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COMPLIMENTS

of the

Caughnawaga

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CLUB



KATERI

NO. 118

THE CATHERINE GANNEAKTENA ROLL

OUR SUBSCRIPTION CAMPAIGN: 26

KATERIGRAM

ARIWAWAKONKOWA SAWATIS KOR II

EACH NEW MOON

KATERI AND FRANCIS XAVIER

HEARTFELT WISHES FOR CHRISTMAS

PILGRIMAGE TO SANCIAN ISLAND

CHRISTMAS 1678

THE NEW KATERI BAND

CORRESPONDENCE

**LILY OF
THE MOHAWKS**

Winter • 1978

Caughnawaga, P.Q., Canada



The Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha

Kateriana obtainable from the
Office of the Vice Postulation
(The Kateri Center)

Box 70, Caughnawaga P.Q., Canada J0L 1B0

Medals

Mat silver-plated: 50¢ each.

Pictures (prayers in English or French)

1. Sepia picture of Kateri's statue by Sculptor E. Brunet, with prayer. 5¢
2. Colored picture by Sister M. Fides Glass, with the prayer in Spanish only. 5¢ for two.
3. Mother Nealis' colored picture of Kateri (9¼" x 13¾") for framing. 75¢.

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1. Small Kateri pictures with silk applied to relics. 20¢ each. (Limited supply.)

Plaques

1. Ceramic plaque with picture of Kateri on mushroom-colored tile (4" x 4") by Daniel Lareau. \$2.75.
2. Plaque, plastic case with prayer (2½" x 1½") \$1.50. See p. 34.
3. Metallic plaque (3½" x 2¾") framed in blue and white enamel: \$2.00.

Novena

In the form of a short biography, 25¢ each.

Statues

1. In hydrocal, gilt or ivory-colored, \$6.50.

Books

- In English — *The Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha* by Henri Béchar, S.J., 20 pp., illustrated, 50¢.
- In English — *Kateri Tekakwitha*, With a Prefatory Note of John Cardinal Wright, by Francis X. Weiser, S.J., (Paperback) \$3.00; hardcover \$5.00
- In English — *I am Indian* by Gualbert Brunsmann, O.S.B. 60¢.
- In English — *Treasure of the Mohawks* by Teri Martini, a book for boys and girls. \$3.25.
- In French — *L'Héroïque Indienne Kateri Tekakwitha* by Henri Béchar, S.J., \$3.50.
- In French — *Kateri Tekakwitha, vierge mohawk*, by Evelyn M. Brown, translated by Maurice Hébert of the Royal Academy of Canada, illustrated by Simone Hudon-Beaulac. \$2.25.
- In German — *Das Mädchen der Mohawks*, by Franz Weiser, (Hardcover) \$6.00.
- In Italian — *Caterina Tekakwitha*, by Dr. Fernando Bea, 176 pp. \$3.00.
- In Spanish — *Una India en los Altares? Kateri Tekakwitha de los Mohawks*, by Maria Cecilia Buehrle: \$2.25.

Special

- In English — *The Visions of Bernard Francis de Hoyos, S.J.*, by Henri Béchar, S.J., 178 pp., profusely illustrated. \$8.00.
- In English — *In the Early Dawn*, The story of the Indian People in the days of the first Missionaries, Editor James S. McGivern, S.J., \$1.75 postpaid.

Kateri Seals

A sheet of 36 seals. \$1.00.

Sympathy Cards

You will find the Kateri Sympathy Cards in perfect taste, beautifully printed and very convenient to have at hand. Try them and see. To the family of the bereaved, the Vice-Postulator will be happy to send a note of sympathy.

One box of twelve cards: \$2.00. Each yearly enrollment in the Kateri Guild: \$1.00.

Subscription to "Kateri"

One dollar a year. Please renew your subscription yearly.



KATERI, No. 118

Vol. 31, No. 1

AIM

1. Our quarterly bulletin, *Kateri*, published by the Kateri Center, intends to help you obtain favors both temporal and spiritual through the intercession of the Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha. It is hoped her Beatification will thereby be hastened.

2. It aims to increase the number of Kateri's friends and to procure from them at least one daily Hail Mary for her Beatification.

3. It seeks also your donations, for without them practically nothing can be done to make Kateri known and to have the important favors attributed to her intercession examined and approved.

CONTENTS

Each issue of "Kateri" contains :

1. One or several pages on Kateri's life and virtues;
2. News from Kateri's friends everywhere;
3. The account of favors due to her intercession;
4. News concerning the native peoples of America, with special reference to the Caughnawagas and their friends.

BENEFITS

Your contribution (\$1.00 a year, or more, if possible) enrolls you among "Kateri's Friends" for whom:

1. A weekly Mass is offered;
2. The Vice-Postulator prays at his daily Mass;
3. As benefactors of the Society of Jesus, 190,000 masses are offered annually;
4. The spiritual treasure of the good works of the Society of Jesus is opened;
5. Extra graces are merited by working for Kateri's Beatification.

DECEMBER 1978

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CAUGHNAWAGA, P.Q., CANADA J0L 1B0

THE CATHERINE GANNEAKTENA ROLL

Catherine Ganneaktena, an Erie Indian, was the co-foundress of the Mission of St. Francis Xavier. Captured and inducted into the Oneida nation in 1656, she later married a Christian Huron, Francis Xavier Tonsahoten. In 1667, she and her husband were invited to settle down at la Prairie, an invitation that they gratefully accepted. On November 6, 1673, Catherine died, and her spiritual director, Fr. Frémin, affirmed that she had always preserved her baptismal innocence. For more details about her, see *The Original Caughnawaga Indians*, p. 5-43. (Two hundred enrollees in all, for whom 100 Masses shall be offered.) For enrollment conditions, see p. 35.

1. Mr. James Hunter
2. Mrs. Eugénie Beaugard
3. Mrs. Germaine Lafores
4. Mrs. Jeannine Lavoie
5. Mrs. Gilberte Paquet
6. Mr. Nick Torney
7. Miss Marie-Anne Vegiard
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9. Mr. Tancrede Dumais
10. Mr. Arthur Watier
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12. Mrs. Thérèse Simard
13. Mr. Lawrence Kelly
14. Miss Blanche Paradis
15. Mr. Joseph Leclerc
16. Mrs. Priscilla Bolduc
17. Mr. Nelson Nadeau
18. Mr. Donat Langevin
19. Mrs. Emma Langevin
20. Mrs. Helen Marek Smith
21. Mr. Emery Parmentier
22. A member of the Roy Family
23. Another member of the Roy Family
24. A Soul in Purgatory
25. Mr. Normant Deschamplain
26. Mr. Armand Gaudet
27. Mrs. Florida Lacasse
28. Mrs. Gloria Biard
29. Mrs. Kathleen Baker

30. Mrs. Elizabeth Chiasson
31. Mr. Robert Wagner
32. A Soul in Purgatory
33. A Soul in Purgatory
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41. A Soul in Purgatory
42. A Soul in Purgatory
43. A Soul in Purgatory
44. Mr. Edward Kelly
45. A Soul in Purgatory
46. A Soul in Purgatory
47. A Soul in Purgatory
48. Mr. Aldéa Cordeau
49. Miss Irma Bourdeau
50. Mrs. Juliette Ratel
51. Mr. Robert Bertrand
52. Mrs. Mac Pochownil
53. Mr. Marc Bédard
54. Miss Charlotte Blanchet
55. Sr. Anna Gendron
56. Mr. Willy Coderre
57. Mrs. Raoul Tremblay
58. Mr. Isaie Beaugard
59. A Soul in Purgatory
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61. Mrs. Rosalie Boilard
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63. Mr. Aimé Otis
64. Mr. Jean-Paul Chiasson
65. Mr. Ernest Fournier
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67. A Soul in Purgatory
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69. Mrs. Louis-Robert O'Bomsawin
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72. Mr. Eugène Valade
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79. Mr. Emile Rancourt
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139. A Soul in Purgatory
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142. A Soul in Purgatory
143. A Soul in Purgatory
144. A Soul in Purgatory
145. Mr. Clément Le Claire
146. Mr. Peter A. La Fontaine
147. Mrs. Albina Bodette
148. Mr. Lucien Béchar
149. A Soul in Purgatory
150. A Soul in Purgatory
151. A Soul in Purgatory
152. A Soul in Purgatory
153. His Holiness Paul VI
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155. Mr. Luc Côté
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157. Mr. Harry Hartnett
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159. Miss Emma Chauvette
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161. M. Peter Jansen
162. Mrs. Alice Morgan
163. Mr. Roger Harec
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165. A Soul in Purgatory
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186. Mr. Irenée Blanchard
187. Mrs. Patrick Haché

(To be continued.)

OUR SUBSCRIPTION CAMPAIGN

The *Kateri* Subscription Campaign forges ahead. Once again I urge our friends to help us reach the 10,000 mark from now to Christmas. *Kateri* needs these subscriptions to survive. Same price as for the first issue in 1949: \$1.00 a year.

Twenty-Sixth Quarterly Instalment

Forward	7,920	S. Walker, St. John, N.B.	
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J. Tolleury, Maniwaki, Que.	1		
M. River, Maniwaki, Que.	1		
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Sr. M. Morenc, Lorain, OH	5		
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D. Fort, Stillwater, NY	1		
		Total	8,204

St. Joseph's Residence
330 West Pembroke Street
Dallas, Texas 75208

TELEPHONE 848.3597

The Sisters at St Joseph's were
glad to collect these signatures
and send more —

MY PLEDGE TO KATERI

DATE March 21 - 1978

I, the undersigned, pledge to offer up each day one Our Father and /or one Hail Mary until the second duly verified miracle needed for Kateri's beatification is obtained.

PLEASE

We have 14,666 signed pledges.

We need 1,000,000 more.

MY PLEDGE TO KATERI

Date _____

I, the undersigned, pledge to offer up each day one Our Father and/or one Hail Mary until the second duly verified miracle needed for Kateri's beatification is obtained.

Name: Mr., Mrs., Miss

Street or Box

City or Town

Province or State

Country

.. Code

... Telephone

KATERIGRAM

THE NEW YEAR is approaching, it is just around the corner, now it knocks at the door. What will it bring? The miracles needed for the beatification of the Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha? Maybe. The good Lord has already glorified his little servant Kateri in heaven. On earth, He will glorify her at the most advantageous time for the Church. At the most favorable time for all the people of North America, Canadians, Americans, and particularly Amerinds.

Another question naturally follows. The answer will be incomplete, but not negligible. Doesn't this "advantageous time" depend in part on us? Every beatification, every canonization in the Church should give birth to a strong new current of spiritual life. In other words, Kateri's friends must imitate her inasmuch as she is imitable; her friends must love the Lord Jesus and His Blessed Mother better than ever before, their neighbors also. They must then offer little and great sacrifices, as the everyday happenings of life offer the occasion to do so. Finally, they must pray much, asking our Lord to grant us complete and instantaneous miracles through the intercession of Kateri Tekakwitha.

For the last six or seven years, I have been begging my friends to sign the promise of an Our Father or a Hail Mary each day for this intention. I have succeeded in gathering fourteen thousand names. If Kateri's devotees wish to obtain her beatification in 1980, tercentenary of her holy death, or shortly afterwards, all the subscribers to Kateri must joyfully put in extra time. They could ring the door bells of their acquaintances; enter the homes reserved to the Golden Age people—they have little enough visitors—and invite them to sign the prayer promise and better still to keep it. Most of them will be happy to do so. I am leaving you with a peculiar watchword: Be gently aggressive!

You shall be entitled to many prayers, pregnant with concern for you, and far superior to mine. I refer to the prayers of the Canadian Martyrs (also known as the North American Martyrs) and of the missionaries who worked with Kateri three centuries ago.

HENRI BECHARD, S.J.
Vice-Postulator

✿ Kateri's smile upon you, Miss P.S.!

Greetings to all! Your letter arrived the day after a turbulent night and a very special favor for which I must give thanks for Kateri's intercession.

As the year came to an end, I realized I had much to be grateful for. My casework career in progressing, and I started in a better position a few days before Christmas (many thanks for Kateri's intercession in that too). Many good things had been given to me. But I was still troubled with reoccurring lung infections that sapped my strength and were causing me to lose much time from work. The doctor could find no more than just a bad cold to diagnose, so I was treated for that, and told I would be well in a couple of weeks; then the cold again. I prayed that I could overcome this in 1978.

Then, Friday (Dec. 30), while I was eating lunch, I got sharp chest pains and felt as if a rope was tied around my throat. I worked through the rest of the day, becoming feverish and having every joint in my body aching with pain. I went straight to bed when I got home and was bedridden all day Saturday. I was too sick to even sleep, and as my fevered mind passed in and out of a dazed state, I prayed for Kateri's beatification. On Sunday, my confessor came to the house. He hadn't been told I was ill, but he said that he sensed the need to bring me Communion. I offered the Communion that I might be healed and also for Kateri's beatification. My mother did likewise. My mind became clearer from that point and I began to get stronger. By Monday, I was well enough to do some household chores.

On Monday night, while I slept, a strange thing happened. My mother, in the next room, heard my breathing stop and heard loud gasping. I was unconscious and beginning to turn blue. As you know, she is crippled with arthritis and can hardly walk, but she rushed in to the rescue. She resuscitated me (she was a nurse prior to her disability), and in the process, I began to choke and coughed out a peculiar infected object.

The "object", it seems, was a lung abscess. The doctors cannot be sure how long it had been in my lungs, but from the size of it, it had probably been forming for several months, and was probably the cause of my continuing illness. It had probably broken loose from the lower lung and worked its way into the trachea. After it was expelled, all normal functions returned rapidly. Today, two and a half days later, I returned to work, feeling much better than I have for months.



CANADA WIDE

The happy news of the election of Ariwawakonkwa Sawatis Kor II (Great-Bishop or Pope John Paul II) was broadcast as Kateri was going to press. All Kateri's friends will pray for him daily. May Sawatis Kor (pronounced Gor) II beatify and canonize Kateri during his pontificate!

Had this abscess stayed in place, the doctor might not have been able to detect it, and it would have continued to keep me ill. If it had been detected, I would have been subjected to painful treatment for its removal. As it is, had my mother not been present, I could have died of suffocation.

But both mother and I prayed to Kateri constantly through this crisis. I am truly thankful for the marvellous blessing.

I don't think a doctor would call this a miracle, but I know that the Lord worked wonders for me through Kateri's intercession.

I know this is a very long letter, but I wanted to share this with you. Even though Kateri is not yet recognized as such, I know she is a saint of God, who has been very good to me, and I am most thankful. (Carson, CA)

✿ **Kateri's smile upon you, Mrs. H.R.!**

I wish to offer a gift towards Kateri's canonization for a favor I received when I asked her to pray for me. I was very hard up for money and I asked for help and I received help. This is in thanks for the favor.

(Ambridge, PA)

✿ **Kateri's smile upon you, Miss V.L.!**

Enclosed is a check in the amount of fifty dollars for a favor received. This was for the sale of a large parcel of land. The whole transaction was completed without any problems. I am deeply grateful for the favor obtained.

I would like to recommend to your prayers my sister-in-law, R., who has had a brain operation for an aneurism, so that she may be able to walk and speak normally, also that her memory may be restored. (Lawrence, MA)

✿ **Kateri's smile upon you, Mrs. H.W.!**

A young family, very dear to me, lost their home in a fire, while they were away. The insurance company refused to pay the insurance saying it was arson. I appealed to Kateri for help. After a long period of investigation, their case was won. Through they didn't receive much in the settlement after the lawyer's fee, they were cleared of arson. I'm enclosing the five dollars I promised if they won their case; also, one dollar for my subscription. Many thanks to Kateri for another of many favors I received!

(Hamburg, NY)

(When acknowledging favors to Kateri, be sure to indicate details.)

EACH NEW MOON



POPE JOHN PAUL I



CANADA WIDE

ON Sunday, September 3, Pope John Paul I was installed as Supreme Pontiff in St. Peter's Square. His kind, smiling, ingenious personality immediately won the hearts of millions throughout the world. At the Kateri Center, it had been hoped that he would beatify and canon-

ize the Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha. This was not to be, for the Heavenly Father called him to Himself during the night of September 21. Kateri's friends everywhere will remember him in their prayers as well as deeply regretted Paul VI.

ABORTION IN QUEBEC

As early as 1744, Kateri was known as the New Star of the New World. May she illuminate the three Americas and particularly the Province of Quebec, from the heart of which I am now writing.

Did you know that twenty Quebec homosexuals were offered a free trip to France during the autumn to study sodomy in that country? The Province of Quebec would pick up the tab, if you please. In other words, the taxpayers would foot the bill. The proposed jaunt at public expense never took place, not because the National Assembly burked it, but because, it would seem, there was opposition to it in France.

Did you know that on the N.B.C. program of last August 9, Messrs. Brinkley and Chancellor stated that in the United States three babies out of ten were aborted each year? Relatively speaking, Quebec seems to be following suit.

Did you know that from 1976 to 1977, abortions were thirty per cent more numerous in Quebec than during the previous year? Herod the Great, who specialized in infanticide, would endorse them. And did you know that last year in Quebec the National Assembly quietly voted \$2,000,000

for the building of twenty abortion clinics to celebrate the birth of Christ? Five or six of these clinics are already functioning, not as many as Minister Lazure and his confederates had hoped for. Jimmy Carter and the American Congress are contributing enormous sums to cut down the population of the Third World, by means of the pill and abortion. No doubt, with the best intentions in the world, Lazure has completed his plans for a pogrom, pardon, a program to reduce births as much as possible in Quebec. This doesn't look too good for the future of the Province. Ask the young teachers and professors, who are unable to teach because there are not enough youngsters in the schools and colleges, what their opinion is.

THE KATERI AWARDS



Mrs. Dominick Diabo, receiving the Award.

Indian Day was celebrated on September 3, at the Martyrs' Shrine, Auriesville, N.Y., birthplace of the Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha, with the usual pomp and circumstance. The Most Rev. Howard J. Hubbard, bishop of Albany, was the principal celebrant of the Mohawk Pilgrimage Mass. From Manderson, South Dakota, Deacon Ste-

ven Red Elk, a Sioux Indian, gave the homily. He had been ordained in 1975 as one of the first two deacons belonging to the St. Francis Mission. In 1970, an exact replica of the bronze statue of Kateri dedicated in 1954 at Caughnawaga, P.Q., was unveiled at the Mission of St. Francis, in Lakota territory. After the homily, he received the Kateri Tekakwitha Award from the hands of Bishop Hubbard. Other awardees were Fr. Thomas Egan, S.J., director of the Shrine, who never writes nor preaches without extolling Kateri as the foremost product of the early missionaries' efforts; Sr. Mary Felicitas, R.S.M., whose artist's brush reveals the depths of her love and devotion for the Lily of the Mohawks; Mrs. Nellie Shirley of Houck, Arizona, former pupil at the Navajo elementary Tekakwitha Indian School and then at St. John's High School, who recently narrated a series of twenty programs on Kateri's life on "the Padres' Hour," a weekly radio program in the Navajo language; and last, but not least, Mrs. Dominick Diabo, who has been a member of the Mohawk Caughnawaga Choir for fifty-two years, during which she often sang Kateri's praises with the renowned group. She was with the choir for the first Mohawk pilgrimage to the Martyrs' Shrine many years ago. God blessed her with two boys and five grandchildren who love her dearly. Among many other qualities, for her gentle humor. Heartfelt congratulations to all the awardees, and particularly to our good friend Mrs. Diabo!

A NEW STAMP



His Excellency Jules Léger, Governor General of Canada, unveils the new stamp.

Congratulations to the Honorable Gilles Lamontagne, Postmaster General for the new stamp in honor of Blessed Marguerite d'Youville, issued on September 21. Mother d'Youville, as you probably know, was the foundress of the Grey Nuns, who specialized in Social Service long before the expression existed. Today her daughters are at work in Ontario, Manitoba, Alberta, the Northwest Territories, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, New York, and of course Quebec.

This stamp illustrates an incident from Marguerite d'Youville's life. During the general famine which preceded the fall of Montreal in 1760, the mysterious appearance of unobtainable food supplies in the Sisters' refectory was attributed by them to their foundress's unwavering faith in Divine Providence.

The spirit of the era is admirably conveyed by Antoine Dumas, Quebec artist, in this painting, using a contemporary interpretation of the baroque style. During the past few years, the Office of the Postmaster General has issued

stamps of particular interest to us: one in honor of Blessed Marguerite Bourgeoys, foundress of the Sisters of the Congregation of Notre Dame, and another of the Venerable Francis de Laval, first Bishop of Quebec in Kateri's time. Don't you think that a commemorative stamp in honor of the Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha for 1980, the tercentenary of her saintly death would be appropriate?

WATCHWORD FOR 1979

Already in 1956, tercentenary of the birth of the Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha at Ossernenon, today Auriesville, N.Y., I had hoped that enough prayers would be offered to obtain her beatification. This was not to be. I am now hoping that during 1979 or not long after April 17, 1980, tercentenary of Kateri's death at the Mission of St. Francis Xavier, Caughnawaga, P.Q., the miracles needed for her beatification will be granted. Of course, the Heavenly Father's loving Providence knows the best time for the glorification of the Lily of the Mohawks. We do know, however, that a beatification or a canonization should carry with it a deepening of the spiritual life of the Church. That is why I am suggesting as the 1979 watchword, more and more prayers each day for this great intention. I have been looking for a million prayer pledges—one Our Father or one Hail Mary or both each day—and have succeeded in the last six or seven years to get some 14,000 names. Please make "Prayers for Kateri" your watchword for 1979.

KATERI AND FRANCIS XAVIER

SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER was named by Pius X as official patron of foreign missions. In 1667, the Venerable Francis de Laval, first bishop of Quebec, elevated his feast to that of a holyday in the vast diocese of New France. The Jesuits had chosen him as patron saint for the Mission of the Iroquois on the south bank of the St. Lawrence river close by Montreal. In preparation for Christmas 1678, the missionaries invited the Indian faithful to renew their devotion to the Patron of the mission, whose feast falls on December 3.

At the request of King Paul III of Portugal, St. Ignatius sent him to the Far East as Apostolic Nuncio. He arrived at Goa in 1641, and during the next ten years, converted a million people to Christ in India, Malaysia, and Japan. His dream was to make the Savior known to China. In August 1552, he reached the port of Sancian, an island near the mouth of the Su-kiang river, not far from Canton. There he fell ill with a fever.

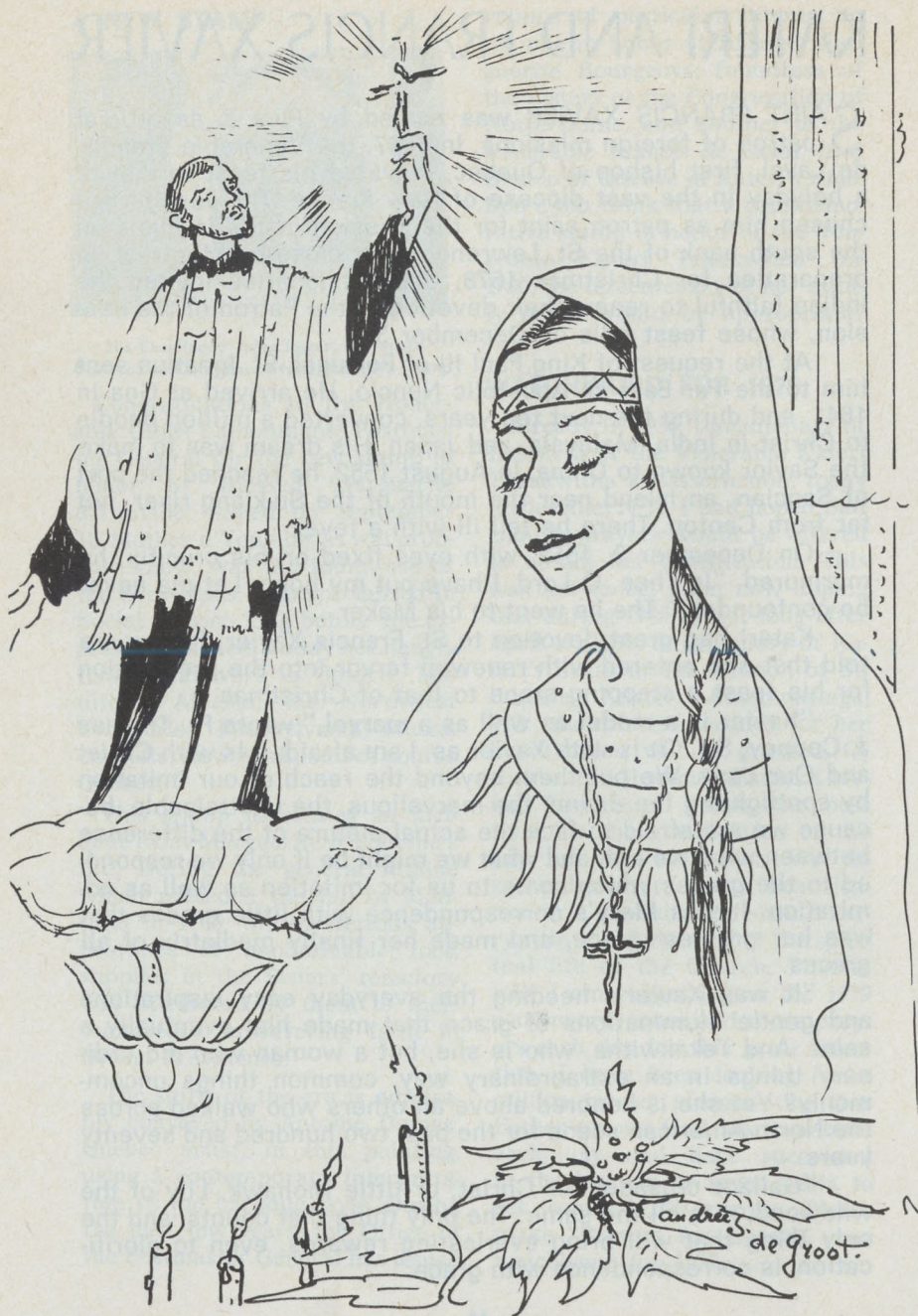
On December 3, 1552, with eyes fixed on his crucifix, he murmured, "In Thee, O Lord, I have put my hope. Let me never be confounded." The he went to his Maker.

Kateri had great devotion to St. Francis Xavier, for we are told that she entered with renewed fervor into the preparation for his feast, a stepping stone to that of Christmas.

"Xavier is a **model** as well as a **marvel**," wrote Fr. Thomas J. Coppey, S.J. "It is with Xavier as, I am afraid, it is with Christ and Our Lady. We put them beyond the reach of our imitation by spotlighting the divine, the marvellous, the unattainable, because we are afraid to face the actual picture of the difference between **what we are**, and **what we might be** if only we responded to the graces which come to us for imitation as well as admiration. It was Mary's correspondence with little graces that was her greatest grace, and made her finally mediatrix of all graces.

"It was Xavier's heeding the everyday easy inspirations and gentle illuminations of grace that made him eventually a saint. And Tekakwitha, who is she, but a woman who did ordinary things in an extraordinary way, common things uncommonly? Yet she is honored above all others who walked across the North-American scene for the past two hundred and seventy years.

"Gallant crusader for Christ, or little Mohawk, Lily of the wildwood, it is all the same. The only thing that counts, and the only thing that will bring everlasting rewards, even to glorification, is correspondence with grace."

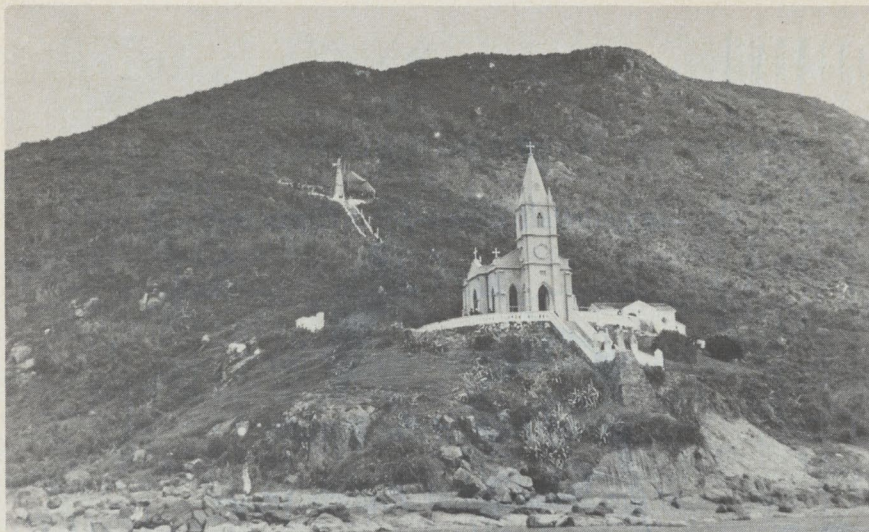


*To all Kateri's friends,
my heartfelt wishes for a Christmas
like hers
on this tercentenary of her
second feast of the Nativity
at the Mission of St. Francis Xavier
and for a New Year overflowing with divine grace
like hers in 1679*

*Henri Béchard, S.J.
Vice-Postulator*

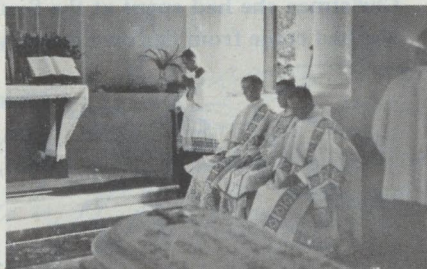
"Kateri entered with renewed fervor into the preparations for the feast of Saint Francis Xavier, patron of the Sault [Saint Louis], and for Christmas, which was drawing near. This would be the second Christmas she had spent at the Sault, for it was a year and a half since she had come from her own country..."

*Claude Chauchetière, S.J.
The Life of the Good Kateri Tegakouita
1685, 1695.*



PILGRIMAGE TO SANCIAN ISLAND

TODAY Sancian Island is verboten, for it is within the limits of Communist China. The following photographs were taken on January 31, 1937, as pilgrims were *en route* to the International Eucharistic Congress at Manila. The caption of the album was "The tomb and shrine-church where in December 1552, was buried Saint Francis Xavier."



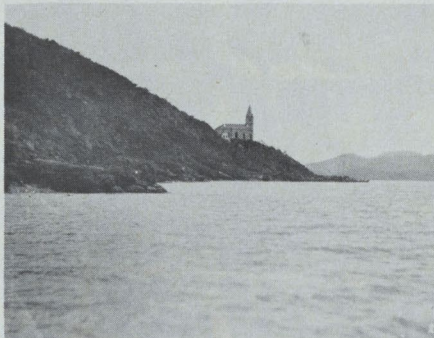
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15

CHRISTMAS 1678

(Continued.)



TOWARDS the end of August, several women went to Fr. Frémin's cabin. They had some good news for him. On an island in the river, close to their long houses, they had sown Indian corn three times successively. Each year the worms had devoured it before the first green shoots began to sprout. There had been talk about giving up these fields. Finally, the matriarchs had come to see Fr. Frémin, as they reminded him, and suggested that he go and bless the island. He had willingly complied with their wishes and, at the sight of these poor people kneeling round him, recited the prayers of the Church for a good harvest. And now, they informed him that the crops in the island were more plentiful than in the other fields of the village. A good store of fine maize was encouraging for the winter months. All thanked the good Lord for His kindness and Kateri was not among the least of them to do so.

Each morning as the mist arose from the river, heralding the approach of autumn, Kateri, quite happy, quietly went about her life of work and prayer. A life spent among her own people. Later on, her first biographers called her "the guardian angel of the Mission," and "the apostle of the native people." Unknown and out of the public eye, she played this role even during her lifetime. How pleased she must have been at the sight of the many conversions of Indians from everywhere, which were taking place!

For several years now, quite a few Christian Indians were in the habit of going to preach in the Iroquois homeland. Among them were the Great Mohawk, Hot Ashes, Stephen Skandegoraksen, and another Stephen, whom the Fathers called the

"good Israelite." In the longhouses of their former villages, late into the night, they taught their compatriots the fundamentals of the Christian Faith. Before these men had taken upon themselves to be missionaries to their people, only seventeen baptisms a year took place at the Mission of St. Francis Xavier; now there were more than sixty. Kateri was certainly present at many of them and, as Father Frémin poured the saving waters over the foreheads of these men and women of her race, she gave thanks to God.

The resulting depopulation of the Iroquois Cantons enraged their former chiefs. In the previous year, they adroitly endeavored to starve the Mission. More than three or four hundred hunters had passed through the village and were welcomed according to the laws of Indian hospitality. They ate their full and left the Mission with sacks full of provisions. As a result, during the winter the elderly and the sick who could not go hunting found themselves deprived of nourishment, even taking into account the rich harvest on the island. Worse still, there was a dearth of cornseed in the spring of 1678. These privations did not effect the Christian Indians: their fervor and devotion during this near-famine won the hearts of many of their non-Christian relatives, who settled at the Mission and asked to be baptized.

A far more serious danger than threatened the people. During the first years of its foundation, the Christian chiefs had planted two memorable trees at the entrance of the village, "one to which was attached drunkenness, to the other impurity, both subjugated by faith." Now four or five French merchants opened a tavern at la Prairie, the first site of the Mission, about a league and a quarter downriver. This establishment worried the missionaries as well as the Christian Indians, all the more so because these taverners were backed by Governor de Frontenac. Some fifty parishioners from la Prairie presented a petition to him. "The petition having been ill received by Monsieur de Frontenac, and the petitioners condemned to a fine, they appealed from Monsieur de Frontenac to Monsieur de Frontenac himself,—who had forbidden by his ordinance of four years before taverns and the liquor which these men desired to barter with the Indians." Finally, Frontenac forbade the sale of alcohol to the native people, but allowed his friends to keep the dramshop open. Fathers Frémin, Cholenec, and Chau-chetière were pleased with the chiefs of St. Francis Xavier for having steadfastly held out against the sale of spirits.

With Hot Ashes, particularly, a onetime captain in Oneida. After having led to the Faith a good number of his tribe now living at the Mission, he had become its fourth chief. Even the

French colonists admired him for the way he dealt with the liquor problem. Having gone on the hunt at the end of the Island of Montreal, he had stopped at the house of a Frenchman, where he met a band of half-intoxicated compatriots. Their host had set a cask full of firewater in the midst of these Oneidas, a cask that often needed replenishing and which was replenished as soon as it was emptied. These men invited Hot Ashes to join them. He accepted their invitation, but drank moderately. To avoid offending God and to prevent the others from doing so, his quick mind soon devised a stratagem.

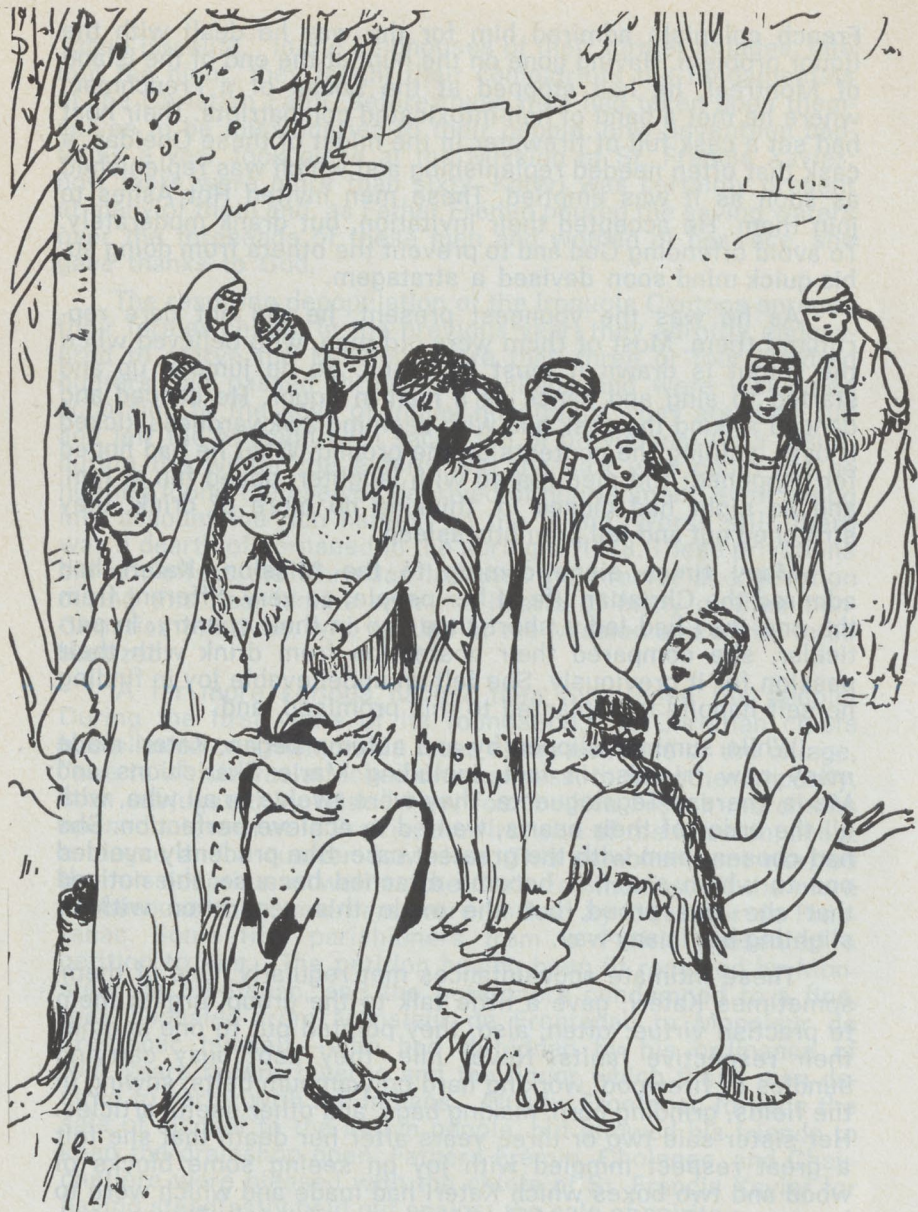
As he was the youngest present, he did not dare reprimand them. Most of them were old men, who believed when the rotgut is drawn it must be drunk. So he jumped up and started to sing and dance as a man in liquor. He danced and danced around the cask and with seeming awkwardness kicked it over, spilling the contents on the ground. What he had hoped for happened: the men roared with laughter, poked fun at him, and as night had closed in, thinking no more of drink, they stretched out and fell promptly asleep.

Many times since coming to the Mission, Kateri had admired the Christian life of her people, so very different from the one they had led a short time ago in their country. In particular, she compared their abstention from drink with their passion for it previously. She felt an unbelievable joy in finding herself happily transplanted to this promised land.

While summer slipped by and autumn began, Kateri made many new friends; in fact, including Marie Skarichions and Marie Therese Tegaiguanta, they were twelve in all who, with all the ardor of their hearts, wanted to achieve perfection. She had chosen them with the greatest care. She prudently avoided one to whom she had become attached because she noticed that she was proud, but she made this separation without slighting her in any way.

These intimate acquaintances met regularly. One of them, sometimes Kateri, gave a little talk to the group, urging them to practise virtue; often, also, they pointed out to one another their respective faults. Never idle, they kept busy carrying bundles of firewood, working hard on wampum belts, sowing in the fields, grinding corn, making bags, and other useful articles. Her sister said two or three years after her death that she felt a great respect mingled with joy on seeing some blocks of wood and two boxes which Kateri had made and which were to be seen in the chapel of the Mission until it fell. These excellent ladies, **Kiken Konnonkwe*** in Iroquois, also took care of the

*These ladies, in Iroquois.



Andrei S. de Groot.

"One of them, sometimes Kateri, gave a little talk..."

ill and the poor. Discretely, in the early evening, they carried them firewood and made off so as not to be seen.

This charity for the ailing was much appreciated, for smallpox made the rounds of the village at the outset of autumn. Kateri, who had contracted the disease as a little girl, was now immune to it. Fortunately, to the surprise of all, there were very few deaths at the Mission, whereas there were hundreds of them in the Iroquois Cantons. The newly converted Christians found out, once and for all, that Faith and Baptism do not cause death. Kateri and the members of her little band had known this all along.

After the outbreak of smallpox had quieted down, as the season was drawing to a close, in nearly all the longhouses, men and women were preparing to leave for the winter hunt. During the previous year, because of her first Communion on Christmas Day, Kateri had not departed from the village before the feast of the Epiphany. In 1678, at the end of autumn as the hunters and their wives made off into the woods, Kateri was urged to follow them. There were many excellent reasons for doing so. Life was more relaxed in the woods; food was generally plentiful, whereas in the longhouses it was not. And there was also a greater variety of it. None the less, Kateri decided to stay at home.

Father Cholenec was aware of her decision; he knew that she did not want to spend the winter in the woods, because she was deprived there of the spiritual assistance given by the Fathers and, also, because she had not forgotten the embroglio into which her charity had led her during the previous winter.

The missionary felt, however, that the change of air and of nourishment would be better for her health. He sent for her and advised her to follow her relatives who were going to hunt.

In the face of her determination, the Jesuit did not insist and she remained at the village during the entire winter, "finding what she so eagerly sought, that is, crosses for sustenance, and all the sweetness of heaven for her spirit."

Meanwhile Kateri made the most of Marie Therese Tegaiguenta's company. The latter found much to admire and imitate in the life of her friend. Together they continued their ordinary devotions. Kateri did more. She carefully prepared herself for the reception of the sacraments by long prayer vigils, fasting, and other austerities, which she practised secretly without any other witness than Marie Therese, who followed her as best she could.

Father Cholenec admits that about this time, to satisfy Kateri, he gave her a scourge and a little iron cincture to slake her extreme thirst for suffering with the Savior during his Passion and on the cross, and thus identify with Him.

With all her hidden penances, Kateri still remained a young woman and was naturally fond of dressing as well as the others of her age. She certainly liked to be neatly attired. "This consisted," wrote Fr. Chauchetière, "in having the hair well greased, parted, and braided in a long plait which hung down the back; it meant having necklaces of glass beads, pretty cloaks, dresses, and mocassins. It meant clean frocks and bright blankets, which are worn as shawls, stockings or leggings that do not wrinkle, and elegant footwear."

Kateri thought that she could give up these fine trappings without being too different from the others. It would simply mean that she was not looking for a husband. She had planned to cut her hair, but had abstained from doing so to avoid comment. She was content with giving up the blankets and beautiful wampum ornaments which the others wore. For communion days she wore a blue blanket, new and simple in design.

The year wore on and the trees changed their verdure for the other colors of the rainbow, then, with the exception of the evergreens, shed their crisping leaves, which had lost all their juices. In November the first snow fell covering the roofs of the longhouses, the little church, and the ways and byways of the village. Preparations began for the feast of St. Francis Xavier, on December 3. In 1667, the Venerable Francis de Laval, first Bishop of New France, had decreed that, in honor of the Apostle of the Indies, the anniversary of his death must be observed as a holyday of obligation, by attendance at Mass and abstention from manual labor. Consequently, Kateri carefully made ready and renewed all her fervor on this great day. It was an excellent way to dispose herself for the great feast of Christmas.

On Christmas Eve, did Kateri think of the year that was coming to an end? During the first months she had tried her best to practise poverty and the complete renouncement of self so that God could completely take possession of her. She had suffered much because of the false accusation of bad conduct made against her. Later on, she had had to struggle with her sister and elderly Anastasia Tegonhatsiongo, who were bent on marrying her off. Finally, she had given up the idea of beginning a home of her own with a husband who could guarantee her security, with regard to food and clothing.

The good Lord never allows Himself to be outdone in love by any of His creatures. On this anniversary of His Nativity, as Kateri seems to have already attained the mystical union, the fantastic, exquisite joy that the Christ Child brought to a tired world must have flooded her entire being.

"Her eyes, her gestures her words," wrote Fr. Cholenec, "were filled with divine love at these moments. If one were with her it did not take long to be touched by it, and to become warmed with this heavenly fire."

After Christmas and the feast of the Epiphany, the hunters who had come back to the Mission to celebrate the Birth of lesos Christos, returned to their pursuit of game. The village seemed more deserted than ever, and Kateri made the most of the relative solitude to draw nearer to her Savior. For Candlemas, she wanted to imitate in her own way the procession that takes place in church in honor of Our Lady, thus giving testimony of her love for the Mother and her beloved Lord. She walked round her field, which was quite long, and recited her rosary several times, in the deep snow that reached to her waist. Her director, Fr. Cholenec, who wrote about this penance of Kateri's, assures us that she had gone about it without any suspicion that she should have spoken to him about it. "In spite of all the precautions I took," he said, "she managed to evade me at times, as happened during that same winter on the feast of the Purification."

(To be continued.)

✿ **Kateri's smile upon you, Mrs. L.L.!**

Enclosed you will find eleven dollars: ten, a promise to Kateri, and the other dollar to renew my subscription. At the end of January, after a bad attack of the grippe and a search for a good room and board, which I found only after a second attempt, I felt a nervous breakdown coming on. I knew what was awaiting me, having already been through one! I clung to Kateri, who suggested I take a good rest. A week later, I was much better. She always helps me in my little problems of everyday life, and I have great faith in her ...
(Joliette, Que.)

✿ **Kateri's smile upon you, Mrs. T.L.!**

Enclosed is a small donation (two dollars) in thanksgiving to Kateri for her many intercessions for me. I prayed to her that we could find help to get our tobacco crop in and thanks to her it is all in the barns.
(Springfield, TN)

(When acknowledging favors to Kateri, be sure to indicate details.)

✿ **Kateri's smile upon you, M.Mrs. J.B.!**

I am very late in thanking Kateri for favors I have received by her intercession.

First, I believe you know my sister-in-law M.Z. of Silver Spring, MD. She underwent surgery and I promised Kateri five dollars if the operation was a success. It was, and she is recovering slowly but surely. They found no malignancy.

Second, I also offered five dollars for a successful operation (cataracts) for my husband. He is also recovering nicely. I hope the period of adjustment won't be too long. Of course Kateri always looks after my girls and myself. We have been praying for a cousin who is seriously ill and a friend, both of whom pray to Kateri. My friend calls her "My Indian Princess." (Baltimore, MD)

✿ **Kateri's smile upon you, Mrs. M.K.!**

Last winter I lost my Social Security check. I literally turned the house inside out searching for it and was just about to give up. I said a sincere prayer to Kateri, asking her to intercede to Jesus who has power to do all things. I made one more trip to the basement to make sure I didn't throw out any important papers and there in an envelope, with papers I was discarding, I found it. I promised an offering of five dollars which I am enclosing. The rest of the money is for enrollments ... (St. Marys, PA)

✿ **Kateri's smile upon you, Mrs. G.P.C.!**

Enclosed, find check for ten dollars in thanksgiving to Kateri for two very successful operations in my eyes. For years she has been of great help to me and I feel that she certainly played a big part in my good fortune to have both eyes, the operation for cataracts and implants in both eyes being so successful. I always hope to be able to rely on Kateri after these having been so successful ... I've enjoyed your magazine for years and hope that you will never stop sending it to me ... (Marlboro, MA)

✿ **Kateri's smile upon you, Mrs. H.C.W.!**

As you know, I had a second cornea transplant on August 10, and while the surgeon said it was successful, my recovery this time is slow. I must confess I have been very much depressed at times. The thought of being blind and deaf terrifies me. Then I think of Kateri and pray (and talk to her) and my spirits lift and my confidence returns. I am sure she will help ... (Queens Village, NJ)

(When acknowledging favors to Kateri, be sure to indicate details.)

THE "78" GOAL

**THERE IS ONLY ONE MONTH LEFT
TO REACH OUR GOAL OF 10,000
NEW KATERI FRIENDS.**

**PLEASE THINK ABOUT IT! RENEW YOUR
SUBSCRIPTION AS SOON AS IT EXPIRES.
GET NEW SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR KATERI.**

**THE KATERI STAFF IS COUNTING
ON YOU.**

LILY OF THE MOHAWKS

THE KATERI QUARTERLY
RENEW YOUR SUBSCRIPTION
IF IT HAS EXPIRED

HELP US ...

DON'T FORGET YOUR POSTAL CODE

☐ NEW

☐ RENEWAL

NAME (Mr., Mrs. ☐ or Miss ☐).....

ADDRESS.....

CITY or TOWN.....

APT.....

PROVINCE or STATE.....

POSTAL or ZIP CODE.....

PLEASE NOTE

- (1) Please RENEW your subscription, if it has run out.
- (2) If you move elsewhere, IMMEDIATELY notify the Kateri Center, giving the old as well as the new address.
- (3) If your letter simply contains the subscription fee, our acknowledgement consists in sending you the last issue of KATERI.
- (4) Subscription fee: \$1.00 a year.
- (5) Booster subscription: \$5.00 a year.
- (6) Address: KATERI, P.O. Box 70, Caughnawaga, Quebec, J0L 1B0.

THE KATERI QUARTERLY

THE NEW KATERI BAND

SINCE 1949, many devotees of the Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha have joined the association that is named after her. Without their constant, faithful, loving assistance, it would have been impossible for me to carry on. I shall never be able to offer the Eucharistic Celebration without commending them to the loving Heart of Jesus, whether they are still with us or have gone on ahead.

Some of these friends have now and then asked me what they could do to hasten Kateri's beatification. Not unexpectedly most of these ardent followers never forget their morning offering to the Sacred Heart of Jesus through the Immaculate Heart of Mary. They feel they want to do a little more than is now demanded of the members of the Kateri Tekakwitha Guild, without any extra personal advantage. They understand that devotion to Kateri in preparation for the tercentenary of her holy death on April 17, 1679, must be stressed. For some time, I have been casting about for a solution to their problem. Here it is:

THE NEW KATERI BAND

The members of the **New Kateri Band** will:

MANDATORY PRACTICES

1. pray daily for Kateri's beatification;
2. receive Holy Communion at least once a month for this intention;
3. speak about Kateri to relatives, friends, and acquaintances as often as possible;
4. contribute \$25.00 to the Kateri Center to help with the rising expenses (\$40.00) for husband and wife or two members of the same family).

OPTIONAL PRACTICES

1. Obtain a new Prayer Pledge each week for Kateri's beatification;
2. Get a new subscriber to **Kateri** once a month or more often;
3. Study attentively Kateri's life, her spirituality.

BENEFITS

The benefits are the same as those of the Kateri Tekakwitha Guild members; for whom:

1. A weekly Mass is offered;
2. The Vice-Postulator prays at daily Mass;
3. Thousands of Masses are offered annually as benefactors of the Society of Jesus;
4. Extra graces are merited by working for Kateri's beatification.

As a token of the Vice-Postulator's appreciation, he will send to each member a copy of Fr. Francis X. Weiser's captivating biography of *Kateri Tekakwitha*; also, a copy of his own book on Kateri's friends and acquaintances, *The Original Caughnawaga Indians*.

✿ **Kateri's smile upon you, Mrs. A.G.!**

I am sending you ten dollars, five of which I had promised to Kateri. I had asked her to bring back my niece to her family, and she came home. I'm confident that her protectress will find her a good position. Father, may I count on the help of your prayers for my Sister, whose husband is very ill? ...
(St. Hubert, Que.)

✿ **Kateri's smile upon you, Mrs. H.R.!**

You will find enclosed twenty-five dollars for Kateri's Cause in thanksgiving to this good little Indian for protecting us and for the many graces she obtains for us, among others the safekeeping of one of my daughters who had a very difficult lying in: thanks to Kateri's help, the mother and baby lived—it was like a miracle! I'm also grateful to her for an improvement in health of our young Louis, whom she will certainly help with his studies. And I'll keep on counting on her.
(Nashua, HN)

✿ **Kateri's smile upon you, Mrs. B.G.!**

Here is an offering of ten dollars for favors obtained through Kateri: a position for my son, and lodging also. I'm still praying daily to Kateri, with great trust ...
(Montreal, Que.)

(When acknowledging favors to Kateri, be sure to indicate details.)

✿ **Kateri's smile upon you, Mrs. R.M.!**

I now want to thank Kateri for having cured my husband. Our trust in her has increased and I am sending you ten dollars in thanksgiving and, also, for another request. My husband is now able to work; he wants a job desperately. We will fervently pray that a job fit for him may turn up as soon as possible, as he knocks at many doors. We are counting, dear Father, on the help of your prayers.

(Montreal, Que.)

✿ **Kateri's smile upon you, Mrs. C.B.!**

I had promised ten dollars to Kateri; here it is. I had lost a diamond, a gift from my husband, and I found it thanks to the intercession of this little Indian girl to whom I had turned for help. With all my heart, thank you!

(Ville Mercier, Que.)

✿ **Kateri's smile upon you, Miss R.M.!**

The enclosed check of twenty-five dollars is to renew my subscription to **Kateri** for one year to spring 1979 inclusively. The balance is to be used as you see fit. I am also renewing my pledge to pray one "Our Father" daily until August 1, 1979, for Kateri's beatification. During the past school year, I prayed to Venerable Kateri to help a friend of mine understand a very difficult mathematics course which had to be completed successfully before this friend could obtain her degree. After much hard work the course was passed with success and the A.B. Degree attained. To show you that this course was indeed a challenge, I tell you that some students in the course were following it for the fourth time and always without being able to pass the final examination. These are all adult students. I am certain Kateri helped my friend and I am grateful.

(Montreal, Que.)

(When acknowledging favors to Kateri, be sure to indicate details.)

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Pontiac — Buick — Cadillac — G.M.C. Trucks

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SEND IN YOUR INTENTIONS NOW

<i>Spiritual</i>		<i>Temporal</i>	
Love of God	()	Position	()
Conversion	()	Health	()
Peace of Soul	()	Lodging	()
Resignation in Trials	()	Financial Aid	()
Vocations	()	Happy Marriage	()
Faithful Departed	()	Happy Delivery	()
Happy Death	()	Good Friends	()
Obedience to the Holy		Success in Studies	()
Father	()	Peace in World	()
Other Requests			

YOUR INTENTIONS SHALL BE FORWARDED
TO FATHER ANTHONY ROUSSOS, S.J., ON MARCH 1.
HE WILL SOLEMNLY CELEBRATE NINE MASSES FOR
YOU IN THE BEAUTIFUL BYZANTINE LITURGY IN
THE HOLY LAND.
(No offering required.)

The Kateri Sympathy Cards!

5 GOOD REASONS for having a box on hand all the time.

On the occasion of the death of a relative or friend all you have to do is to sign a card and send it to the bereaved family. We confirm your sympathy offering with a personal letter, and enroll the departed one in the Kateri Guild, for whom,

1. A Weekly High Mass is offered at the Mission of St. Francis Xavier;

2. An Intention is included daily in the Memento of the Vice-Postulator's Mass;

3. The Treasury of the many Masses read each month for the benefactors of the Society of Jesus is opened;

4. A Share in the good works of the Jesuits throughout the world is assured;

5. Participation in the merits gained in helping the Cause of the Mohawks is guaranteed.

Write to the Kateri Center, Box 70, Caughnawaga, P.Q., Canada, for a free sample card.

One dozen cards boxed: two dollars. Each yearly enrollment in the Kateri Tekakwitha Guild: one dollar.

✿ **Kateri's smile upon you, Mr. J.P.!**

Enclosed is a check for five dollars to renew my subscription and to thank Kateri for having found me the position I wanted, which I had entrusted to her care.

(St. Vincent de Paul, Que.)

✿ **Kateri's smile upon you, Mrs. J.T.B.!**

I could hardly wait to get home to write to you. We have been visiting our daughter, Sr. Kathleen Boland, S.S.N.D., who is principal of Our Lady of the Rosary School in Greenville, South Carolina, which is considered Mission territory. She was frantic, couldn't sleep, etc., because she had to open the school year with no teacher for seventh grade mathematics and science. When I called, I said, "I'll send the prayer to Kateri right away—get on it!" She did and hired a very good teacher, who had just come home from Maine, **on the ninth day of the novena**. Then she started one for a favorite cousin, who had been near death for months. She asked for a miracle to make him better, or if that were impossible, not to let him suffer. God took him **on the ninth day of the novena**. Kateri's statue is here in Baltimore at the Motherhouse of her Order, because it was through her that they received the money to build it. Of course, I only had the statue for a couple of weeks, so I took it down to South Carolina and it is now in the chapel...

(Baltimore, MD)

(When acknowledging favors to Kateri, be sure to indicate details.)

PRAYER

for the beatification of
Kateri Tekakwitha

O GOD, who, among the manifold 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 Little Lover of Jesus and of His Cross may soon be raised to the honors of the altar by 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.

Our Father and Hail Mary, once, and Glory be to the Father, three times.

Rev. Vice-Postulator
Box 70, Caughnawaga, P.Q.
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FROM: NAME
ADDRESS

As I am sending the names of FIVE new subscribers to the Kateri Center, I now inscribe, free of charge, the name of a deceased person dear to me on the Catherine Ganneaktena Roll.

- Mr. ☐ Mrs. ☐ Miss ☐.....
- When the Roll is complete with the names of 200 deceased, 100 Masses shall be offered for the repose of their souls.
 - If no name is submitted for the Roll, "A Suffering Soul of Purgatory" shall be inscribed instead.