

Celebration Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha Feast Day – July 14



**Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha
Catholic Community Church**

July 16-17, 2011



1680

**Kateri Tekakwitha died at the age of twenty-four
on Wednesday in Holy Week, April 17, 1680
around three in the afternoon.**

**Two men passing by her longhouse came in to see this young lady
about whom the entire village was proclaiming to be a Saint.**



What they saw amazed them!

**Her confessor the Jesuit priest
and Kateri's companions were
also amazed and edified at
what happened!**

17 April 1680

A miraculous event took place just fifteen minutes after her death.

Her face marked by smallpox became so beautiful and so fair that Father Cholonec, her confessor, let out a yell and called others to see what had happened.



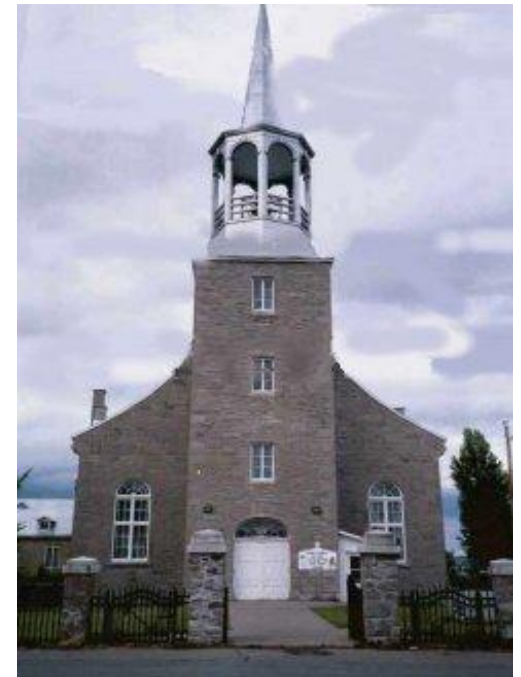
It could have been at that moment that Kateri entered heaven and that she had a preview of the glory of her body risen with Christ.



**First burial site at
Ste-Catherine de
La Prairie
Canada**



**Her body is entombed
in the Mission Church of
St. Francis-Xavier
in the Mohawk village
of Kahnawaké
on the south bank of
the St. Lawrence river
In Québec, Canada.**



After her death, there were so many miracles attributed to her!



People in the village of Kanawaké and the surrounding areas used her relics:

**dirt from around her tomb
a piece of her robe or mocassin
one of the beads from her rosary
a lock of her hair**

and placed it on someone who was ill and asked Kateri for a cure.

**There were so many cures
all documented in the
“Jesuit Relations”
an historical account of the times
written by the Jesuit priests
in the native villages.**



Kateri Tekakwitha

**Why has not the Vatican declared
Kateri Tekakwitha as**

Saint Kateri?

**It has been 331 years
since her death.**

**So many miracles have been
attributed to our Kateri!**

**Why is she not the first Native
American to be canonized?**

**Can Rome not hear the tom-tom
drums of her followers?**

Canonization Prayer

Please join us in this prayer

**O God, who, among the many marvels of Your Grace
in the New World,
did cause to blossom on the banks
of the Mohawk and of the St. Lawrence,
the pure and tender Lily, Kateri Tekakwitha,
grant we beseech You,
the favor we beg through her intercession,
that this Young Lover of Jesus and of His Cross
may soon be counted among the Saints of Holy Mother Church,
and that our hearts may be enkindled with a stronger desire
to imitate her innocence and faith.
Through the same Christ Our Lord. Amen.**

Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha, pray for us.

1677 - 1680

**Tekakwitha's deeply religious life
began in the Mission of La Prairie de la Magdelaine
on the south bank of the Saint Lawrence River, Québec.**



**Her devotion to Jesus and
Mary became the model in
her new community.**

**She received
Holy Communion
on Christmas 1677
for the first time.**

**For the next three years,
Catherine continued
to pray intensively
and to carry out extraordinary
acts of penance –
acts which weakened
her already frail body
due to smallpox.**

The Beginning

1657 - 1662

Tekakwitha's intense religious life began in her village of Ossernenon from birth.

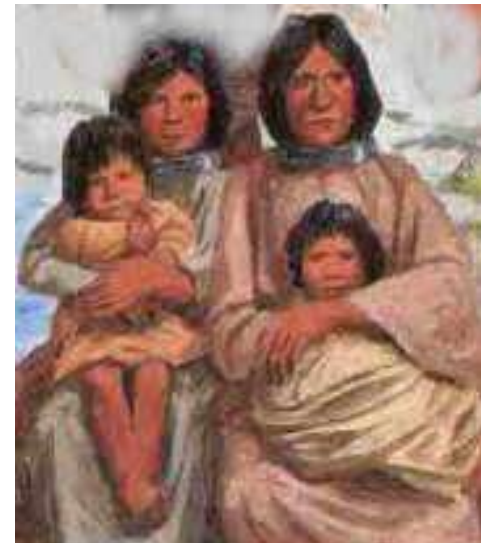


She was undoubtedly greatly influenced by her Catholic Algonquin mother during those first four years of her life.

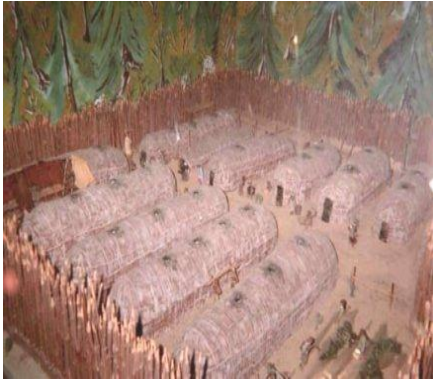
Her Christian mother could not practice her religious beliefs openly.

Wahwahsekona had most likely, quietly taught her daughter some of the prayers to Jesus and Mary - Jesus and Wari.

What happened after her parents and baby brother died of smallpox?



1663 - 1676



After smallpox devastated the village of Ossernenon, her tribe moved across the Mohawk River to a new village Caughnawaga.

There, she could not practice her religious beliefs. Her uncle and aunt, who adopted her, wanted her to be just like all the other young Mohawk girls: learn the arts and crafts of being a wife to a young Mohawk.

Tekakwitha wanted none of this.

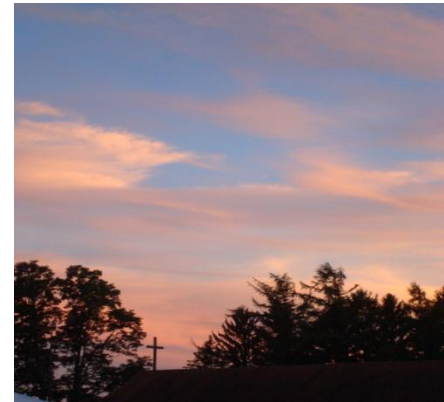
So, she practiced her religion in secret.



1674 - 1676

Father Jacques de Lamberville, in 1674, accidentally came into her uncle's longhouse seeking information.

Tekakwitha had enough strength to ask him if she could learn about his Christian God.



On Easter Sunday, April 5, 1676, Tekakwitha was baptized in the Catholic Church, at St. Peter's Mission in Caughnawaga.

**She was given the name of
Kateri - Gahdehlee - Iroquois for Catherine.**

After her baptism, Kateri Tekakwitha's life was one of continuous persecution and ridicule by those in her village who despised Christians.



Kateri practiced her religion without hesitation in the face of almost unbearable opposition and scorn.

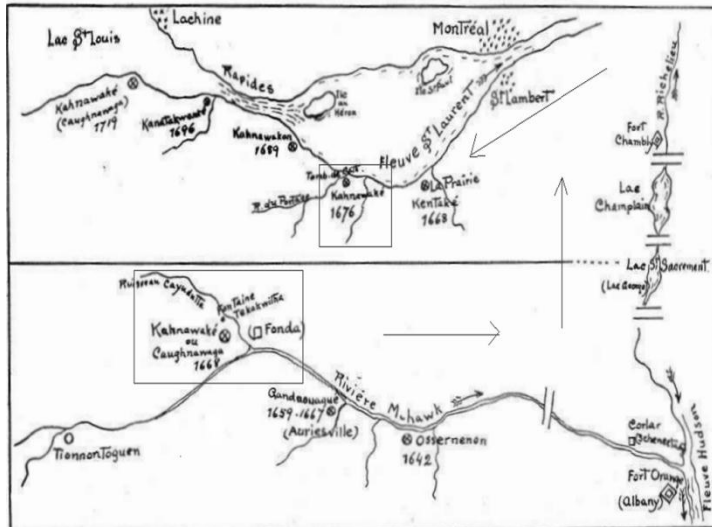
Her family continued their opposition to her new religion.

**In the forest,
she fashioned
a cross
in front of which
she prayed.**



1677 – 1680

**Her mentor Anastasie had left, several years earlier, to go to the Christian village in New France: Kahnawaké
Word was sent to Tekakwitha that she was invited to come there.**



With the help of two Christian Indians, she managed to escape her uncle's village to walk and paddle a canoe two hundred miles on the Mohawk, Hudson and St. Lawrence Rivers to the Catholic Mission at LaPrairie in Québec.

1680

**And this is where Kateri Tekakwitha died
at the age of twenty-four on**

Wednesday in Holy Week 17 April 1680

around three in the afternoon..



**It was at that moment
that Kateri entered heaven
and became a
Saint**

**The painting by Dorothy Spicer
depicts all that we know about Tekakwitha**

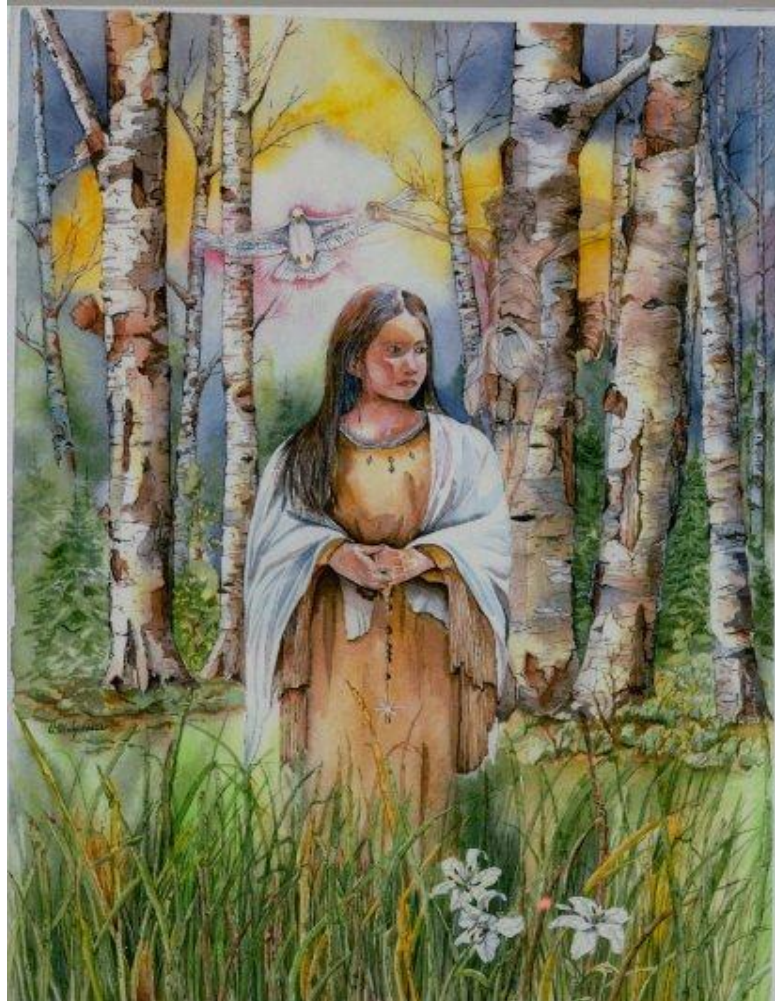
**Rosary beads
in hands**

**Holy Spirit - dove
above her head**

**Wing of the Holy
Spirit connected to
Jesus on the Cross**

**Kateri surrounded
by the forest**

**“Sauvage”
in French means
People of the forest**



**Her escape canoe
was made of
birch bark**

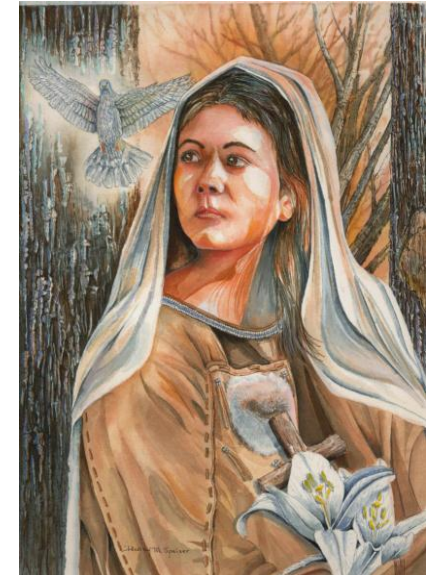
**Lilies, symbol of her
Mohawk heritage
and as a
Flower of her
maternal ancestry**

**Sweetgrass in the
foreground and
Cedar Trees in the
background used as
smudging - incense**

**Subdued watercolors are like her personality & her surroundings:
the forest & its people**

2011

**Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha
Flower of the Algonquins
Lily of the Mohawks
Please pray for us**



May Kateri be soon counted among the Saints of our Catholic Church

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