would hope that your committee would participate in this Church-wide program for the Bicentennial."

Absent from the initial meeting were Fr. Thomas Dominiak, pastor of the Catholic Shrine, Indian River, Michigan, and Fr. Francis Weiser, S.J., author of the latest biography of Ven. Kateri. Both plan to take part in the future work of the Kateri Committee.

Until further notice all business will be handled by the Office of the Vice Postulator in Clarence Center, New York.

Volunteers from the Philadelphia area will be needed to assist the League there during the Eucharistic Congress. New ideas and suggestions will be welcome and may be sent to the Office of the Vice Postulator.

Should There Be A Kateri Center?

Yes is the answer. And why should there be a Kateri Center? As every sacrament has an outward sign signifying a reality so should there be a visible identification of the Tekakwitha League's work. Every product has a symbol, Texaco has the star, Prudential the rock.

The need of a Center became more pressing after recently visiting the Blessed John Neumann Center in Philadelphia. The body of Blessed John is there. Rooms filled with his personal effects and mementoes display the concern and efforts going on for his cause. Add to this what the Mother Seton League has accomplished through its Center at Emmitsburg, Maryland.

The League Office has jumped from New York City to Auriesville to Syracuse to Clarence Center. Always, as it is now, the Center (?) is a gift-receiving, mail-answering depot. It is no place highlighting the life of Kateri and the work of the League.

A Kateri Museum exists at Auriesville but its contents are meager and of as much value as a dead

rooster. Fonda has a magnificent Museum known as the Kateri Memorial Museum but it is not the Center of the Tekakwitha League activities.

How does the League get a Center? It could build one but this would involve an appeal for funds. And who needs another hand on one's wallet these days?

The Vice Postulator has investigated possible locations in or near Auriesville where the Center should be. Nothing is presently available but the search continues. Father Schultz generously offered space at Fonda. If this were accepted, the other work, namely, that of the Apostleship of Prayer with which the Vice Postulator is associated, would have to be brought along. This seems totally unfair to add this operation to the excellent functioning of the Fonda Compound.

Can you help solve the problem? Without a lot of noise and troublesome begging for funds, perhaps a quiet response in the form of prayers and gifts can get underway. Having a Center indeed can hasten the day when Kateri will be the First of the "First Americans" to be beatified and sainted.

"Lily" Blossoms Over All

Indian children earned their names by doing something that indicated their character. Some say Tekakwitha means: "putting things in order," but the disorderly ways of her people left very little chance for that. Others would have it mean: "moving all before her," because she needed something to find her way with her weak eyes. It is not sure that she did; but she certainly moved before her all that stood in the way of her lifelong desire and determination to find God, and to avoid anything that would part her from Him. The name is not hard to pronounce, Te-gah-gwet-ha, h aspirate. Kateri, of course is Indian for Catherine.

Then, there is another name, "Good Catherine," because she was so good when on earth and is still in heaven doing so much good for those who invoke her aid. "Wonder Worker" is the name she won for the signal blessings she began to obtain for her people and others right after her death and still continues to obtain.

"Genevieve of New France" she was called after the Patroness of Paris, because, like Genevieve, she had saved her people and their settlement from invasion and destruction. It was the second Bishop of Quebec, Saint-Vallier, who had visited her tomb and thus styled her, eight years after her death.

"Iroquois Virgin" was the name given by her first biographer, who had also been her director. She is also known as the "Indian Maiden."

"Kaiatanoron", meaning "Lady of Quality," is the inscription on Kateri's tomb today, given by her people indicating how she appears to Almighty God.

Best expressing the charm of her greatest virtue, as Lily stands for purity, is "Lily of the Mohawks." This is the most popular and most expressive of all her names. It is a prayer in itself of praise, a vision of grace, elevating mind and heart to contemplate her and bless God for having made her so well known to us.

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 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.

New membership cards are sent annually.

Address all communications to:

Office of Vice Postulator, 6969 Strickler Road, Clarence Center, New York 14032

ANNUALLY a special day is set aside when the whole country is asked to pray for the beatification and canonization of Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha. Sunday, April 29, 1975, has been designated as the National Kateri Prayer Day.

This year's event will coincide with the second meeting of the Bicentennial Kateri Committee at Fonda, N.Y. Committee Members will offer their Sunday Mass in petition for the goal of all League Members.

Three days previous will be

NATIONAL PRAYER DAY

Ven. Kateri's Feast Day, April 17, the day Kateri died. Vice Postulator Father Joseph McBride will offer Mass on this day for all the deceased members of the Tekakwitha League. This custom began last year.

All members and friends of the League are asked to join in special prayers, reciting the rosary,

for instance, and attending Mass for the advancement of the Kateri cause.

Other sections of the country may assign another day suitable to their circumstances. Copies of the official Kateri Prayer may be obtained by writing to the Tekakwitha League, 6969 Strickler Rd., Clarence Center, N.Y. 14032.

KATERI YOUTH AWARD

BEGINNING THIS YEAR the "Lily of the Mohawks Certificate of Grateful Appreciation" will be awarded to any youth who has been outstanding in promoting the Kateri Cause, recently announced Vice Postulator Father Joseph McBride, S.J.

In addition to the "Certificate" another award known as the

"Kateri Tekakwitha Award" was presented to adults meriting the honor. No recognition was ever made to the young people who express their love of the Indian Girl by working hard to spread her life story.

Any League Member may recommend possible candidates to receive the Certificate. Names with

their qualifications are to be submitted as soon as possible to the Office of the Vice Postulator, Clarence Center, N.Y. Presentations are usually made at Auriesville, N.Y., during the Kateri Week End prior to Labor Day.

The text of the Certificate reads, "Lily of the Mohawks Certificate of Grateful Appreciation is presented to for enduring loyal and loving effort for the cause of Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha." The document is handsomely printed with the recipient's name inscribed and framed for display.



I AM KATERI BERNADETTE MARIA VRAKING and I live with my Mom and Dad, John and Ada, and my three brothers, in Toronto, Canada. My birthday was April 8, 1973. Mom says: "After

KATERI'S ALBUM

our first boy we picked the name Kateri for our first girl, but we needed to pick two more boy's names before we could use Kateri. We would have been happy with another boy, but we are delighted with our Kateri."



KATERI IS OUR NAME. Both of us met for the first time last summer. Left in the picture is me, Kateri Bender, born to David and Annette on Sept. 12, 1972. I have an older sister, Allison, age 5. All of us live in Fairborn, Ohio.

To the right I am Kateri Toenjes. I was introduced to you five years ago in the Fall LILY. Teresa and



Tom are my parents. Our home is in Overland Park, Kansas. 2 brothers and a sister complete our family.

Both of us met when our families were camping together in Indiana.



'I WANTED A UNIVERSAL SETTING AND WATER IS THAT,' declared Mrs. Marlene McCauley because I wanted the painting to symbolize true brotherhood. On the shores of the Atlantic Ocean in Nahant, Mass., Marlene gathered the children for her work: 3-year-old Laura Hsieh for the Chinese girl; 6-year-old Adrian Morales to represent Spanish children; 9-year-old Dorothy Latham to represent Blacks, and Manda Garcia, 4½, is Spanish. Peter McCauley beneath the mantle of Ven. Kateri is there because of the special favor received through Kateri - his hearing was restored. The painting was given to the Yakui Indians of Arizona.

"PRETZELS FOR GOD" HAS TEKAKWITHA AS PATRONESS

PFG - Pretzels For God - is a movement initiated at St. Francis Parish, Phoenix, Arizona, under the talented Mrs. Marlene McCauley, her husband Allan, and family - Francis, Mary, Anne, Thomas and



Peter.

The purpose of PFG is to bring about the revival of the true origin of the pretzel, which has a deep spiritual meaning for Lent. The pretzel was the ancient Christian Lenten bread as far back as the fourth century. In the old Roman Empire, the faithful kept a very strict fast all through Lent: no milk, no butter, no cheese, no eggs, no cream and no meat. They made small breads of water, flour and salt, to remind themselves that Lent was a time of prayer. They shaped these breads in the form of crossed arms for in those days they crossed their arms over the breast while

praying. Therefore they called the bread "little arms" (braccellae). From this Latin word the Germanic people later coined the term "pretzel."

The pretzel being symbolic of prayer and penance is a small but powerful instrument in bringing families to God. "Prayer and penance," Mrs. McCauley points out, "draws individuals near to God. When man loves God, he will become closely united with his family and God. The family is the root of society. When the family is strong in God's love, America is strong."

Patroness of PFG is Ven.



Kateri Tekakwitha. The McCauleys consider Kateri a beautiful example of true peace and brotherhood, showing the world that whatever be the race or color man must love and understand one another, since we

have but one Creator, the Father of us all.

The McCauleys also believe in Ven. Kateri's powerful intercession. After prayers to Ven. Kateri their son Peter's hearing was



restored. Peter was to undergo surgery but it was not necessary after Kateri intervened. Doctors' reports and other data concerning this cure are in Rome awaiting approval as a miracle in behalf of Kateri's beatification.

Literature explaining the true history of the pretzel, a copy of the Pretzel Song, the Pretzel Ceremony, recipes for pretzels, and an account of Kateri's life, is available from St. Francis Xavier Church, 4715 North Central Ave., Phoenix, Arizona, 85012.

"Prayer for God + Penance for God = Families for God" is the McCauley PFG Credo.

16MM Kateri Film Soon A Real Reality

A real reality? Yes, not just a talked-about reality will be a 16MM color sound film giving the life story of Venerable Kateri as presented by Mary-Eunice in a character sketch monologue.

Under the dynamic supervision of Mrs. Ann Scheuerman, Tekakwitha Award recipient last year, arrangements were made with the filming staff and with those in charge of a

suitable location.

The scene chosen not only for its beauty but its lighting effects was the chapel of Becket Hall, the Rochester, N.Y., Diocesan Seminary. Bishop Joseph Hogan granted permission to use the chapel and Father John J. Hempel, Rector of Becket Hall, co-operated with the crew in every way.

Filming ran for sixteen hours, eight each day, January 2

Happiness Is Mother Seton's Sainthood

Let us be grateful and joyful that Blessed Mother Elizabeth Ann Bayley Seton will be canonized in September. Pope John XXIII beatified her in 1963.

Designated by Pope Paul VI to become the first canonized saint born in what is now the United States, Mother Seton was, in a life of 47 years, socialite, wife, mother, widow, convert, educator and founder of a religious community

of Sisters.

Caring for the sick and poor led her to found the Sisters of Charity. This is considered to be her most enduring contribution to society. Today the Sisters of Charity (with 6 branches) are a renowned and heroic religious order.

She was born in New York City on August 28, 1774.

KATERI WAS BAPTIZED
IN
1676

PRAY THAT SHE WILL
BE BEATIFIED
BY 1976

and 3, 1975.

Master producer was Willard Robinson assisted by audio director Ron Albury, Christina Scheuerman, Carl Scheuerman, and Bruce Robinson.

A minute introduction to the story was made by Father Joseph McBride, Vice Postulator. The entire film will run between 14 to 15 minutes.

July, 1975, is the date when the film will be completed. Meanwhile, developing and editing will consume several months.

Two copies are scheduled to be made in the beginning. The entire project has been kept within a \$1,000 budget.

A FILMSTRIP REVIEW

KATERI TEKAKWITHA

Exciting true story of authentic Christian witness given by one of the first Indian converts - 70 full-color frames, 22 minute cassette, by the Daughters of St. Paul, 50 St. Paul's Ave., Boston, Mass., 02130, \$15.95.

The field of Catechetics has something most valuable in this filmstrip. Both teen and adult groups will find in it a wealth of material for reflection and discussion. For all the life story of Ven. Kateri will prove to be an enjoyable and enthralling true story.

With the sharp color frames and clear cassette recording of narration and music there is a guide booklet containing pre-showing activities, a detailed study outline, and 12 suggested follow-up projects. The booklet alone is worth the price of the set.

The Daughters of St. Paul have skillfully adapted the life of the 17th Century Indian Girl to many of the key issues of today, e.g., poverty, peace, individual rights, war, suffering, as well as many important yet neglected values as faith, brotherly love, purity, fortitude.

Two distractions occur: 1) Use of wigwams. Mohawks lived in Longhouses. 2) Indian facial features missing. One of the Sisters answered these objections: "It was made in Italy. What do the Italians know about American Indians?"

Overall rating: X-tra fine, X-cellent. Masterfully produced.



THIS IS THE REAL FATHER FRANCIS J. LITZ, C.S.S.R., *who should have appeared on the front page of the last LILY. The Editor apologizes for running the wrong picture. It was only after minutes meeting the genial and gentle real Fr. Litz that the mistake was noticed. He is the Vice Postulator for the Bl. John Neumann and Mother Drexel causes.*

ARCHBISHOP GERETY APPROVES PRAYER

Interested in promoting sainthood for Americans, Fr. Charles McTague of Montclair, N.J., composed this prayer now approved by Archbishop Peter Gerety of Newark: "Confer, O Lord, on us canonized examples of sanctity in America. Let Your life be known to all men, that it is not the bounty of material things we have or give but our real worth and wealth is in the life we live for You and others. Strengthen our faith in this truth by a group example of American saints. We hope this will occur at our Eucharistic Congress in Philadelphia, city of brotherly love. Amen."

Some KATERI'S of ANSWERS

RECOVERY

This small donation is to thank Ven. Kateri for many favors she has granted us, especially for my son's recovery after a near fatal auto accident. - *Elmhurst, N.Y.*

EARNED MONEY PAID

I promised this donation for the cause of Kateri if I was paid all the money the city owed me when I had to give up work last summer. It is all paid now except about one week's which I may receive next week. - *Bronx, N.Y.*

COURT CASE SETTLED

Enclosed is a check in thanksgiving for a favor received in a court case in which my leg was badly crushed. Kateri came to my aid again. - *West Roxbury, Mass.*

PROPERTY SOLD

Check is sent in thanksgiving for a favor in selling some of the property adjoining my home - this had been pending for some time, but with some help from Kateri it has finally been settled. - *Duluth, Minn.*

SIX CHILDREN LATER

One favor Kateri granted me 20 years ago. My daughter then 18 yrs. was going through for a nurse and had a complete mental breakdown and required shock treatment. She has since married and is the proud mother of six beautiful healthy children. I promised to have this published if she recovered. - *Toronto, Canada.*

CONFIDENCE GIVEN

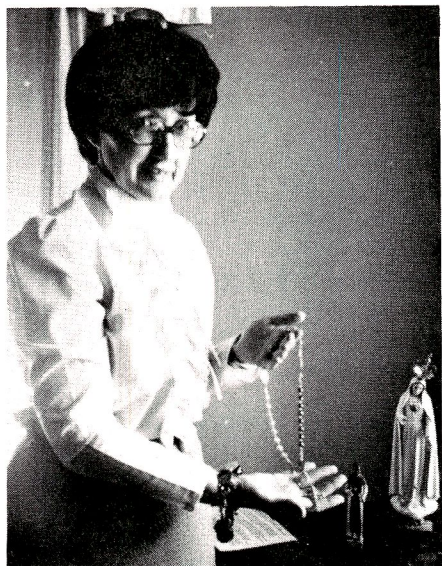
I want to inform all of Kateri's firm believers that without her help I would have never been appointed to my new position. I went into my interview with a feeling of confidence that only comes with a spiritual strength. That strength came by prayers to Kateri. I have much to be thankful for and I will certainly spread her cause. - *Dorchester, Mass.*

MONEY BIND LOOSENEED

I have been in plenty of money binds and since I've asked Kateri for help my problems have been few. - *Jersey City, N.J.*

ATTRACTIVE CHAPLET ALMOST READY

The Scene: Kateri Sunday at Auriesville; Mr. Chet Adams surrounded with pilgrims viewing



Betty Kisela

the attractive Kateri chaplet as is shown in the picture here.

Mrs. Betty Kisela of Detroit Michigan is the author of the

Chaplet and writes: "I'm sure it was my Block Rosary for racial peace which later inspired the Kateri Chaplet. The thoughts came on April 16th and continued into Kateri's Feast Day. I am filled with a special kind of joy at thus being able to honor her."

In addition to the description on how to recite the Chaplet given in the 1974 Spring LILY it has been learned that the Cross is of "Sturolite," nature's amazing mineral found in the shape of tiny crosses in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia, North Carolina, and New Mexico. According to an Indian legend the woodland animals wept on the day Christ died on the Cross, their tiny tears falling upon the earth and crystallizing into the tiny crosses.

Only fifty Chaplets are in production and await a special Kateri medal Mrs. Kisela will only use. Further information will be given soon about the availability of the Chaplet.

Six Lucky Numbers Receive Kateri Statue

Choose-a-number Contest from 1 to 50 ending Oct. 31, 1974, resulted in six fortunate recipients of the Kateri Statue.

The winning numbers were: 23, 25, 22, 15, 27, 43, 39, 12, 16, 10. Numbers 25, 16, 27, 15, 12, and 10 were chosen.

Rev. Mother Rose de Sales Torres, Philadelphia, Pa., Miss Eleanor Witek, Linden, N.J., Mrs. Mary Wojtowicz, Cicero, Ill., Dawna D'Angelo, Glens Falls, N.Y., Lois Danner, Del Rio, Tex., and Donna Murphy, Des Moines, Iowa, chose the lucky numbers. The statues were mailed immediately.

The prize sent to Donna Murphy was returned, the Post Office declaring "no such number." Miss Murphy is asked to submit her address again and the statue will be promptly forwarded to her.

Father McBride upon awarding the prizes expressed

thanks to the 50 persons participating.

PHOTO BY Bill Arbour of Detroit, Michigan →

Cause Claims Interest, Requires Prayers

Letters from the Apostolic Delegate Archbishop Jean Jadot in Washington and from Father Paul Molinari, S.J., postulator of Jesuit causes in Rome, reflect deep

Sacred Heart Program Airs Kateri Story

League Members from Massachusetts and from Ohio wrote to say they heard talks on the life of Ven. Kateri on the Sacred Heart Radio Program. This program is the largest religious broadcast in the world. The talks were given by Father Joseph McBride, S.J., Vice Postulator.



interest in the Kateri cause.

Archbishop Jadot wrote: "I know my predecessors, especially the late Cardinal Cicognani and Cardinal Raimondi had a great interest in her cause and I hope to become better acquainted with it."

In Fr. Molinari's letter prayer is stressed: "I have recently once more discussed the question of the Beatification of Kateri with His Eminence Cardinal Raimondi who has promised me to study the case and then to call me again. You may rest assured that I do everything I can to promote this important Cause but I feel much prayer is needed at this moment."

NOTES FROM THE BARK

by father mcbride

ABSENCE EXPLAINED - Due to illness Father Michael Jacobs of the St. Regis Reservation did not attend the first meeting of the Bicentennial Kateri Meeting. He is much better and hopes to be present at the April assembly.

PERMANENT LILIES - Issues of the "Lily of the Mohawks" from the first edition in 1936 to the last in 1971 have been micro-filmed. Past LILIES contain news bits and pithy articles about Kateri and the League. From time to time re-runs of pertinent pieces will be used, e.g., much of the second editorial in this issue appeared in the very first LILY, 1936.

The micro-film process provides a secure, succinct, and space-saving means of preserving the past history of the League. Copy desired from any of the past papers can be readily obtained and easy reference is available by the micro-film agency.

SADDEST NOTE - Father Henri LaLonde, S.J., director of the famous Mohawk Indian Choir for many years, passed away last October in a Montreal Hospital. A year earlier he had suffered a severe heart attack and although weakened he traveled with the Choir last September to Auriesville for the Kateri Week End. Please remember his soul in your prayers. His great work with the Choir continues under the direction of a nun.

SYRACUSE SARAH - Beautiful Sarah (Skanaicah) Monroe Hassenplug of Liverpool, N.Y., was featured in the Nov. 17, 1974, Syracuse POST STANDARD's magazine section. Sarah is referred to as the "Saintly Stand-in" because she has modeled for Tekakwitha's religious items and portrays her on Sundays at the Fonda Memorial Shrine. Formerly of the St. Regis Reservation she is a full-blooded Mohawk Indian and is a member of the Bicentennial Kateri Committee.

THANK YOU A special article on Ven. Kateri is featured in the first 1975 issue of the "Wind River Rendezvous" published at St. Stephens, Wyoming. This bulletin is worth having and may be obtained for \$1.50 annually. The eight-pager deals with the activities of the dedicated Lay Volunteers, Franciscan Sisters, and Jesuit Priests and Brothers at St. Stephens.

BOAST, NO BOAST - We make it a point to answer all mail and to acknowledge every donation. This is not really a boast for we consider it our duty and privilege to respond to every communication. If you go to the trouble of writing, then our efforts should be doubled to let you know how pleased we are to hear from you.

IN HISTORY - Kevin R. Farrell, assistant director of the Bishops Committee for the Bicentennial,

wrote: "For your further information, the Committee has also developed an historical calendar for 1976 which traces the development of the Church in the United States. A photograph of the statue of Kateri Tekakwitha at St. John's University is featured as one of the monthly pictures." To this we add a resounding, patriotic thank you.

VALE! ET AVE! - From Clarence Center a farewell to Fr. Paul Gampp, League Secretary. We'll be seeing him often as we visit him at Auriesville where he will assume the directorship of the Albany Retreat House. Thanks for your cooperation while at CC!

WE'RE IN GOOD HANDS - Fr. Paul Molinari in Rome has succeeded in introducing the cause of Pope Pius XII to the Congregation in charge of Canonizations. He was also the one who managed the canonizations of the 40 English Martyrs. In his capable hands is the Kateri Cause.

RINGED - On May 31 a wedding ring will symbolize the marriage of Gail Roth to Bob Clancy. Gail still helps in the League Office. To this beautiful couple let us wish boundless joy and happiness.

BLESS YOU - Many sent Christmas greetings and said how they liked the calendar with the Kateri prayer. And there were some generous gifts, too. Bless one and all for such magnanimity!

1656

1680



Kateri Tekakwitha League

6969 STRICKLER ROAD
CLARENCE CENTER, NEW YORK 14032



Non Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 33

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED
RETURN POSTAGE GUARANTEED

LILY OF THE MOHAWKS