

Kateri Center's Expansion Is Underway

32 by 40 square feet is being added to the National Kateri Center. Work has begun — a cement slab is laid, walls are up — making it possible to carry on arranging exhibits during the winter months, to be readied for the 1986 season opening.

The new area will contain a 15 ft. by 32 ft. visual aid room, a 6 ft. by 15 ft. storage-control room, and a 15 ft. by 39 ft. display space. * An area for sales and literature racks will also be provided.

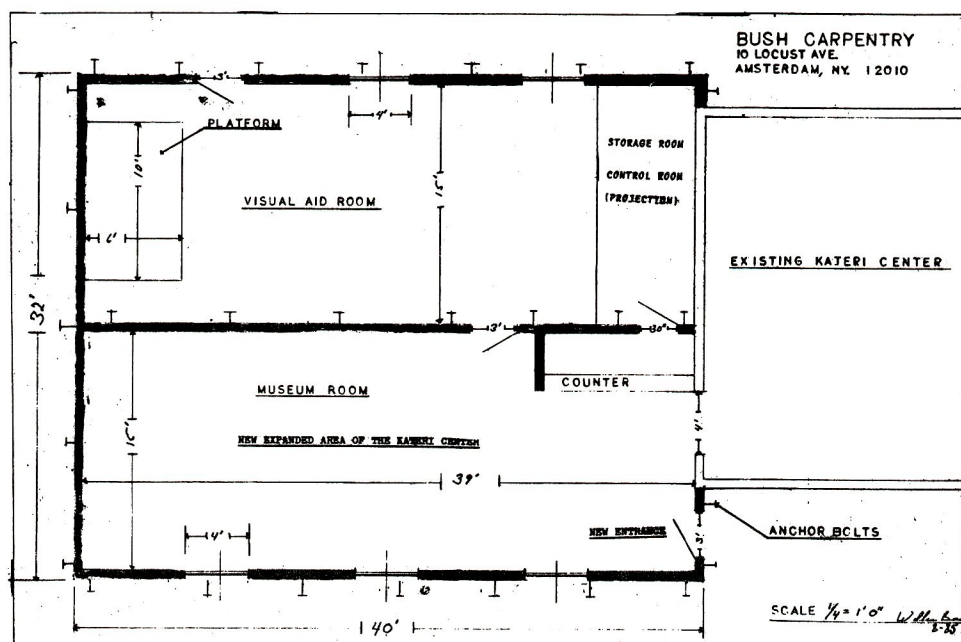
To avoid sameness with the existing structure the new building will extend about 4 ft. beyond in front with three large windows revealing the inside expanded area. A new entrance at the junction of the new and old buildings will open into the exhibit room.

Crowded visual aid and exhibit

rooms served well since 1978 when the Center was built. To relieve this congestion expansion had to be undertaken. No pesty fund raisers are being held. Costs are being met by the free-will offerings from League Members.

Donations of \$100, \$250, \$500, \$750, and \$1,000, may be made in behalf of the living or as a memorial for a deceased person. Appropriate acknowledgement will be made and may be announced in the next LILY OF THE MOHAWKS newsletter.

Bush Carpentry of Amsterdam, N.Y., which executed the work done on the new Blessed Kateri Chapel was again engaged for this project. Also, Ben Cichy, who did the electrical installations in the Chapel, will do the same in the extension.



This is a general sketch of the layout of the expansion area to be added to the existing National Kateri Center.

Arbp. Laghi Stops At Kateri Center

"Canonization usually follows closely after beatification," commented Archbishop Pio Laghi, Papal Legate to the U.S., as he toured the National Kateri Center, August 8,



Father
McBride

Archbishop
Pio Laghi

with Fr. Joseph McBride, vice postulator. The gracious, humble, easy-to-talk-to prelate also remarked how much the Center needed more space.

Archbishop Laghi was the main celebrant of the 5 P.M. Mass for the 1500 delegates from the 1985 Tekakwitha Conference held in Syracuse, N.Y. Bishop Howard Hubbard gave the sermon.

After a dinner hosted by the Martyrs Shrine a candlelight procession ended a day-long pilgrimage to Blessed Kateri's birthplace.

A resident in Washington, D.C., the Pope's U.S. representative entered the diplomatic service of the Holy See March, 1952, served in Cyprus, Greece, and Argentina, and came to Washington in 1980.

KATERI'S INTERCESSION — SOME ANSWERS

MARRIAGE SETTLED

I express my gratitude to Kateri Tekakwitha for a happy married settlement for one of my relatives. This I attribute to the intercession of Kateri. Please bless my family always — Kerala, India.

DOCTOR FLABBERGASTED

I only wish I could prove the many miracles she has granted our family. In April 1984 my mother was in the hospital with minor heart problems. A spot was found on her lung. A lung specialist told her it was cancer and had her take a lung biopsy which was done by inserting a needle through her chest into her lung. This is when we started the prayer to Kateri. All we really prayed for was strength to accept her illness and as little suffering as possible for her. On Easter Sunday the biopsy results came back benign. Our first thoughts turned to Kateri. That following June she had her second heart attack. The doctors said there wasn't much they could do. We were sure she wouldn't make it through the night. She was only semi-conscious and didn't even realize we were there. Of course during all this we prayed to Kateri. The next morning to my surprise she was standing alone washing her face and hands. She had not been out of bed in days. This was surely an answer to prayer. She recovered and came home within a week. June, 1985 she again was in the hospital. This time for removal of a tumor on her bladder. During testing in the hospital they noticed that the spot on her lung had grown. The lung specialist was again called in. He said the biopsy the year before was most likely not correct. We

began praying to Kateri again. This time we prayed from the start for a complete cure. Three top specialists told us it was surely cancer. The tumor removed from her bladder was low grade non-invasive cancer. The doctors were surprised and said as far as her bladder was concerned it would last for another lifetime. But the lung was their main concern. They were so sure it was cancer that they were preparing us for the worse. Because of her age (70) and her heart condition she could not take any treatments and the best they could do was try to ease her pain. She then had another biopsy, but this time they went through her nose and there would be no doubts as to the results. We prayed for it to come back benign. At this point we knew Kateri was capable of a miracle. Two weeks passed the doctor called flabbergasted with the results. It was again benign. We cried from happiness and knew we owed it all to Blessed Kateri. We can't prove any of these miracles since it was only the specialists' words we had to go on. But there is no doubt in any of our minds that all these were miracles by Kateri. I promised to spread her devotion in thanksgiving for all she's done for us. — CITY WITHHELD

TRANSFER GAINED

The enclosed offering is for thanksgiving of our son-in-law's job transferring him close to his home. At least he can enjoy his children every night and get away from the high expense of living out. Thanks to Kateri — BOCA RATON, FLA.

STRENGTH IN TRIAL

I have become convinced that Blessed Kateri was with me one

night I was detained in the Pine Street Station in Baltimore in the early 1960's. I was employed from 1965-1970 as a librarian (MLS degree) there in Baltimore but despair and emotional confusion caused me to make a public nuisance of myself in a local hospital. In my despair, though, the Blessed Tekakwitha (Kateri) assured me that all would be well and gave me the strength to bear up under this trial. I was not then a Catholic. I am now. I was mentally unstable then, I am much improved. At the time I did not know the name of that Blessed presence. May she always be praised to the honor and glory of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. WASHINGTON, D.C.

RASH GONE

I had a rash on the upper part of my leg and I said prayers to Kateri Tekakwitha and the rash is all gone. — NEW ORLEANS, LA.

THREE FAVORS

Enclosed please find \$20.00 in thanksgiving for the favors which I received through her. My two nephews were accepted into St. Catherine's Indian School in Santa Fe, New Mexico. (It's a Catholic School.) They received financial assistance for their education and their meal tickets were free. I now ask for your prayers to God through her that they may be guided and be happy at St. Catherine's School, especially the one who's interested in becoming a Franciscan someday. I belong to the White Mountain Apache Tribe on the Fort Apache Reservation in Arizona. I'm happy and proud of my sister Kateri Tekakwitha to be honored in a high place by God. — WHITE RIVER, AZ.

WAMPUM II FINALE

The end came for Wampum II, a modest fund raiser managed by Richard Adach, a Kateri Associate of the Mohawk Valley.

Final winning numbers and dates are:

July 31 — 938

Aug. 7 — 232

Aug. 14 — 290

Aug. 21 — 909

Aug. 28 — 224

Sept. 4 — 703

Sept. 11 — 721

Sept. 18 — 646

Sept. 25 — 080

Winners happily enjoy their prizes in the Bronx, N.Y., and twice in Pattersonville, N.Y.

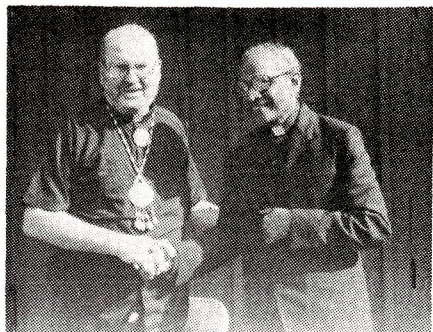
Final amount raised for the Kateri Growth Fund was \$8,800.

Mr. Adach efficiently handled this project. "It will not be repeated for a while," he commented.

In the name of the League Father McBride congratulated Dick Adach for assuming the responsibilities of setting up the raiser and over-seeing the payments and the bank business.

The monies gained allowed proceeding with the expansion plans according to schedule, enabling the first payment on the initial stages of the Center's addition.

India Priest Visits U.S. Kateri Shrines



Fr. McBride

Fr. Ignatius

"I had longed for many years to visit the holy places where Kateri lived. It is because of her help that I am here," commented Father Ignatius Kahumanu of India on a pilgrimage stop at the National Kateri Center at Auriesville during August last.

Through magazine articles by Father Henri Bechard, Canadian

LeMoyne College Scholarship Named



"The William J. Schlaerth Scholarship in Honor of Blessed Kateri" has been established through a donation of \$25,000 to LeMoyne College, Syracuse, N.Y., by Thomas B. Constantino, president of Noteworthy Co., Amsterdam, N.Y.

Benefitting from this academic prize will be any Native American student who meets the requirements set by LeMoyne.

Father Schlaerth, a former vice-postulator (1964-1968) of the Kateri Cause and first president of LeMoyne College, and Constantino were very close friends. Tom and Father worked together on many projects when the Jesuit was at Auriesville.

The announcement of the scholarship was made at the Syracuse Tekakwitha Conference, August 7.

"I have always wanted to honor Father Schlaerth," said Tom, "and since I have a special devotion to Blessed Kateri which Father had, too, this academic tool is an answer to my long-nourished intention."

Vice Postulator, Father Ignatius learned about the saintly life of Kateri. Subsequently he corresponded and increased his knowledge of the Lily of the Mohawks. Like so many others he became devoted to her and has received many answers to his prayers from Kateri. He is visiting her shrines in thanksgiving.

A priest for over 35 years Father lives 300 miles north of Calcutta near the village of Guntur, serving a small settlement where there are

about 400 thatched homes neatly arranged in rows. Spreading the gospel is difficult here, as in many parts of India because of the belief that religion is whatever the individual says it is. This mindset is difficult to change.

"I have been in this area in India for ten years," he concluded the interview, "and I spend much time in prayer for success in bringing souls into the Catholic Faith where they can know Jesus Christ as their Lord and God."

Mormon Belief Heralds Native Americans as "Chosen People"

by Rev. Francis X. McQuade

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints ("The Mormons") is a religious group "uniquely American." They originated in the United States as a church and extol America as the "new Promised Land." Quite interestingly, they have engendered a religious affinity for the American Indian based on a remarkable conjecture about their special role in God's revelation! Mormon doctrine will be necessarily disputed, but history records them corporately as the participants in the most ambitious communal trek in American history.

The founder of the Mormons, Joseph Smith (1805-1844) was a religious sojourner who laid claim to a revelation related to him in the course of two visions. The second was purported to have been delivered by an angel-messenger of God, Moroni, who directed him to uncover a book of gold plates buried with two stones (called Urim and Thummin, which were to be used to help translate the plates). These writings, being assembled into what is known as the Book of Mormon, "chartered" Smith's new church. Political, social and religious opposition drove the Mormons from Palmyra, New York (where they were founded), to Ohio (where they neared bankruptcy), to Missouri (where Smith was murdered), to Illinois (where they again met opposition). Finally, Smith's successor, Brigham Young, inspired by Joseph's words that they should "secure a lasting place in the mountains or some uninhabited region where we can enjoy the liberty of conscience," led the fledgling community across the empty stretches of the American West, eventually arriving in the wide-open territory of Utah. They stopped at the glistening shores of the Great Salt Lake. There they seemed to make new the Isaian prophecy of "making the desert bloom," by ingeniously and arduously establishing a settlement in that inhospitable land.

Thousands settled in the region, while thousands of new converts made their way west to join them.

How did the American Indian, then, factor into Mormon doctrine? From what did such a kindred bond and spiritual affinity develop?

The Book of Mormon was a story of America as a new land of promise and an explanation of mysteries that puzzled Europeans in America ever since Columbus. People had always wondered if the Native Americans were "a special creation", "children of the devil", or "miraculously arrived migrants". The Book of Mormon affirmed a popular

theory that the Indians were descendants of the Ten Lost Tribes of Israel from biblical days. (This is archaeologically and historically suspect; it is generally conceded today that Native Americans were migrants from the northern Far East who crossed to North America during the last Ice Age). As for Africans in America, they were lesser parts in God's plan, saved though second-class members of God's Kingdom. Readers of the Book of Mormon could trace the migrations of three groups of people to America, most notably, the family of Lehi, who constantly had to fight off the feuding Nephites and Lamanites. The Lamanites conquered the Nephites, whose record-keeper wrote the book of annals and buried it in the New York hills where Smith

discovered it.

The Mormons believed that



Across from the Mormon Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, a statue of Mormon founder Joseph Smith shares the column with a likeness of a frontiersman and an American Indian.

Jesus Christ had come to the New World to preach his message after his Resurrection. The so-called "former-day Saints" had been exterminated shortly after the alleged advent of Christ to America. The new church was intent to "vanquish the continent where they predicted Zion would be built" and to which they believed Christ would return. Thus, the American Indian was seen as the "native son of the New Zion", the "prototype of the new Chosen People".

Mormon relations with the Indians were, de facto, both good and bad. Chief Black Elk had welcomed the Mormon trade while they were passing through Sioux land in the course of their trek, and offered the squatting

Continued on Page 5

rights. However, by chopping down trees to build cabins, thus depleting the groves from which the Indians procured game, the Mormons wore out their welcome. In Utah, they forged alliances with neighboring Indian nations. George Armstrong Custer (of Little Big Horn notoriety) had perceived that the Indians generally preferred the Mormons to other newcomers because the Mormons did not encroach on native sovereignty as ruthlessly as non-Mormons did. He added that the Mormons understood that "the Indians have a strong attachment for the land containing the bones of their ancestors, and disliked to leave it. Love of country is almost a religion with them." (To this day, the Mormons put high premium on knowledge of their ancestors, and their geneological library in Salt Lake City is the biggest in the world.)

However, doctrinal deference and fraternal affinity in Utah did not stop later Mormon immigrants from being subject to deadly Indian attacks farther east on their journey. And fresh on the heels of being a "dispossessed people" themselves, by the middle of the century the Mormons became extremely protective of the exclusivity of their territory. In 1858, armed conflict broke out among the Mormons, local Indians and a group of migrating "Gold Rushers" passing westward from Missouri. This tragic episode was known as the "Mormon War" and came as close to a "holy war" as U.S. history has known. It seems that amid Mormon harassment of the migrating Missourians and the resultant bad feelings among them, the Missourians had poisoned a spring, killed an Indian by giving him rotten meat, crippled another and shot a third. This triggered an Indian attack. Sensing opportunity, the Mormon militia joined in the fray. They lured the besieged Missourians out of their camp with the promise of safe conduct. Despite Brigham Young's desire that no one be harmed in the course of such tension, the militia fired upon the unsuspecting group,

Deceased Members

Since our last issue the following have been reported to the League Office as having died:

Lucio Benedetto — Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

Assunta M. Benedetto — Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

Sister Mary Zita Geis, SC — Convent Station, N.J.

John C. Yanarella — Beacon, N.Y.

Mildred Fitzgerald — Salt Lake City, Utah.

Ann Keane — Salt Lake City, Utah

Father James Courneen (Maryknoll Missionary) — Camiri, Bolivia

killing one hundred twenty. The militia leader, John D. Lee was eventually executed for the crime. Most Mormons regretted the slaughter. However, they rested the blame on the Indians!

Despite this checkered history of Mormon-Indian relations, many Christian Indians have chosen Mormonism because of the esteemed regard afforded them doctrinally. Other Indians have not been convinced of the distinction derived from Mormon doctrine nor have they perceived of any actual advantage rendered from this status. Still others dismissed the notion of their being declared a "chosen people" by the Latter Day Saints as a paternalistic fiction. A young Mohawk, speaking at a "White Roots of Peace" conference in Kansas City not long ago, related of a meeting he had with a Mormon missionary, who had excitedly said to him "Did you Indians know that you're the Chosen People?" "Heck," the Mohawk replied, "we knew that way before you told us that!"

Whatever the case with regards to doctrine, the Mormons have left an indelible and dynamic mark on American frontier history. Their trek for religious freedom through the Western deserts still stirs vivid images of American pioneering spirit.

(Reference cited from PILGRIMS IN THEIR OWN LAND by Martin Marty.)

For Christmas



We

Suggest



Give a Kateri gift. Select one for a friend or relative.

— Sterling silver Kateri medal — \$17.00

— Kateri chaplet — \$7.25

— Kateri chaplet bracelet — \$4.25

— Small aluminum blue Kateri medal on 18" chain — \$2.75

— Kateri medal (PRAY FOR US on back) on 24" chain — \$2.50

— Kateri medal with Martyrs on the back on 24" chain — \$2.75

— Touch relic in plastic case with ID card and likeness of Kateri — \$2.75

— Kateri statues: 6" — \$7.95; 7" — \$10.25; 8" — \$14.25

— Official Kateri picture in white frame — \$1.75

— Plastic standup holder with Kateri picture — \$2.75

Kateri of the Mohawks, a coloring story book — \$1.75

— Kateri notepaper, 100 sheets — \$2.00

— Small wooden cross on leather cord, packaged with prayer card in plastic envelope — \$2.25

— Kateri Tekakwitha, a biography by Fr. Weiser, SJ; soft cover — \$5.50; hard cover — \$8.00

— Beaded Kateri doll on leather cord — \$3.50

All prices are donations to the Kateri Cause and include postage. Mark quantity, send to League Office, Auriesville, NY 12016

Next Tour, Please

Tour guides Richard and Anna Marie Adach have visited the Shrine of the Canadian Martyrs in Midland, Canada, with the possibility of a second tour in mind. They liked what they saw and are weighing the various costs involved so that a price could be within the range of the journeyers.

Retaining the skeleton trip of the last two years is desirable also because the bus trip is to promote further interest in Blessed Kateri's life. Some variations in stopovers are being considered.

NOTES FROM THE BARK

by father mcbride

Remember the Ad: "When I sat down to play, everyone laughed"? When I first wrote the following, laughter greeted it. Here it is again: "Who would like to have their name, e.g., a club, a church organization, a family, or a person, on the new extension of the National Kateri Center?" More laughter follows when told this offer would be granted for a very considerable donation. Consultation would have to be held in order to agree upon the amount. If interested, contact Father McBride at the League Office.

Thirsty Thursday could well be applied to August 8th when the Tekakwitha Conference delegates pilgrimaged to Blessed Kateri's birthplace here at Auriesville. A thirsty day it was for there was hardly a drop of water to drink and no other liquids available. In spite of all this, the pilgrims were royally received and, in turn, they showed their appreciation and love for Blessed Kateri. Father Jack Davis, OMI, from the Native People's Chaplaincy wrote: "Just a sincere word of appreciation from all of us here in Toronto for the royal treatment received while at the place where Kateri was born. Keep up the good work for Blessed Kateri's canonization."

The League does not send a reminder about the renewal of membership and the annual dues payment of \$2.00 a year. Thanks to those who take it upon themselves to renew their membership. Our files, of course, are well-kept and anyone wanting to know their last payment can write to the League Office.

The newest parish in 15 years in the Boston archdiocese dedicated recently in Plymouth, MA, by Cardinal Law, Archbishop of Boston, was named for Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha. Father John E. Schatzel is pastor. Congratulations to all who worked for this accomplishment!

In addition, Chuck Hall of Coburn, PA, visited Auriesville this summer and informed me about the new Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha Church which was dedicated earlier this year by Bishop Hogan of the Altoona diocese. Father Bernard O'Malley is the pastor and did have me give the homily at the laying of the cornerstone in 1982. Many happy days to all who sacrificed for this new edifice!

Visitors to the Center often inquire about Father Robert Bogan, OFM, Conv., who is the former Associate Director of the Fonda Kateri Shrine. He is still recuperating at Our Lady of Angels rectory, 183 Central Ave., Albany, New York 12206. A note or a card from those who knew Father Bogan would be a cheerful sight to his eyes.

Up, up and away went 1000 balloons marking the climax of Blessed Kateri's Feast Day celebration. They headed eastward and evidently veered a bit to the north reaching Lubec and North Berwick, Maine-a distance of 400 miles-as we were notified by two observers in these towns.

Lotto-mania: at the monthly Mass in honor of Blessed Kateri during the intercessions, a pious petitioner exclaimed: "That someone here will win the lottery." The celebrant resounded

with a strong "Lord, hear our prayer!" After the multi-million New York State Lotto drawing, none of the group's riches was enhanced.

August 8th also marked the field trip — 3 bus loads — of youngsters from the Dunham Library, Whitesboro, New York. Jeanine Krecidlo, librarian, and Mary Jane Power, assistant programmer, were ecstatic over the excellent deportment and lively interest which the children showed in Auriesville.

Not a license for your car but a license to spread the name of Blessed Kateri. On a sturdy piece of aluminum, the size of a regular license plate, Kateri's image is on the right and in the larger portion of the plate is Kateri's name in large letters along with the name of her birthplace, namely, Auriesville, N.Y., in small letters. The background is in red and the letters are in gold. This promotional piece can be obtained from the League Office for a \$5.00 donation.

Blessed Kateri's Feast Day was celebrated by Mr. and Mrs. Edward J. Schmitt, when they had their infant daughter, Kateri Marie, baptised on July 14th in St. Joseph's Church, Camillus, N.Y. Why so special? Thinking another child was impossible the Schmitt's prayed for a Kateri and their prayer was answered.



Who was Jennifer Dawn Allen?
A 10 year old (1975-1985) living with her family in Virginia. She loved people and people loved her. She visited Auriesville in June with her family. Although Jenny had been seriously ill for a year and a half, she was able to go to camp. She died after she returned home from camp on August 25th. Her mother Kathleen had prayed for Jenny to die in her arms if her time was over. This exactly took place at 11 p.m. on Sunday evening in Children's Hospital in Washington, D.C., Kathleen wrote: "I could never again be skeptical about prayer. There certainly was the Master's hand in all this. I'm sure she is happy to meet Kateri in heaven. I surely miss her though." At her Mass of Christian Burial, Jenny was awarded the Kateri Tekakwitha Medal by the Campfire Troop Number 3-414.

Added to the new Blessed Kateri Chapel in the north west corner is a first class relic shrine. The carpentry work and layout was executed by Kateri Associate Tom Walker of Scotia, New York. Before the relic is a kneeler so that Pilgrims might pray any or all of the prayers for the canonization of Blessed Kateri found in 7 languages on the top of the kneeler. A plaque listing the important dates of the main events in Kateri's life was donated by Maria Regla of Bellflower, CA. Frances Adach is memorialized in this shrine by members of her family. The insert gives just a glimpse of the plaque and relic.



Prof. Preston Addresses Shrine Directors

Professor James Preston, professor of anthropology and religion at Oneonta, N.Y., State University, needs no introduction. See the Spring LILY '85, p. 3.

Well equipped with knowledge on pilgrimages he addressed the first meeting of shrine directors, Sept. 10, in Washington, D.C. "The stereotype that American Catholics are not pilgrimage-oriented is simply untrue," he told the delegates.

He went on to say that the tradition should be expanded and that the time has come for the American pilgrimage "to make its mark in the world."

The first of a series of 4 books he plans to publish will deal with why people make pilgrimages to Kateri shrines.

----- CUT ---- FILL IN ---- RETURN IN ENVELOPE ENCLOSED -----

NOVENA OF MASSES — DECEMBER 23 to 31, 1985

INTENTIONS

LIVING

DECEASED

MAIL TODAY — CHECK YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS ON BACK

MAY THE
PEACE OF THIS
CHRISTMAS
BE YOURS
TODAY AND
ALWAYS



LORD JESUS CHRIST
WE WORSHIP YOU
WE GIVE YOU THANKS
WE PRAISE FOR YOUR GLORY

NOVENA OF MASSES
December 23 - December 31, 1985
FOR LEAGUE MEMBERS
9 MASSES — 9 DAYS — FIRST INTENTION
BY THE SAME CELEBRANT

Use intention slip p. 7. Mail in enclosed envelope.
Early returns remembered on December 8.

End the old year in thanks; begin the new asking blessings.

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

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ADDRESS Correction Requested