

# Come Unity

Vol. 3 No.7

THAT ALL MAY BE ONE

Summer 1981

*SHE STARED UPON THE HOLY CROSS*



**KATERI**

*AND THEN SHE UNDERSTOOD*

CATHOLIC FAMILY MAGAZINE

SAULT STE. MARIE, ONTARIO



Old Wahehe cont'd

During the illness, the elder will stay in his or her own hut, but is not abandoned to himself or herself. If the case is more grave, then the children, boy or girl, will agree to give assistance, also during the night.

When very seriously ill, the elder is transported into the hut of the son that can offer more comfort and probably better care and assistance. Instead of the simple mat the elder has been bedded on, he or she will be put on a stretcher made of herbs.

The tradition of the Wahehe is that the married person will remain besides the partner until the end. If the first wife lives apart from the husband, he will be buried near to her house when he dies, even if he was living with another wife.

Something strange is the fact that when one of the two aged partners dies, normally the survivor, within eight to ten days follows into the other world.

The death of an old person is considered a normal process of the existence in the world: "It is death through age", they say, or "since the beginning of the world, the old have always died". Fatalists are they? No. Also for the Wahehe, death is also a sad fact: for those who go and for those who stay. But they are wise enough to understand that man goes towards the inevitable; he can do no better than to resign himself to it.

*My brother-in-law, Fr. Egidio Crema, is a member of the CONSOLATA FATHERS. He was ordained in 1951 and has spent all his priestly life in Tanzania, East Africa. Presently he is in Iringo.*

*His family in the city includes his brother Noe and wife Louise (myself) and 2 children and his sister and brother-in-law, Maria and Victor Putton and family. He also has 3 sisters, 1 brother and their families in Treviso, Italy.*

*My husband and I are very involved with the Consolata Missionaries -- We sell High Masses and Perpetual Masses for both the Living and Deceased and distribute two of the Consolata Magazines, one in Italian and one in English. We accept any donations on behalf of my brother-in-law or for the missions. Inquiries can be made by calling me, Louise Crema, at 253-9882 or 949-5159.*

## NATIVE NEWS KATERI PRAYER DAYS

OJIBWAY PARK — GARDEN RIVER RESERVE

Ojibway Park on the Garden River Reserve was the site of a gathering of native people from as far away as Quebec for the weekend of Friday, June 19 to Sunday, June 21. It was a Spiritual Celebration to honour Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament as that Sunday was the feast of Corpus Christi and it was also the 1st anniversary of the beatification of Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha which took place in Rome on June 22/80.

Kateri Tekakwitha was an Indian girl of Mohawk and Algonquin ancestry who lived some 300 years ago. She is also known as the "Lily of the Mohawk". She was only 24 years of age when she died, but she had lived such a holy life by fasting and prayer that the Church recognized her as "Venerable" until last year when she was raised to the honour of "Blessed." She had a great devotion to Jesus in the Eucharist, an overwhelming love for the cross and a great love for the Holy Mother. April 17th has been declared her feastday. The story of her life has been an inspiration to us. She has given us a new awareness of our spiritual journey to God.

Since her beatification last year, we have been organizing and holding "Kateri Prayer Days" in different native communities. During these days we join with her in bringing our cares to Jesus by prayer, praise and music and by just being together in joyful unity.

During this past weekend at Garden River, the Lord touched many hearts. A healing service was led by Fr. John Hascall ofm cap., an Ojibway Indian priest from Baraga, Michigan on Friday evening. It was very meaningful to many. The beautiful music for the weekend was provided by Richard & Phyllis Sayers, Dominic & Gladys Eshkokogan, Gary Stevens, Daniel & Mary Dauvin. The Dauvin's shared a new song they had written especially for the weekend entitled, "The Call of Kateri." Lillian Small and Anna Robinson helped by singing a hymn in Cree. We had guests, Ron & Sheila Boyer and family all the way from Caughnawaga, Quebec for the weekend.

On Saturday morning, Mass was concelebrated by Fr. Fred Lynch S.J. and Fr. Bernie Mayhew S.J. During the Mass, twenty-one "Prayer People" were mandated. These are elderly members of the community who commit



214, Heath Street West  
Toronto, Ont. M4V 1V5  
Tel.: (416) 483-1973

2505 ouest, boul. Gouin  
Montréal, Qué. H3M 1B5  
Tel.: (514) 334-1910

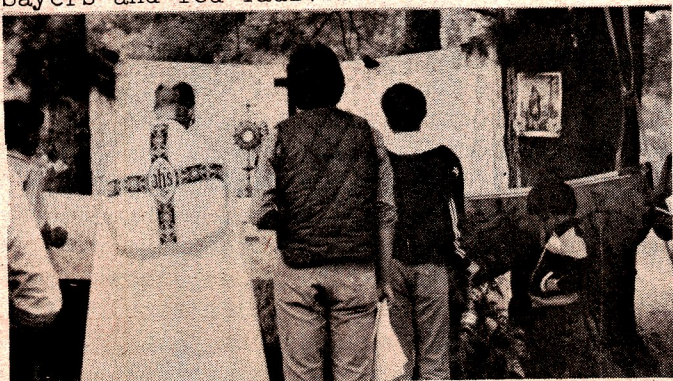




Fr. Fred Lynch, assisted by Fr. Bernie Mayhew, handing out Certificates of Recognition to the "Prayer People" mandated during Saturday's Eucharistic celebration.



Fr. Mike Steltenkamp concelebrated the "Youth Mass" on Sunday with Fr. Fred Lynch. They were assisted by deacons: Joe Fox, Murray Sayers and Ted Yadvisiak.



Fr. Fred Lynch venerating Our Lord in the Eucharist at Sunday's "Corpus Christi" procession. The altar was set-up on a canoe by some families from Garden River.

their lives to praying for the people of their areas. The people mandated were: Josephine Beishlag, Theresa Coghil, Clara Boyer, Ben Boyer, Margaret Daigle, Kathaleen Syrette, Charlotte McKay, Rose Boyer, Agnes Bjornaa, Irene Boissoneau, Adelaide Barry, Anna Belleau, Joseph Cadreau, Edna Cadreau, George Agawa, Lillian Agawa, Rose Boissoneau, Barbara Beam, Louise Riel, Ernie Jones, and Louis Boissoneau. Saturday afternoon there was a penitential service led by Fr. Mayhew.

The Corpus Christi Procession, originally scheduled for Saturday evening but postponed because of rain, was held on Sunday morning. Fr. Fred Lynch really made it special, because he took time for prayer and gave a short, inspirational teaching at each altar. It was done slowly and solemnly, which made it very meaningful for the older folks. Even some of the young people, who had never taken part in a procession before, thought it was great. There were six altars. They were set up by people from: Rankin, Iron Bridge-Mississagi Reserve, Goulais Mission, Sault Ste. Marie and Garden River.

The Youth Mass at 2 p.m. Sunday was celebrated by Fr. Mike Steltenkamp S.J. from St. Isaac Jogues in Soo, Michigan. It was very meaningful and touching as some of the youth shared on what their fathers meant to them. (The day was also Father's Day). Fr. Mike spoke to the youth and to all of us in a down to earth, off-the-cuff style which we could all understand.

There was something of interest and inspiration for everyone at this weekend. We wish to thank the Garden River Band Council and people for letting us use the Park for these Prayer Days without charging anyone for use of the facilities. Also a big thank you to anyone who helped in any way. We do not want to begin to list all the people who helped for fear we might accidentally miss someone. Please know that we are very grateful to the many people who made this weekend the success that it was.

GOD LOVE AND BLESS YOU ALL.

Murray and Betsy Sayers



Fr. John Hascall OFM cap. of Baraga, Michigan conducted the Friday evening Healing Service.



# CommUnion

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"qu'ILS SOIENT UN"

REVUE DETE 1981

***BIEN HEUREUSE KATERI***



***PRIEZ POUR NOUS***

REVUE CATHOLIQUE FAMILIALE

SAULT STE. MARIE, ONTARIO