

Remembering Rev. John J. Paret, S.J.

As many of you may already know our Vice-Postulator, Father John J. Paret, S.J., passed on to his reward August 29, 2006. We are told by those who were with him at the time that Father Paret was having breakfast at the Murray-Weigel Community in the Bronx, New York. He turned his head slightly, smiled, and left this world with whoever seemed to call him. Father Paret was a gentle man. He lived his life with gentle gusto. His wisdom, kindness, dedication and brilliant mind will be missed. He greeted everyone with a warm smile that said more than words. You knew this man was eager and capable of handling your problem, or was ready to just sit and chat. He also loved to share funny stories and jokes, and his energy was boundless.



Rev. John J. Paret, S.J., 1919 – 2006

Born on April 12, 1919 in Flushing, Queens, New York, he was the son of the late John Julian and Sarah Elizabeth McGrath Paret.

Father Paret entered the Society of Jesus on August 14, 1940 and was ordained on June 17, 1951.

In his early years as a priest, Father Paret served at McQuaid High School in Rochester, New York. He had mentioned he remembered that time as one of the happiest in his life. In fact many people said "Jake" was always a teacher, as well as a fine pastor and shepherd of souls.

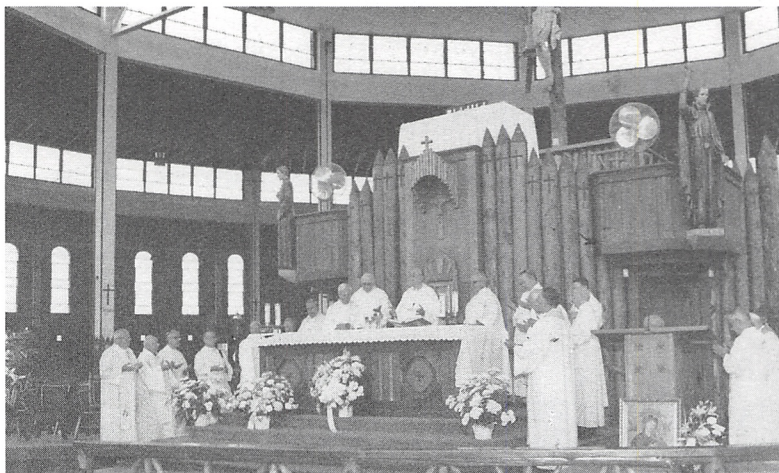
Before coming to Auriesville, Father Paret served in Puerto Rico and then in the New York Metropolitan area for twenty-five years. His services in those places included, Nativity Parish on the Lower East Side of Manhattan, also the Parish of St. Ignatius in the Crown Heights section of Brooklyn where almost all of the parishioners were Central American Immigrants.

Father Paret is interred at the Jesuit Cemetery, Auriesville, New York.

Monsignor Paul A. Lenz was appointed Vice-Postulator on July 4, 2005 by the Cause Postulator, Rev. Paul Molinari, S.J., in Rome. Monsignor Lenz worked with Father Paret and Father Jacques Bruyere S.J., the Canadian Vice-Postulator, for many years. As Director of the Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions, Monsignor Lenz has been working on the Kateri Cause for Canonization for over thirty years. With the formal appointment as Vice-Postulator, Monsignor Lenz is eminently qualified to carry on, and, in fact, continue the work he has been doing on Blessed Kateri's behalf for these many years.

All miracle related inquiries should be submitted to Monsignor Lenz at the following address: Monsignor Paul A. Lenz, 2021 H Street N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006.

Remembering Rev. John J. Paret, S.J. *Continued from Page One*



Priests at memorial mass in Coliseum.



Bishop Howard Hubbard speaks at memorial mass.

Some Thoughts To Share

I am happy to share some thoughts and experiences relative to our dear Father John Paret, whose soul now rests in God's embrace.

To all who knew Father Paret, he was a kind, thoughtful and holy priest, gifted with super human energy and an indomitable spirit. As Shrine Director in the early nineties, as well as Vice-Postulator for the cause of Blessed Kateri, he would be seen spinning in a whirlwind of activities, running in a multitude of directions, accomplishing his duties. I recall one pilgrim referring to him as a "Little Napoleon". Unlike Napoleon, Father Paret moved with a down-to-earth friendliness that ingratiated all.

As Vice-Postulator, Father Paret never missed an opportunity to promote his beloved Blessed Kateri in his writings, travels and lectures.

In 1995, he invited world renowned mystic, Maria Esperanza, her family and entire entourage totaling forty-nine, to the Shrine. This was a tremendous chance to expose the heroism of St. Isaac Jogues, the North American Martyrs, and their saintly "Lily of the Mohawks". This group from Betania, Venezuela was left with a lasting impression of Father Paret's love and kindness.

The following year, Maria Esperanza welcomed Father Paret and our group of forty pilgrims to Betania, she was so grateful for his hospitality to them in Auriesville. On this pilgrimage, Father Paret was ever vigilant of the spiritual life of our pilgrims and hundreds of others

whose confessions he heard for hours; never complaining. He offered Holy Mass daily with tremendous reverence and gave magnificent talks on the virtues of Blessed Kateri.

In 1997, Father Paret visited Phoenix where every minute was filled promoting the devotion of Blessed Kateri. Brophy Chapel was filled to capacity for a beautiful Mass honoring Blessed Kateri. All Kateri lovers, Native and non-Native Americans, were inspired with Father's talk on Kateri and for his special individual blessing for each participant with Kateri's relic. He spent much time visiting sick members of our Diocese. A highlight of Father's visit to Arizona was a trip to the Tohono O' Otham reservation in Tucson to offer

Mass for Kateri at St. Mary's Mission Church. Before Mass, we took him to the home of Josephine Johnson, to whom was awarded the Kateri plaque for her untiring work promoting Blessed Kateri among her tribe. Father Paret blessed wheelchair-bound Josephine, her family and her home. After Mass, a beautiful reception was held when Father was presented with a hand woven basket for the Kateri Center.

Providentially, this was Josephine Johnson's prelude to Heaven for God took her the following day!

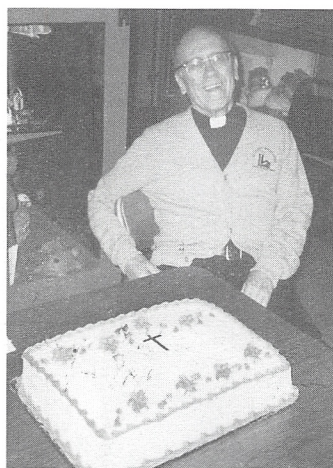
The day before Father's departure



Fr. Paret with Josephine Johnson at her home in Arizona.



Fr. Paret and Maria Esperanza talk in the Coliseum, 1995.



Fr. Paret celebrates 60 years in the Society of Jesus with cake.

from Phoenix, he sat praying his rosary by our pool when suddenly two ducks flew in and landed on the water. God must have sent them to entertain Father as a little reward for all his loving work for souls. In all the forty years we have lived here, ducks never landed in our pool! God has a sense of humor!

In the year 2000, Father Paret was our Spiritual Director for a pilgrimage to Rome for the closing of the Holy Doors. It was a grace-filled experience for all with Father Paret offering Mass daily at such sites as the Catacombs, the Jesu Church of St. Ignatius, at Lanciana, where the Miraculous Host that bled was exposed, as well as a multitude of Eucharistic and Marian Shrines. The highlight was concelebrating Mass with Pope John Paul II at the Vatican, January 1, 2000.

Our pilgrims celebrated Father Paret's 60th anniversary of his entering the Jesuit Order, August 14, 1940.

Father's sense of humor never ceased, especially when our Italian guide had difficulties pronouncing his name. She called him "Father Parrot"!

On the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, on February 11th, his last letter to me arrived from Murray-Weigle Community in New York. Relative to Kateri's canonization he wrote: "I want to be alive when Kateri finally makes it! I haven't lost heart by any means, just patience."

Little did we know that six months later, God would call Father John Paret home August 29, the feast of his namesake, St. John the Baptist's martyrdom, to be with his beloved Kateri Tekakwitha and to continue his mission to hasten her canonization. We love you, Father John Paret! We will miss you! Help us all to Heaven! Amen.

—MARLENE McCAULEY

In Memory of Father Paret

In 1990 I came to work at the Kateri Center in Auriesville. One day Father Boyle introduced me to our new Vice-Postulator, Father Paret. He smiled and shook my hand.

For sixteen years I watched him do his work – always at a fast pace.

At Christmas time (2005), at our Christmas party, I said, "We'll see you in the spring." He said, "I hope so." He smiled and shook my hand.

—RELLA WARD

Thanks Be To God

*My heart is heavy today,
for my dear friend has passed away.
Though I never met him in the flesh,
I can tell you he was blessed.
God loaned him to us for a little while,
so he could walk with us for a few miles,
Then back to his Heavenly Home,
never more to roam.
With the Angels and Saints he now lives forever,
always praying to make our lives better.
Advocating with the Blessed Kateri for our good,
with the love of God he understood.
Living a humble life here on earth,
our beloved brother cared for all others.
Heavenly Father, we shall miss your wonderful gift.
Thanks be to God.
We give him back to you.
Upon eagles wings his spirit flies
to meet with you in the skies. Aho!
—DR. G. REDBEAR DRUMMONDS
September 19, 2006*



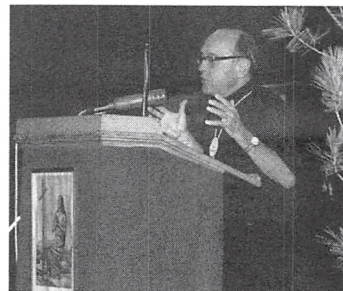
1.



7.



2.



8.



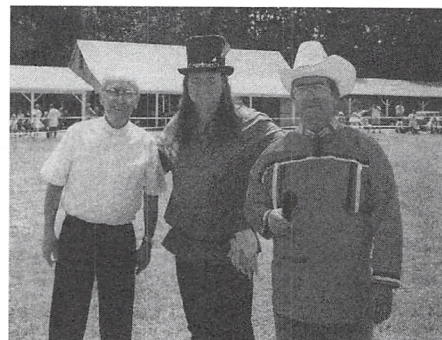
9.



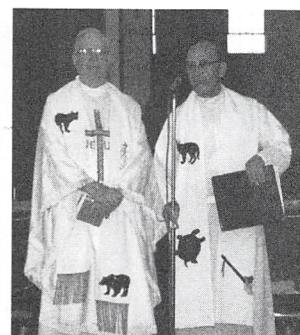
3.



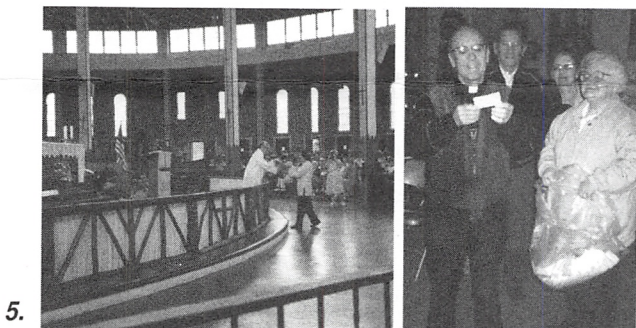
4.



10.

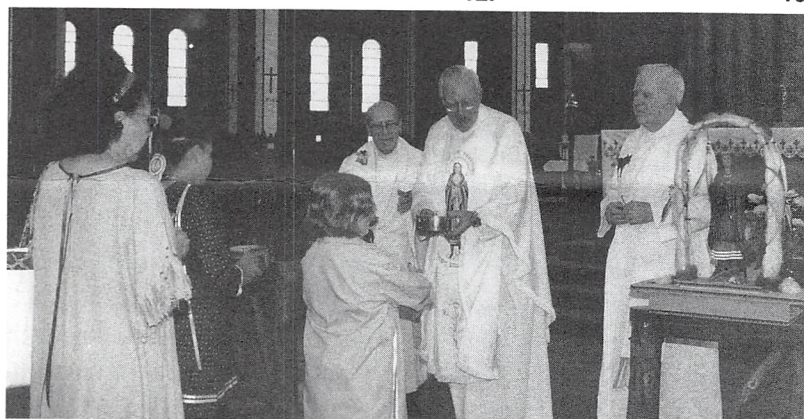


12.



5.

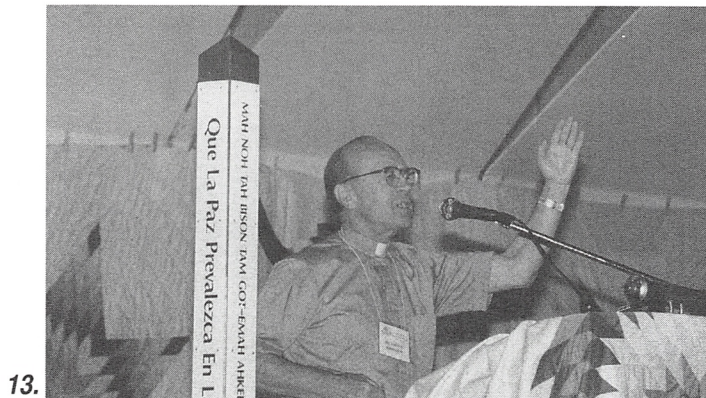
6.



11.

Memorial Photo Gallery

1. Deacon Ron Boyer, Fr. John Paret, S.J., Fr. Jacques Bruyere, S. J., Fr. John Doolan, S.J., concelebrating a Kateri Feast Day mass. 2. Fr. Paret, Ferne Carron, Brother Ken Lucas, and Brother Jim Doyle ready to enjoy Feast Day reception. 3. Fr. Paret visits with George & Catherine Hannagan, Chet Adams, Theresa Steele, and Fr. Doolan at a Feast Day reception. 4. Lois Gieseler receives the Kateri Award from Fr. Paret, 1995. 5. Theresa Steele receives the Kateri Award from Fr. Paret, 1992. 6. Fr. Paret picks quilt winner with the help of Lois Gieseler and Joseph and Mary Maksimowicz. 7. John & Josephine Walsh receive the Kateri Award from Fr. Paret, 1997. 8. Fr. Paret speaking at one of the National Conferences. 9. Sr. Mary Pelagia Litkowski receives Kateri Award from Fr. Paret, 1991. 10. Fr. Paret at 1996 Pow Wow at Shrine with Bob Ross and fellow Pow Wow official. 11. Monsignor Paul A. Lenz, flanked by Fr. Paret and Fr.



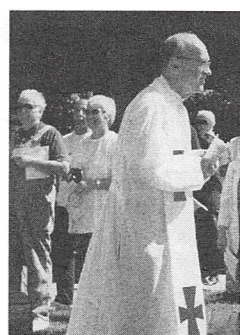
13.



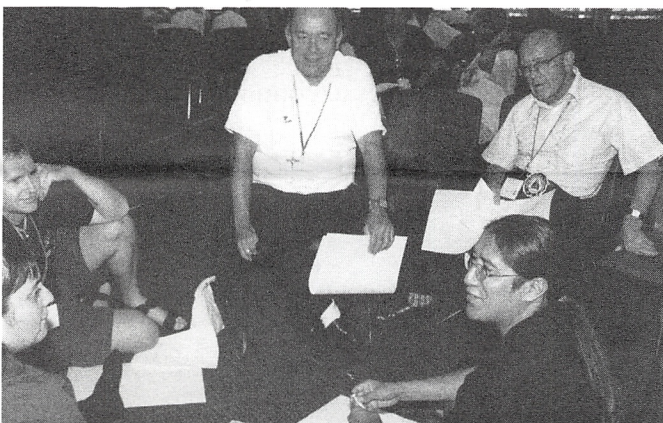
14.



16.



17.



18.



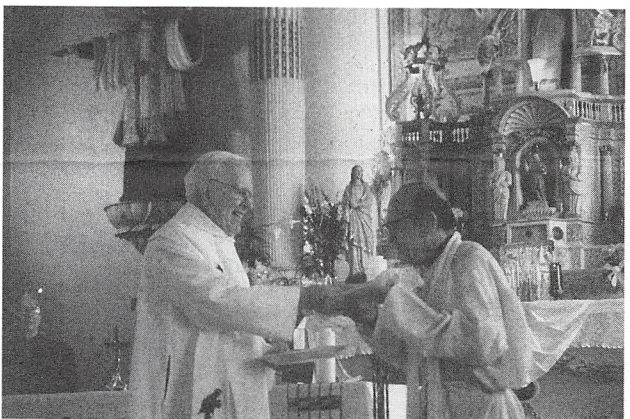
19.



20.



21.

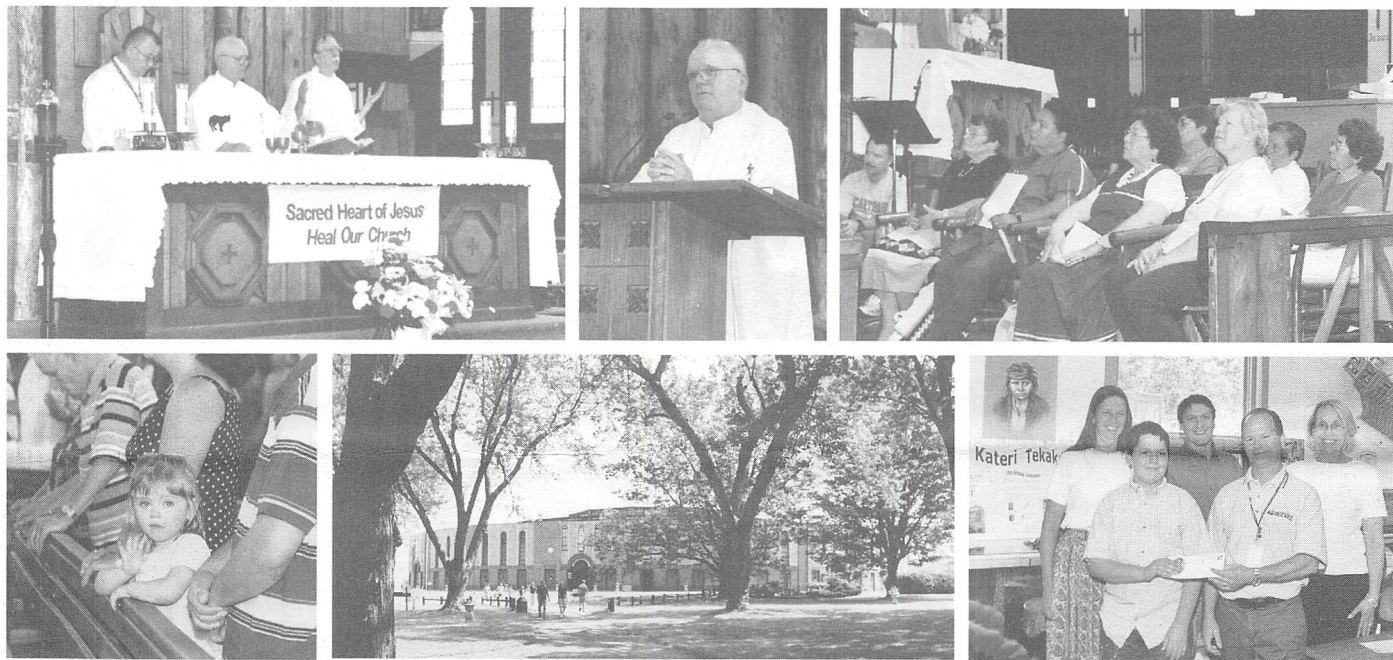


22.

Buryere, receive offertory gifts at a Feast Day mass. 12. Both Vice-Postulators at 1994 Feast Day mass. 13. Fr. Paret speaks at Tekakwitha Conference in Bemidji, MN, 1994. 14. Priests entering mass at Bemidji Conference. 15. Dale Lamphere of South Dakota, sculptor, talks with Fr. Paret at dedication of statue in Washington, D.C. 16. Monsignor Lenz receives a framed copy of the original Kateri portrait from Fr. Paret. 17. Fr. Paret at Tekakwitha Conference at Marquette University. 18. Fr. Paret with discussion group at Tekakwitha Conference in Lansing, MI, 2002. 19. Deacon Boyer, Fr. Alvaro Salazar (pastor St. Francis Xavier Church, Kahnawake), Bishop Jacques Berthelet, Fr. Paret, Monsignor Lenz, and Fr. Bruyere at Feast Day mass in Kahnawake, 2005. 20. Fr. Paret, Msgr. Lenz, Bishop Berthelet, Fr. Bruyere and Sr. Kateri Mitchell stand by Bl. Kateri's tomb in Kahnawake, 2005. 21. Fr. Bruyere receives Kateri Award from Fr. Paret, Auriesville, 2004. 22. Fr. Bruyere presents Fr. Paret with Kateri Award in Canada, 2005.

Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha Feast Day

JULY 9, 2006, Auriesville, New York



(LEFT to RIGHT—TOP) 1. Fr. Kevin Kenny, OFM Conv., main celebrant, flanked by Deacon Ron Boyer and Fr. Peter J. Murray, S.J., Shrine Director. 2. Fr. Kevin Kenny has everyone's attention for the homily. 3. This group of Native Americans and friends helped out with singing and reading for the mass. (LEFT to RIGHT—BOTTOM) 4. One very cute participant. 5. The beautiful Shrine grounds and Coliseum. 6. The Kateri cancellation stamped envelopes were featured at the Kateri Center. One family purchases an envelope from Gary Capel, Fultonville Postmaster, while Marie McClumpha, League Secretary, looks on.

National Tekakwitha Conference

SEATTLE, WA, July 19-22, 2006

Monsignor Paul A. Lenz, Director of the Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions headquartered in Washington, D.C., and Vice-Postulator of Kateri's Cause in the United States, addressed the Conference attendees about the status of her canonization process. He stated

that as the hierarchy is diligently studying a miracle attributed to Kateri's intercession, there is renewed hope in her being canonized. Meanwhile, Monsignor Lenz encouraged devotees to continue praying for her sainthood.



I Am a Christian

By Maya Angelou

When I say... "I am a Christian"
I'm not shouting "I'm clean livin'."
I'm whispering "I was lost,
Now I'm found and forgiven."

When I say... "I am a Christian"
I'm not claiming to be perfect,
My flaws are far too visible
But, God believes I am worth it.

When I say... "I am a Christian"
I don't speak of this with pride.
I'm confessing that I stumble
And need Christ to be my guide.

When I say... "I am a Christian"
I still feel the sting of pain.
I have my share of heartaches
So I call upon His name.

When I say... "I am a Christian"
I'm not trying to be strong.
I'm professing that I'm weak
And need His strength to carry on.

When I say... "I am a Christian"
I'm not holier than thou,
I'm just a simple sinner
Who received God's good grace, somehow!

When I say... "I am a Christian"
I'm not bragging of success.
I'm admitting I have failed
And need God to clean my mess.

Novena of Masses in Honor of Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha

December 16 - 24, 2006 • 9 Masses • 9 Days First Intention

(Your donation will be appreciated)

LIVING

DECEASED

Mail today — Leave address label on back

DECEASED MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

Mr. Michael Macejka, Scotia, NY
 Mrs. Olga Falco, Cobleskill, NY
 Sister Alice Loretta Hyde, Latham, NY
 Sister Mary Felicitas Wells, Lake Placid, NY
 Mrs. Joan P. Jaracz, Amsterdam, NY
 Mr. Edward Hicock, Naugatuck, CT
 Mrs. Vicki Christensen
 Mrs. Dorothy A. Wozniak, Berlin, NY
 Mr. Richard Francis, Colorado Springs, CO
 Sister Mary Collis, Latham, NY
 Mr. Frank Meza Saldana

Mrs. Viola A. Malin, Schenectady, NY
 Mr. Stephen J. Pitoniak, Sr.
 Mrs. Sophia K. Pitoniak
 Mr. Stephen J. Pitoniak, Jr.
 Mr. Richard Pitoniak
 Mr. William A. Casey, W. Springfield, MA
 Mrs. Helen Sawyer, Burlington, NJ
 Mr. William J. Janeski, Amsterdam, NY
 Rev. John J. Paret, S.J.
 Mr. Michael C. Miccolo, Dover, NH

Receive, O Lord, our prayers on behalf of the souls of Thy servants that if they are still soiled by any earthly stains, they may be purified by Thy merciful forgiveness. Through Christ our Lord. AMEN

Let's Keep In Our Prayers

Beth • Felice • Guy • Emma • Mary Jane Scklarz • Gina • Julius • Gloria DeLillo • Robert Wozniak •
 Rev. Ronald Warnimont • Howard Feltman • Ed Lynch • Jordan Glover • Catherine Grom • Anne Wares • Jackie Nero
 • Rev. Jacques Bruyere, S.J. • Ileana Iglesias • Carmen Iglesias • Rev. Joseph Beighner • Rev. Edward Rivera •
 Raymond Wares • Trudy Miccolo • Dr. G. Redbear Drummonds • Rev. Richard Santerre • Bernard J. Graczyk
 • Dave MacKercher • Richard Kempter • Joshua Guy Peshek • Victoria Purcell • Kucera Family • Paul • Betty Day •
 Jesse Bradford • Kristi Fairman • Janet Heleski • Tom Morrison • Mrs. Stephen Cubitso • Ruth Sikora • Amanda Means

Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha League

(MARTYRS' SHRINE)

Rev. John J. Paret, S.J.
 Tekakwitha League
 Auriesville, NY 12016
 Phone: 1-518-853-3153

NON-PROFIT ORG.
 U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

Permit No. 1
 Fultonville, NY

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

ADDRESS CHANGE? Please advise us immediately.
 Each returned Lily costs us a 70¢ minimum plus postage for third-class mailing.