NCWC NEWS SERVICE (Domestic) -8-

STATUE OF 'LILY OF MOHAWKS' TO BE UNVEILED 7/12/54 - Th.

CAUGHNAWAGA, Que., July 8 (NC) -- A six foot bronze statue of Kateri Tekakwitha, the Iroquois maiden who has been declared venerable and whose beatification cause is in preparation, will be blessed and unveiled at the Kateri School here August 8, it has been announced.

The day, especially dedicated to the honor of "the Lily of the Mohawks", will be highlighted by the statue unveiling. Archbishop Giovanni Panico, Apostolic Delegate to Canada, will preside. The statue is the work of a famous Canadian artist, Emile Brunet:

Father Henri Bechard, S.J., who is vice postulator of the beatification cause of Venerable Kateri, has asked for a crusade of prayer to hasten the day when she will be honored on the altars of the Church.

In 1956 the tercentenary of the birth of this Indian girl will be observed. She was born near what is now Auriesville, N.Y., but risked her life by leaving her people to better practice her religion among the missionaries of New France. She lived an edifying life at Ste. Catherine de Paprairie, in New France.

She has been named the "protectress of Canada" and her tomb at the Indian reservation here draws many pilgrims. By a special privilege His Holiness Pope Pius XII has accorded that only two miracles of first class are required to obtain her beatification.