Vol. XL NO. 7

BLESSED KATERI TEKAKWITHA LEAGUE, AURIESVILLE, NEW YORK 12016

**SUMMER, 1982** 

# Canadian Vice Postulator To Receive Kateri Award

Fifty years as a Jesuit, 1932-1982, Canada's Vice Postulator Father Henri Bechard, S. J., will receive the Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha Award for 1982. For forty-three years he has served as the Vice Postulator.

In 1948, four years after his ordination at the Gesu in Montreal he was appointed to the Mission of St. Francis Xavier where he became principal of the Tekakwitha School at Caughnawaga in 1949.

Presently he is editor of the English and French editions of "Kateri," the Lily's sister publication in Canada. He is the author of 2 books in French and 2 in English and of a score of pamphlets.

Born at Lewiston, Maine, Dec. 16, 1909; graduated from grammar school in Quincy, Maine, he went on to take commercial and

# St. Regis Gets New Administration

A momentous change will take place at the St. John Francis Regis Mission on the St. Regis Reservation in Northern New York State and part of Lower Canada on September 24, 1982. The French Canadian Province of the Jesuits no longer can supply personnel for the famous Mission and has asked the New York Province to assume command there.



Bishop Joseph P. Denning

Retired auxiliary bishop of Brooklyn Diocese, pastor emeritus of O. L. Queen of Martyrs, Forest Hills, N.Y., celebrating his golden jubilee of ordination, and promoter of the Bl. Kateri Cause, Bishop Joseph P. Denning will be the main celebrant of the 12:30 P.M. Mass for the Mohawk Indian Pilgrims, Sunday, Sept. 5, 1982, in the Shrine Coliseum, Auriesville, N.Y.

classical courses at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary in Sherbrooke, Canada. He entered the Society of Jesus in 1932. The Tekakwitha Award will be presented to him on October 16 at Auriesville.

Two well-known Jesuit priests in Auriesville circles will go there, Father Thomas Egan, S.J., former Martyrs Shrine Director, and Fr. Robert Fleig, S.J., formerly on the Shrine Staff and presently treasurer of the Manresa Retreat House on Staten Island

The Mission of St. Regis on the St. Lawrence River about 10 miles (continued on page 3)



Fr. Fleig Fr. Egan

# KATERI'S INTERCESSION - SOME ANSWERS

### JOB WANTED, GOTTEN

The unemployment rate is high for teachers due to Massachusetts Proposition 2½. My son's school closed. He started looking for another job going on interview after interview. I started praying to Kateri Tekakwitha and my prayers were answered. He got just the job he wanted. — Brockton, Mass.

### ALCOHOLIC HELPED

Since Kateri lived among the Indians where the disease of alcoholism was wide-spread let the people who have the disease and those who live with them pray to her. Ireland has Matt Talbot, why can't we have Kateri? I know she has been a great help to me with my son who was in the service in the Viet Nam War. — Philadelphia, Pa.

#### **IMPROVEMENT**

I would like to make known to you a favor received through Blessed Kateri's intercession. It concerns the health of my sister-in-law. She has not fully recovered, and I do not think she will ever, but there has been a noticeable improvement in her ever since I started to pray to Blessed Kateri. I am grateful for this. — Cleveland, Ohio.

### **NORMAL BABY**

Our prayers have been answered. Our daughter had a normal, healthy baby girl this morning. Thank you, Blessed Kateri. — Lompoc, Cal.

## **EXAM COMPANION**

I am a full time student attending Creighton University and have prayed to Kateri many times and every time she has helped me. When the pressure is unbearable and the work gets tough, I always take some time out every day to say my daily prayer and my novena prayers to Kateri. She has helped me through exams and my

grades last semester when I needed it. I always carry my pocket statuette of her even when I go to take my exams just as a reminder that she's always there when I need her. My promise of ten dollars goes to the Kateri League for answering my prayers. I urge not only students but everyone to pray to Blessed Kateri so that soon she may be canonized. — Omaha, Neb.

### **EXAM PASSED**

Enclosed is \$5.00. I promised if my son passed the first semester, I would send it in thanksgiving and have it publicly announced. — *Springbrook*, *Ia*.

## **DIAMOND FOUND**

I visit a senior citizen and her husband lost a diamond out of his ring. It was found. They prayed to Blessed Kateri. — *Bronx*, *N.Y.* 

#### PIMPLES GO

I saw the article in the National Enquirer about the Indian Girl. I prayed to her to cure my son's pimples that were as big as the size of a corn. And sure enough, within the week of prayers his pimples disappeared. I am very grateful to Kateri. — Manila, Philippines.

### CHECK RECOVERED

I lost my payroll check. My husband and I searched the entire house and car for it. When I went to bed I promised a gift to the League if I found it. This morning my husband went to the car and the check was there in an envelope. I thank Kateri for helping us find it. — Plaquemine, La.

### **FAMILY HELPED MANY WAYS**

This is a donation in honor of Kateri Tekakwitha. Ever since my Mother gave me her prayer a few weeks ago, she has helped my family and me in so many ways I can't begin to tell you. How beautiful this wonderful lady has

made our lives. She is now the center of all our lives and ever will be. — San Antonio, Tx.

### TRIPLE RESPONSE

There were three separate incidents where Blessed Kateri came through. We lost our dog and two days later we found him in a park about a mile away. My wife noticed her diamond ring stone was missing in her ring. She prayed to Blessed Kateri and she found the diamond in the bathroom sink. I was ready to go home from work and I noticed the car keys were missing as I got into the car. We had a bad snow storm that day, 10 inches had fallen, and it was still snowing. The car was parked in a large area. I retraced my steps several times, kept moving the snow with my hands and feet and had also had other people helping me look for the keys. I prayed to Kateri. Finally my eyes caught something red in the snow and it looked like blood. It was the dve from the red key chain. Again Blessed Kateri heard my prayers. Belford, N.J.

### **FAITH STRENGTHENED**

I have been confronted with tragedies, that is, deaths in my family, personal illness and family illnesses to the extent where I have lost my faith and my religious duties. But Blessed Kateri comes to my rescue by bestowing on me the gift of faith in Almighty God. — Canton, Ohio.

## CARELESS TREATMENT REMEDIED

My wife was in much pain due to carelessness of a chiropractor. We prayed to Kateri Tekaquitha (sic!) and we know she guided us to a medical doctor who is getting her on the mend. Kateri alleviated my wife's pain. Now we picked her for our patroness. — *Bronx*, *N.Y.* 

## St. Regis

(continued from page 1)

east of the present-day city of Massena was begun in 1752 by a group of Iroquois, most of them Mohawks, from the earlier settlement at the St. Francis Xavier Mission at Kahnawake near Montreal.

The new settlers were accompanied by Fr. Antoine Gordon who had already served for several years at Caughnawaga. The Mohawks named their new home Akwesasne which means "the place where the partridge drums." The early years of the missions were turbulent ones because of the French and Indian War. While none of the fighting took place in the area, some of the young men of the village were conscripted for service with the French forces. The population of the settlement swelled a few years later when other Christian Indians, mostly Onondagas and Senecas, joined the original residents after the break-up of the Sulpician mission of La Presentation on the site of present day Ogdensburg. However, the settlement was to receive only intermittent spiritual care after the suppression of the Jesuit Order in 1773. Father Gordon stayed on with the Indians until his death in



ALL BANNER CONTESTANTS received a plastic encased Kateri statuette in May 2 contest. Top 3 winners were: Kateri McGarry, first right; Monica Washington, second left; and Heather Kolodziez, third right. 8", 7", and a 6" Kateri statues were presented to the First, Second, and Third, bannerees.

1779 but no immediate replacement was available.

Father Roderick MacDonald, a diocesan priest of Scottish origin, was sent to St. Regis in 1789 and was responsible for the field stone church erected in 1792. Despite a fire which badly gutted the church in the middle of the last century, the walls remained standing, providing a structure used until today.

When the international boundary was drawn in the early 19th century, the reservation ended up on both sides of the border between Canada and the United States. For this reason both the bishops of Quebec and New York showed an interest in the Mission and in 1827 Most Rev. Francois Dubois, third bishop of New York, made a visitation of St. Regis. Diocesan priests administered the mission throughout the last century and well into this one. Of these pastors Fr. Marcoux became exceptionally proficient in the Mohawk dialect of Iroquois. In 1936 the mission was once again entrusted to the Society of Jesus. After the absence of 163 years Jesuits returned to take up the work begun by their brother Father Gordon. A year later the first Mohawk to be ordained a Jesuit priest, Fr. Michael Jacobs, who was born and raised at the Caughnawaga Mission, began a 26 year term as pastor. He has remained as pastor emeritus for the past 19 years.

Editor's Note: the bulk of this article was supplied by Fr. Egan who has vast knowledge of the history of the Jesuit Missions. The Editor is grateful to him.

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# THIRD ANNUAL KATERI DINNER - THEATER

## SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1982

SHRINE CAFETERIA - AURIESVILLE, N.Y.

6 P.M. — Delicious full-course dinner

followed by

## **BRIGADOON**

a full-length stage production by the Sir William Johnson Lyric Theatre of Johnstown, New York

Donation \$12.50

## Write for your reservation(s) NOW.

Checks payable to Tekakwitha League or Fr. McBride, S.J. Mail to either at Auriesville, N.Y. 12016

## OCTOBER 16 and / or NOVEMBER 12

## THE BLESSED KATERI LEAGUE

presents

## FATHER FLANAGAN'S BOYS TOWN CHOIR OF NEBRASKA

BISHOP SCULLY HIGH SCHOOL AMSTERDAM, N.Y.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1982 — 7:30 P.M.

Social Follows

Winner of Monte Carlo to be announced

Donation \$6.00

Make reservations now. Checks payable to Tekakwitha League or Fr. McBride, S.J., Auriesville, N.Y. 12016

There are many fine motels in the area.

## Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha League

### OFFICE OF THE VICE-POSTULATOR

**AURIESVILLE, NEW YORK 12016** 

518 853-3153

Summer, 1982

Dear friend of Kateri,

Auriesville - a special word, a special place...with an individual meaning to each one of us. It is the site of an old Indian village, the land on which three heroic missionaries, Jogues, Lalande, and Goupil, gave their lives for the Faith. And it is the birthplace of Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha, our Lily of the Mohawks. It is also a place of answered prayer, an atmosphere of tranquility, a feeling of hope and comfort.

In 1985 Auriesville will celebrate its 100th anniversary. While many advances and improvements have been made over the years, many costly repairs and building adjustments are needed in order to maintain these holy grounds. For this we appeal to you.

The Blessed Kateri League in association with the Martyrs Shrine has initiated a Century II Sweepstakes, consisting of several fund raising events. One half of any funds realized will go towards the Blessed Kateri Memorial Chapel.

Throughout the 1982 shrine season, a Sweepstakes is being conducted with a 1982 Chevrolet Monte Carlo as the top prize. Donations of one or more dollars enables one to participate in the Sweepstakes Two tickets are inserted in this issue. The winner will be announced on November 12, 1982, following a concert in Amsterdam, N.Y., by the Boys Town Choir of Nebraska. Proceeds from this event will go to the Century II Fund.

Finally, the 3rd Annual Kateri Dinner-Theater will be held on October 16 in the Shrine Cafeteria, followed by a delightful, full-length production of "Brigadoon."

Ask Blessed Kateri to smile on all our efforts to insure Auriesville a lasting future. Please join us in whatever way you can in order to start another century in grand style. Blessings!

Tather mer Brile, S.

Joseph S. McBride, S.J.



Sister Veronica of Yankton, South Dakota, writes that a Kateri Shrine is being built there. It is a steel wigwam mounted on a rock foundation. A large statue of Blessed Kateri will figure in the memorial.

As a remembrance of Bishop Hubbard's Fifth Anniversary as bishop of Albany, a beautiful stole was presented to him at the May 2nd Kateri Celebration by the Tekakwitha League. It was made by Eloise Etzkorn. The three Mohawk Clans were symbolized in sketches with the Lily and on the collar three crosses representing the three Jesuit Martyrs who died at Auriesville, Blessed Kateri's birthplace.

A pile of ashes marks the site of the old Shrine Inn. On Saturday, May 15, a torch was put to the remaining rubble and the flames eradicated a memorable spot on the Shrine Grounds.

Special thanks to the Knights of Columbus for providing the colorful Honor Guard for Bishop Hubbard, Sunday May 2.

I shan't make any comment on Father Ronald Schultz' condition because reports have varied. The most favorable is that he is doing well. Let us all pray hard that Blessed Kateri will bring him back to Fonda to witness the progress he instigated there.

Dr. Solomon Cook, newly elected head chief of the Mohawks, St. Regis Reservation, was recently honored by the Mohawks Council 935 of the Knights of Columbus. He received the Kateri Tekakwitha Certificate of Merit Award "in grateful recognition and appreciation of faithful and exceptional ser-

vices." Dr. Sol is very active in representing the Indian Causes in Washington. His sense of stability allows him to bring differing factions on the Reservation together for the common good of all. The award was given May 2 in Potsdam, N.Y. Sol is also a League Board Member.

What was so wonderful about our May 2 Feast Day Celebration? EVERYTHING. But wasn't it the bishop's attendance? Yes. The homily? Yes. The singing? Yes. The youth participation? Yes, The Knights? Yes. The altar boys? Yes. The glorious weather? Yes. So, what was so wonderful? EVERYTHING.

Anne Scheuerman and her sister Mary Powers energetically and enthusiastically pitched in, washing, scrubbing floors, dusting, cooking, in order to help Fr. Bob Bogan get the Fonda Shrine season underway. Both girls are League Members ready to assist the Kateri Cause in any and every way. Bless their hearts!

Auriesville is in what is called the Leatherstocking area of eastern New York State, so named because the natives used to wear leather stockings to keep their toesies from becoming frosties. In the I LOVE NEW YORK TRAVEL GUIDE one "Stroll the beautiful grounds of the National Shrine of North American Martyrs at Auriesville, and visit their Indian museum. Kateri Tekakwitha, expected to be the first native American saint of the Roman Catholic Church, was born here." On another page is a picture of the outdoor statue of Blessed Kateri with pilgrims praying before it. This fine reference is expected to bring many visitors here this summer.

Not too late to join Father Howard Rafferty's pilgrimage to Auriesville and many Marian Shrines. It leaves Aylesford on October 8. Get information from the Aylesford Retreat House, Box 65, Darien, Illinois, 60559-0065. Father Howard is an old friend and great supporter of Blessed Kateri.

"A Pilgrimage to Lourdes" Reader's Digest, April, 1982, is worth reading and re-reading. Note what is looked for in order to establish a miracle has taken place. Yet, keep in mind there are other ways God can answer prayers and these are given usually on p. 2 of the LILY. Persons experience help from Blessed Kateri, great favors - things that from a human viewpoint just couldn't happen without special assistance from the Indian Maiden or from any other saint. We are encouraged to pray for anything we know will help us or others. As read in frequent scripture passages God will grant whatever one ask. Underscore will grant in His good time. It doesn't have to be now, tomorrow, or the next day but in the future the right answer will come.

Moving? As you up, up and the way you go, please remember to notify the League Office of your address change. Give your old address, too.

The Blessed Kateri Associates of the Mohawk Valley modestly marked the second anniversary of the Lily's beatification by holding its monthly meeting that evening after the liturgy, June 22.



DEVOTED KATERI FOLLOWERS in prayer at the final outdoor ceremony on May 2, the transferred feast day.

## "Goigs" In Honor Of Kateri Introduced At Barcelona Feast Day Celebration

The Lily's correspondent Mireille Moreau of Barcelona, Spain, sent in the following report about the Blessed Kateri Feast Day celebration on April 17, 1982.

"The ceremony took place in the parish of Santa Maria de Jesus de Gracia and was presided over by Rev. Sebastia Bartina, S.J. He told the audience how he has been to a Scientific Congress in Montreal, about four months after Blessed Kateri's beatification. At the end of the Congress there was a day of leisure when he went with a colleague to visit the mission of St. Francis Xavier of Kahnawake. Father described the chapel and said how they had prayed at the tomb of Blessed Kateri. The story of Kateri was told giving all the

first knowledge had of the Amerindian Maiden. The priest expressed the wish that the event would not be an isolated one, but the first of a regular yearly series. He announced at the end of the Mass that a few people were going to sing some 'Goigs' in honor of Blessed Kateri."

Goigs (latin gaudia) are a kind of hymn, very popular in Catalonia and specifically Catalan. The same name applies to the sheets on which these hymns are printed, illustrated with a picture of the saint whose history is described in the verses of the hymn.

According to Miss Moreau the Goigs need polishing after which copies will be sent to the Lily.

## Well-known Architect To Survey Locale For Kateri Memorial Chapel

"There's very little I have in life that's not in some way attributable to Ignatius and Kateri."—with a statement like that Norbert J. Blum, A.I.A., is ready to go over ideas for the Blessed Kateri Memorial Chapel.

The plans call for using the year-ago re-strengthened shell of the outdoor chapel. Fr. Robert Boyle, Shrine Director, is in favor of making use of the structures presently available and not to add anything more to the serviceable facilities now existing on the shrine grounds.

Plans list the redoing of the sanctuary making it a chapel within a chapel. The new section would be enclosed to give pilgrims a place to pray and meditate in quiet before the Blessed Sacrament. Since Blessed Kateri had a special love for the Body of Christ all emphasis would be on the altar of repose. Moveable walls would open the altar to a larger congregation using the larger portion of the now existing seating capacity.

If possible the new chapel would be done in white birch wood exuding the scent of sweet grass, providing an outdoor atmosphere typical of where young Kateri spent many hours. A theme of vine and branches would add to the decor.

Mr. Blum studied architecture and engineering under the Jesuits at the University of Detroit, 1956-61. He knew very little about the North American Martyrs or Kateri while growing up in

(continued on next page)

"We recall in a special way, June 22, 1980, just two short years ago when the Church proclaimed Kateri Tekakwitha, Blessed. She is remembered by all for her modesty, charity, industriousness and her prayerfulness. In the short commentary on her life found in the ritual booklet prepared by the Vatican for the day of her beatification, it states that "This ceremony by Pope John Paul II carries a very special meaning that is bound to have wide-ranging pastoral consequences for the whole people of God, and in a particular way, for the thirty million American Indians of whom Catherine is the first to be raised to the honors of the altar. This young Iroquois woman, whose life was sustained by her Christian faith and by an ardent love of Jesus present in the Eucharist, found in Jesus Christ the strength to withstand the hostile pressure of the non-Christian culture in which she lived"."

— Fr. Edward Pratt's Homily, May 2, 1982.

# Judy Cook Displays Special Kateri Plate

From the limited edition of porcelain plates of Vague Shadows LTD, **Judy Cook** of Frankfort, N.Y., holds the No. 7243 plate of Kateri Tekakwitha—"Lily of the Mohawks." The plate is a gift to the National Kateri Center from Richard J. Habeeb of Vague Shadows Ltd.

The plate is the first issue in the series of four "Princess" plates by Gregory Perillo. The edition size is 7,500 numbered pieces and it is completely subscribed.

Kateri was chosen as a subject for this special series because "born a princess, she renounced her position and ministered to the sick." Her good works have been recognized by the Roman Catholic Church which substantiated the Church beatifying her in 1980.

Gregory Perillo is the author of this piece of art. He has been painting for twenty-five years. Greg has just completed four major paintings that will appear in the new version of the Funk and Wagnalls Encyclopedia.

Porcelain Figurines and Lithographs also number among the Perillo works produced by Vague Shadows Ltd. Brochures containing the complete line of these pieces may be obtained from Vague Shadows, Box 116, Staten Island, N.Y. 10309.



Judy Cook and plate

# ARCHITECT (continued from page 7)

Dansville, N.Y., until moving to Latham, N.Y., from Hamden, Conn. Today he is a nationally recognized expert on solar energy for buildings.

Besides being a busy father with three sons and a wife, he directs the Confirmation Program in his parish church, finds time to make retreats at Auriesville and frequent visits to the Shrine, which according to him has made Auriesville "a home away from home."

His survey will take several months involving many suggestions proffered by the many devotees of Blessed Kateri.

## New Mission Church In Pa. Named After Kateri Tekakwitha

Ground breaking for St. John's new mission church in Penns Valley took place on Sunday, June 6. Mass opened the celebration which was a special occasion for some members of the parish, First Holy Communicants.

The mission church will be dedicated to Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha, whose intercession, since the beginning of the efforts 19 months ago to build the church, has brought God's special blessings on this cause, according to Herman Knolde who spearheaded the efforts.

This event will mark history with the beginnings of a Catholic unity in an area where the formal presence of the Church has never been.

Rev. Bernard J. O'Malley is the pastor of St. John the Evangelist, Bellefonte, Pa., who has encouraged his people to work for the establishment of the new edifice. The Mission Church is in Coburn, Pa., about forty miles from the mother church, in the Diocese of Altoona.

Following the Mass was the blessing of the ground and then a dinner and a social. Completion of the construction is expected to go rapidly and the dedication perhaps within six or eight months. The drive for funds was under Blessed Kateri's patronage, success of which was phenomenal in

## 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.



Rev Henri Bechard, SJ Box 70 Kahnawake, Canada JOL 1B0

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