VOL. XL NO. 1

BLESSED KATERI TEKAKWITHA LEAGUE, AURIESVILLE, NEW YORK 12016

**WINTER, 1981** 

# Students Bring Crafts

Rolling out of Hicksville, Long Island, at 6:30 A. M., Saturday, January 24, the stage carrying 12 passengers and a cargo rolled into Auriesville at 11:15 A. M. The cargo contained the handiwork and literary pieces of the seventh grade students of Holy Family School.

Driver was Joe Trapp and navigator Sister Pat Saunders, O.P. The ten students were: Debbie Gazzillo, Erna Maceira, Tara Riley, Susan Leahy, Mary Ellen Mato, Jeanne Hughes, Mark Schnurman, Kevin Hinphy, Chris Kollmeier, and Harold O'Rourke.

The cargo was the precious Indian Village models, one of which is pictured on page 7 and the others will be on exhibition in the National Kateri Center, and albums of Indian history and culture. These creations came about for the annual Indian Mission Night held by the Holy Family School student body for the benefit of the Indian Missions.

Another picture, page 7, shows the dedication of the event to Blessed Kateri and the happiness of the participants in holding up the Indian Maiden as one who will bring about love and understanding among all Native Americans.

After a short talk by Fr. Egan, a visit to the Coliseum and to the Kateri Center the stage was off to Howe Caverns, then to Hicksville.

POPE JOHN PAUL II RE-CEIVES A TURTLE CLAN medallion neckpiece from the Auriesville and Fonda Shrines. Mary-Eunice Spagnola, second right, presents it in the name of Ossernenon, and Little Peacock (Sarah Monroe Hassenplug), first right, in behalf of Kateri's Baptismal Shrine. The words National Kateri Center were inscribed on back of the medallion which carried the symbol of the Lily's tribe, the turtle.

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Next to Mary-Eunice is a Nigerian, name unknown, who has a special devotion to Blessed Kateri. And beside the Holy Father is Thomas Constantino of Amster-



# Big Day in June

The new Shrine season gives prominence to two anniversaries. Sunday, June 21, will mark the 50th anniversary of the blessing of the Coliseum and the first anniversary of the beatification of Kateri Tekakwitha. Bishop Howard J. Hubbard, D.D., bishop of Albany, will be the main celebrant of the celebration Mass at 12:30 P. M.

Father Vincent Hart, S.J., of Manhasset, Long Island, the only living active priest who was at the first blessing, has been asked to give the homily.

Hugh P. Donlon, composer and director of a Latin Mass for the 1931 ceremony, will gather a choir, some of which belonged to the singers fifty years ago. The same Mass will be sung this year.

Since Blessed Kateri's Feast Day falls on Good Friday when celebrations are hardly in order the June 21 date is most appropriate for a commemoration also because Pope John Paul II beatified her on June 22, one year ago.

The program for this event is managed by Fr. Thomas Egan, S.J., Shrine Director. He has seen hundreds of pilgrims in his thirteen years at Auriesville worship in the Coliseum and hopes many will return for the celebration.

dam, N. Y., who has promoted the Cause for many years.

The presentation was made at the special audience granted to the Native Americans on Tuesday, June 24, 1980, in Clementine Hall, Vatican City.

On the previous Sunday Mary-Eunice had a private audience with the Pontiff and Little Peacock gave him a beaded stole at the Offertory. This was a fortunate moment because the Pope was surrounded immediately descending his throne. Other gifts like the painting of the Pope done at Auriesville were presented by Father Egan.

# KATERI'S INTERCESSION - SOME ANSWERS

#### BABY SAVED -

I sent you a letter a few days ago for the novena. Well, that really is in thanksgiving for what I believe is a miracle. You see I have two great grandchildren and two other small babies I care for. Well this one, Kassia, thirteen months, fell down the cellar stairs. She landed on the cellar floor which is cement. The miracle is Kassia (which is Catherine). Kateri must have caught Kassia as she fell. There is no way she could have come out of it unharmed. She would have been killed if it wasn't for Kateri. My husband made me know Kateri. He loved her so much. — Marlboro, N. Y.

#### GOOD JOB OBTAINED -

Enclosed is \$10 from my son. He promised the money if he could obtain a good job he had been trying to get. He went to work for the company two weeks ago.

— Beaumont, Texas

#### PAIN EASED -

My retreats at Auriesville brought an introduction to Blessed Kateri. I have asked her general intercession for a couple of years now. Some 10 months ago. I developed a painful hip problem. I placed the principal petition in the hands of Blessed Kateri last spring. My consultations with the MD's resulted in this advice: 'maximize your exercise; see me in six weeks.' Though the summer was quite uncomfortable, relief began in the fall and, at present, the condition is tolerable - with limited pain - and some periods almost free of the complaint. — Manchester, N. H.

#### UNCOMFORTABLE ALLERGY GONE -

I am sorry not to know to whom I should specifically write, but I am not a Roman Catholic, rather an Episcopalion. Still, I was healed by the Lily of the Mohawks last June at the time of the ceremony of beatification. Although I do not have the necessary authenti-

cated medical history to submit, I feel compelled to write you in case my testimony would, in any way, help towards the completion of Kateri Tekakwitha's sainthood. I believe I owe it to her and so this is my story.

I had been suffering from a very uncomfortable allergy for a year or more. There were so many things I could not eat or drink without an itching rash appearing first one place and then another. I went to a Homeopathic doctor who gave me a medicine. It helped some but did not clear it up. The inside of my ears and nose were unpleasantly affected, and I had raw itching patches on my arms and legs and at the back of my neck. When one would heal, more would appear elsewhere. This had been going on since about May of 1979. I went to several healing services too, for I sincerely believe in healing, but I was not healed at the time.

Then I read about Lily of the Mohawks, and about the healings that have been accredited to her. After reading about her I asked her to heal me. As I was praying to her, I felt completely in accord with her. Maybe you could say that I felt her presence with me. It is hard to describe it. I believe I experienced a complete oneness with her for a few moments. Two days later, I was completely healed, no rash anywhere! And I have been able to eat and drink anything, even coffee and wine which were the worst offenders. I have not had any reoccurrence since and that was four months ago.

This is my testimony, and whether or not it can be used for her benefit I do not know, but I am only too happy to submit it. I also know that the source is from our Lord, His Holy Spirit, no matter who is the channel — and I am very, very grateful.

P. S. I have kept this letter one

month in order to make very sure. My testimony still stands as of November 20.

— New Canaan. Ct.

#### HOME LOSS AVERTED -

We were in danger of losing our home, plus our bills were mounting. We prayed to Blessed Kateri, and like a miracle our friends stepped in and saved our home. We also received enough money to pay our bills. — *Phoenix*, Az.

#### DEACON IS HELPED -

I am a permanent deacon and my bishop appointed me chaplain of three jails, a pre-release center, and an area prison. There were no funds for such a ministry, so I turned the job over to Kateri, just as I have the financing of my family. I have a wife and five children. I have a 5" statue of Kateri that I got at the Martyrs Shrine. It seems to me that a small voice whispered to me: 'Trust and pray, have confidence, I will keep you going.' In five years we have been able to build two Catholic Chapels, the Chapel of the Infant Jesus of Good Health in the area prison and the Chapel of Christ the Good Shepherd in the pre-release center, and a Catholic Reading Room in the area prison. We have never received any funds from the diocese - yet kind people have 'kept up' the good work, we have been supernaturally 'kept going.'

- Nashville, Tn.

#### A CURE THAT LASTED -

When I was a young boy, 11 years old I developed Tetanus or Lock Jaw from a very deep cut in my finger. Back in those days around 1936 it was always a fatal disease especially when not treated in the early stages.

I still remember a nun that taught me in the third grade and had the entire class pray for my recovery. I did recover to go on and marry a wonderful girl and raise six children so I guess God saved me for this purpose.

- Pittsburgh, Pa.

# Youth For Kateri

By Cathy Walton

Here at Auriesville, deep in the forest, Kateri Country, the pine trees and grounds are deeply covered with snow. It is so beautiful, truly a winter wonderland. I wish everyone could visit this peaceful place where The Lily of the Mohawks was born. So many people have problems, but somehow they seem insignificant when you can just look out over this beautiful valley and meditate.

Fr. McBride, for whom I work as secretary, has just given me a new job with the title Director of Youth Activities. I would like to use this column as

a vehicle for exchanging ideas and also for getting acquainted with the various Kateri Clubs around the country.

For instance, in Phoenix there is a Kateri Club which has put on a Christmas Program and held a Pot-Luck Dinner. Their program design was so well done and attractive. The president of this club is Mary Kobrzycki, 140 W. Alice Ave., Phoenix, Az. 85021. Mary is a former Kateri Youth Award winner, in fact, the first, having won the award in 1978.

I have a little friend, namely, Beth Kephart who has a Kateri Club in Malvern, Pa. 19355, and who lives at 1 High St. Her picture, in native regalia, appears in this column. Also shown are students of Cardinal Mindszenty Academy. Beth shows films on the life of Kateri to senior citizens in nursing homes and so forth. She is only 11.

Bernadette Brown, RD #1, Welch Rd., Wellsburg, N. Y., 14894, was the second winner of the Award, winning hers in 1979.

I also thought that maybe some of you might like to start Kateri Clubs of your own. They don't have to be large, just a few friends getting together. Some of the clubs could put on little plays, rummage sales, garage sales, penny socials, etc. and raise a little money to further the cause of Kateri. If you have any more ideas, just drop me a line and let me hear about them. OK?

In a future column I will talk more about the award and how you may qualify.

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FATHER MICHAEL JACOBS, Jesuit Mohawk priest, right, worked diligently for the Kateri Cause for fifty years but was unable to attend the beatification ceremony in Rome last June. Ann Scheuerman, chairperson of the League's special activities, wrote to the Holy Father asking for prayers and a blessing on a rosary for the long-time pastor of the St. Regis Mission Church in Hogansburg, N. Y. Gifts, left, like a brown wood beaded rosary in a leathercase with the Papal crest on it, a picture of Pope John



Paul II and a letter from him with his blessing — were presented to the only Mohawk Jesuit at liturgical celebration, December 5, in Fort Covington, N. Y. Fr. Thomas Egan, S.J., Auriesville Shrine director, gave the homily at a concelebrated Mass.

Brother Eustache Savard, S.J., who has worked over 30 years at the St. Regis Mission, was also honored on his 80th birthday.

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#### Kateri's Album

KATERI GEMPERLE says she is 3½ years old and lives with her Mom and Dad in Houston, Texas. She knows how Blessed Kateri has helped her parents find a home which they wanted very much but could never afford it. The whole family prayed; within one week



the family was able to sell their old house at their asking price, soon after they made an offer on the new home and had it accepted. Every day everyone prays for the canonization of Blessed Kateri.

### Dont Blame Us!

A monster is loose — the U. S. Postal Service! It grows fat while demanding the customer be a math genius to shape all mail the way USPS wants it. If not, your mail comes back. Blame this distraught character if your mail is late, torn, or mutilated. Such is this irresponsible meany.

# **Book Review**

A Shining From the Mountains

By Sister Providentia, S.P. 114 pages with 16 illustrations. The Kaufer Co., West 716 Sprague Ave., Spokane, WA, 99204. \$6.00

This book is dedicated to Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha. Her people, the Caughnawagans of Canada, are credited with sending messengers, the Black Robes, who helped fulfill the Indian predisposition among the Western tribes for many years to embrace Christianity.

The well-researched pages tell the "story of Western history which needed telling for reading enrichment in the Indian Studies programs of high schools, colleges, and universities." "A Shining" accomplishes this task even though some publishers balked at printing the truth because the text to them was too religious.

Father Pierre De Smet, S.J., was the first Catholic clergyman on the Plains and in the mountains, the answer to the prediction of Shining Shirt that help would come. Thanks to the missions he established, some after the pattern of the Jesuit Reductions in Paraguay, the Native Americans were able to preserve their groups, their identity, and their lands.

Sister Providentia drew her account from many sources listed in the ample bibliography. In 1936 she taught at the school for girls on the reservation in DeSmet, Idaho. She knows the Native Americans and thinks Indian, hence, what she writes is well founded not only on the historical facts but on the many conversations she has had with the old folks whose minds are the history books of the Indian Tribes of the 18th Century. Her order, the Sisters of Charity of Providence of Montreal, Canada, followed the Jesuits in the "Shining" country to establish schools for girls and do hundreds of other chores that welded the Faith to the Indian

Reject reading this book will blot out knowledge of the history of the beginnings of the real burst of the "Shining From the Mountains."

# **Beatification Prompts Meditative Painting**

This portrait of Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha was painted by Jim Fitzpatrick, a former Montanan, now living in San Jose, California. He had never heard of the Lily of



the Mohawks until the time of her beatification.

Fitzpatrick has always been interested in the arts but has only recently begun to paint in oil. Jim is chiefly a painter of famous Indian Chiefs, whose lives he studies and meditates on their personalities until he feels them working through him onto the canvas. When he executed this painting he was inspired to show her complete with rays and halo. After more study of Kateri's life he plans another picture of Kateri showing some of her life's situations in the background.

Jim's mother, Dola Dreissen, is a retired teacher and a semi-professional puppeteer. She has the scenario for a puppet show based on the life of Blessed Kateri and is building the marionettes.

Dola has offered the League the marionette show. She lives in Conrad, Mt., where the above painting hangs.

Climaxing the many events honoring Blessed Kateri in 1980 was the blessing of the Kateri Statue by Archbishop John Quinn, archbishop of San Francisco, in the Nationincluding Fathers Thomas Egan and McBride from Auriesville and Father Ronald Schultz from Fonda.

Most Rev. Howard J. Hubbard,



THE SMILINGEST PICTURE shows, left to right, Fr. McBride, Fr. Ronald Schultz, Sister Kateri, Princess Pale Moon, Sister Mary Elizabeth, and the biggest smile of all from His Eminence John Cardinal Krol, archbishop of Philadelphia.

al Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, D. C., November 12.

The blessing of the statue which is located in the west nave gallery of the Shrine's Main Church took place after a concelebrated Mass of the nation's 250 bishops in addition to a large number of priests

D.D., episcopal head of the Kateri Cause in the Americas and ordi-

The Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions sponsored an impressive reception after the Liturgy in the

#### nary of the Albany Diocese, gave the homily before the large congregation of bishops and laity numbering hundreds of Native Americans.

## What Mass Is Approved to Honor Kateri?

What Mass in honor of Blessed Kateri is used? The first Opening Prayer for Kateri's Mass was not approved by the U. S. Bishops. It has been learned that the Bishops now have approved an English translation of an Opening Prayer. As required, it was sent to the Congregation for the Sacraments and Divine Worship for confirmation which is necessary prior to actual use.

Until the Opening Prayer has been

confirmed, according to the Executive Director of the Bishops' Committee on the Liturgy, the appropriate prayers from the common of a Virgin can be used as given in the Sacramentary.

April 17, the date Kateri died, is her Feast Day. This year April 17 falls on Good Friday when regular Masses are not offered. Votive Masses in honor of Kateri may be celebrated when permitted.



KATERI STATUE in the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, D. C.

basement of the Shrine. Cardinal Krol was present and brought smiles to all who met him as seen in the above picture.

New York was well represented for Sister Kateri came from Hogansburg with her friends, Sister Mary Elizabeth drove to the Capital with a group of her spirited Syracusan Mohawks, and Tom Constantino flew in to gather a contingent of his associates. Native Americans from the Washington area also attended.

LILY OF THE MOHAWKS

# NOTES FROM THE BARK - by father mebride

A financial statement for 1980 has been prepared. Though it is not being published, questions pertaining to it are welcome. A general survey is this: Receipts — \$55,514.00; Expenses — \$55,038.00; Balance — \$476.00. Three major projects were executed, two of which did not fair well in profit. Because of an increase in donations probably due to the beatification and also to the novena the flag of solvency waves for another year.

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A shopping mall and an airport spot were ruled out for the location of the proposed Bl. Kateri Blessed Sacrament Chapel. The usual hemnaw reaction takes place here but valid is the question "Do we need another chapel at Auriesville?" Two off-the-ground sites have been proposed and call for in-depth evaluation. All the while interest is growing in making this a memorial to the newly Blessed Kateri, lover of the Eucharist.

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The League office never closes. So, if you do come this way on your winter vacation, drop in for a hello and a cheap (no charge) cup of our coffee, and meet the new secretary.

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The Adirondack Players presented me with a montage of colored pictures of the "Godspell with Kateri" cast and a plaque commemorating their five performances here last year. Both will be viewed in the National Kateri Center this Shrine season.

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Who can influence your likes or

dislikes when it comes to choosing a favorite picture of Kateri? Many still prefer Sister Fides Glass' painting, or Mother Nealis' Kateri in the Woods, or the one by John Steele, or the old painting by Fr. Chauchtierre. This Office won't carry any of these for a while because the League worked long and hard to gain beatification. How stupid would we be if we did not recognize what this means, namely, that our advocate is in heaven! Therefore, the official painting represents Blessed Kateri without being surrounded by earthly scenes and gives her what the Church wants her blesseds to have, rays emerging from around the head with a slight brilliance but no halo. Have these words influenced you? Good.

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Anne Scheuerman, League photographer, took many pictures while in Rome for the beatification which are on slides. There are now availabel five sets of 230 slides in each set at the cost value of \$65.00 each set. Order from the League Office if you care for them.

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No good word is revealed about Bishop Hubbard's great homily given in Rome. He gave one at the October 18th celebration here at Auriesville and then again at the Bishops' Mass in Washington, D. C. Unfortunately the one in Rome was not recorded and given extemporaneously without notes and the other two were recorded but are impossible sources to derive copies from. Let's hope the Bishop will get a few moments to give the homily again with reliable recording mechanism.

To cover expenses involved in the beatification, such as the printing of the POSITIO, the taxes of the Congregation for the Causes of the Saints, the cost of the ceremony of the beatification itself (basilica, printing of the booklet with the liturgical texts, etc), Father Bechard of Canada and I (The League) were asked \$2,500 each. PAID IN FULL — thanks to all of you who have supported the League through the years. A gift to the Holy Father for his beautiful part will be made shortly.

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Please print your name, address, city, and zip, clearly when writing to us. Many errors occur because writing is indecipherable. Thank you, thank you!

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Final changes on the exterior emmorial plaque on the national Kateri Center: correction — Mrs. N. J. Popovich, not Popvich; addition — In memory of the deceased members of the Kathryn Caruso Family.

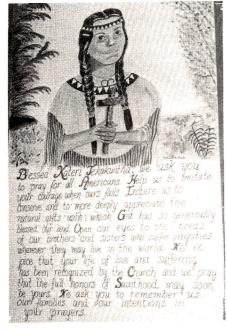
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Never has there been so many new members. Even so, the number of deletes doesn't push us very much closer to 10,000 which was the aim for 1980. With the excellent cooperation shown in the past year, however, let us keep that goal and reach it within another year or so. Onward!

Most Rev. Maurice Schexnayder, D.D., former bishop of Lafayette, La., died January 23, 1981. He was an ardent promoter of the Kateri Cause for over 25 years. Every few months he would ask for prayer cards which he distributed among his friends. He will be missed. May his soul rest in peace!

# NOTES FROM THE BARK by father mcbride

It's slenderizing, not economizing. Whatever — our operational procedures must be pared down. Effective immediately: (1) No acknowledgements will be sent for one dollar donations. They are still acceptable because they come from warm hearts. (2) Cancelled checks for two and three dollar donations will serve



PRAYER USED at Indian Mission Night, Holy Family School, Hicksville, Long Island. Event was dedicated to Blessed Kateri.

as an acknowledgement and our thanks. (3) New members will receive a simple post card of acknowledgement. (4) If no notice about a change of address is sent, another copy of the LILY will not be mailed. A returned LILY plus sending a new copy amounts to over 60¢ cost.

I regret that these steps must be taken. Being slenderized helps us to keep active and maintain the promotional work needed today. Finally, those two dollar bills and Susan Anthony dollars can be very annoying to you. Let us have them to alleviate the cantankerous situation. We'll endure the annoyance.

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Each year a special Mass is offered for deceased League Members on April 17, Blessed Kateri's Feast Day. This year it is Good Friday. The Mass will be offered on Friday, April 24, 1981.

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A grant of five hundred dollars from the Pauline Stolteben Foundation, Montana, has been received to help finance the documentary film on Kateri as described in the last LILY, Pg. 3.

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Blessed Kateri got several No. 1 votes in the listing of outstanding news makers during 1980. Although not listed among the top five, her first place rating shows the nation-wide interest in her life story and desire to have her canonized soon.

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Joseph A. Loschiavo, Fordham University Reference Librarian, apprised me of the existence of two rare books on Kateri owned by the University Library, namely, Vie de Catherine Tekak8ita (sic), Traduction Iroquoise, Tiohtiake, Tehoristorarakon J. Chapleau at Fils, 1976, 52p. 13cm (Although the title page information is in French, this tiny biography is printed entirely in the Iroquois language), and Feerie Indienne Kateri Tekakwitha, by Lasnier, Rina, Saint-Jean (Les Editions du Richelieu Itee) 1939 71p, 2pl 20cm (This Canadian work is written

as a series of tableaux. It is one of a limited edition of only 50 copies. Only four other copies are recorded as being owned by libraries in North America). These books cannot be taken out on loan but knowledge of their whereabouts is helpful.

Mrs. Margaret O. Brookhiser, known to many pilgrams as Peggie, for 20 years Manager of the Shrine

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ASPARAGUS PATCH? No. An Indian Village model seen at Indian Mission Night, Holy Family 7th Graders, last November.

Religious Articles Store, has resigned. All the beauty and charm brought there by Peggie will not diminish because her daughter, Mrs. Mary Dowling, has taken over. To Peggie cheers and blessings for a job well done; to Mary the same since who will be around 20 years from now to wish her the same then?

Hundreds responded to enter their petitions in the year-end Novena of Masses. Blessed Kateri has been given plenty to work on. Let us keep praying for all the needs of League Members. Donations, too, were plentiful and call for another big THANK YOU.

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## Another Kateri Shrine Found in Pennsy

The shrine shown to the right was discovered in 1968 by Mr. and Mrs. Gervase Rozanski of Philadelphia, Pa., on the Shawnee Indian Religious Grounds near Storystown in Western part of the coal state.

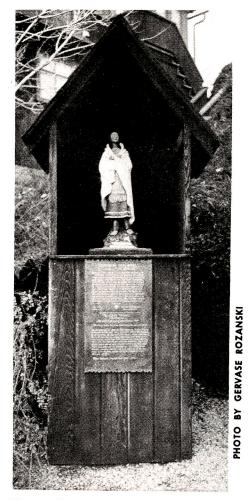
The statue of Kateri was sculptured by a quondam promoter of the League's work, Adrienne Bouvier of Brookline, Mass, Molds for her statues were given to the League about ten years ago and have been worked by Father Ronald Schultz, OFM, Conv., director of the Mohawk Indian Museum, Fonda, N. Y.

Beneath the statue is a prayer imprimatured by the former bishop of Albany, Edmund F. Gibbons, and below the prayer is the Lord's Prayer in Kateri's own language, Mohawk.

Mr. Rozanski is a photographer with the Philadelphia Inquirer.

Devotion to Blessed Kateri is a practical matter with Mrs. Rozanski. For one thing she sent out several hundred Kateri prayer cards with her Christmas greetings. Then, through her prayers to the Indian Maiden she and her family experienced a remarkable change in a serious heart condition of a brother-in-law.

Receiving this picture brings attention once again to Adrienne Bouvier who designed and sculptured the Kateri statue. In the thirties Adrienne was an outstanding Kateri promoter, not only producing the statue but also the first



film on Kateri's life, a special accomplishment when home-made movies were just about being thought of. The film and record were given this office, now considered collectors' items.

### Tekakwitha Conference Opens August Third In Albuquerque, N. Mex.

The 1981 Tekakwitha Conference will be at the University of Mexico in Albuquerque beginning with registration at noon August 3 according to Fr. Gilbert Hemauer, Cap., Conference president. The Conference will begin Monday evening, August 3, with the afternoon and evening of August 4 free to share in the annual feast of Santo Domingo in the Santo Domingo Pueblo, leaving participants the 5th, 6th and the morning of the 7th to accomplish the Conference's agenda.

Fr. Hemauer is now full time head of the Conference, having given up his pastorate in Medicine Lake. He now has an office at 1818 9th Avenue, South #5, Great Falls, MT, 59405.

At present the tentative theme of the 1981 Conference is centering on the emerging Catholic Native American Church: its shape, vision, directions, goals, objectives, and programs.

The Conference has witnessed the beginning of a stronger identity and voice of the Indian/Eskimo people of the United States within the Catholic Church. Still there are many more people to be reached. Developing regional chapters will be given much thought as the Conference itself develops.

Any person wishing to sign up for membership in the Conference may send a fee of \$5.00 to the office in Great Falls.

## Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha League

(MARTYR'S SHRINE)

Rev. Joseph S. McBride, S.J. Office of Vice Postulator Auriesville, N.Y. 12016 Phone 1-518-853-3153

LEAGUE MEMBERS not only share in the noble work of making Blessed Kateri better known and loved by means of literature, etc., but their membership subscription and donations make possible this promotion.



R P Henri Bechard SJ Editor Kateri Mission St Francis Xavior Caughnawaga P Q Canada

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