NO. 127

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COMPLIMENTS

of the

Caughnawaga

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CLUB

# KATERI

NO. 127

THE SUSAN TEGANANOKOA ROLL

**KATERIGRAM** 

**EACH NEW MOON** 

A HISTORICAL DOCUMENT: MONTREAL-ALBANY

THREE BEAUTIFUL QUALITIES

AN IROQUOIS SISTER'S HOMAGE

"SPREAD DEVOTION TO KATERI!"

THE CROSS HAS MANY STORIES

PILGRIMAGES TO THE KATERI SHRINE

CORRESPONDENCE

# LILY OF THE MOHAWKS

**Spring** • 1981

Caughnawaga, P.Q., Canada



Kateri Tekakwitha

ISSN 0315-8020

EKS

DELIVERY

Kateriana obtainable from the Office of the Vice-Postulation (The Kateri Center) Box 70, Caughnawaga, P.Q., Canada JOL 1B0

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One dollar a year. Please renew your subscription yearly.



KATERI, No. 127

Vol. 33. No. 2

#### 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 Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha. It is hoped her Canonization 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 Canonization.
- 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.

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

#### **MARCH 1981**

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#### THE CATHERINE OÜANAHOU ROLL

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The Susan Tegananokoa Roll

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(To be continued)

\* Kateri's smile upon you, Miss M.H.!

Enclosed please find ten dollars as promised in thanksgiving for Venerable Kateri's help in many favors received. Courage to carry on after my mother's death last year. Renovation to an annex in my home at this time when labor, materials, and finance were three difficult problems to cope with. But it is almost completed and my nephew who will be living there has offered to do the painting job. Thanks to Kateri's help. I shall always need her intercession with Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. Could you send me one of her medals? I shall appreciate it very much. (San Juan, Trinidad, W.I.)

Kateri's smile upon you, S.B.!

...I was delighted when the local cloister of nuns asked me to organize a group of lay people to make a novena to Kateri for a neighborhood woman who has serious mental health problems. They did not know that I have a special devotion to Kateri, so I felt God's Hand was especially at work in promoting devotion to Kateri. I think I managed to get about twenty lay people to make the novena and the Sisters joined us in the effort. The mentally ill woman showed the immediate improvement of not shouting prayers and songs in Church, which greatly disturbed anyone else trying to pray. She still has plenty of problems, but we will continue to ask Kateri to obtain a cure for her... (Detroit, MI)

Kateri's smile upon you, Mr. and Mrs. N.S.!

... Enclosed find three dollars for favors received through Kateri. This is a small amount considering all the favors we have received through her intercession. 1. My husband and I moved into a lovely apartment that is subsidized. This has made life a lot easier for us. 2. The second favor was an excellent job for my youngest son. 3. The last was the greatest of all. My oldest son went back to church, and had his three children baptized. This is something we have prayed for and finally our prayers were answered. .. (Tilton, N.H.)

Kateri's smile upon you, Mrs. V.D.!

I am sending fifty dollars for a favor received. I was praying for my husband to get a better job. One he really had worked hard to get. We were happy to get the news a few months later that they had chosen him for the job. Thank you Kateri! We pray to you always.

(Tignish, P.E.I.)

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

Oyez!

Jhousands upon thousands

of Our Jather's and Hail Mary's

are needed to obtain

from the loving Heart of Jesus

the speedy canonization of

Blessed Kateri Jekakwitha

Already 480 signatures have come in!

Please send yours to: The Kateri Center Box 70 Caughnawaga, P.Q., Canada JOL 1B0

MY PLEDGE TO KATERI Da	te
------------------------	----

I, the undersigned, pledge to offer up each day one Our Father and/or one Hail Mary until the miracles needed for Blessed Kateri's canonization are obtained.

Name		
Street or Box	THE RESERVE OF THE PERSON OF T	SU JOH SILION ICAN
City or Town	Distance Training Wheel Co.	
Province or State	Code	A Care of A
Country	Telephone	

#### **KATERIGRAM**

A PRIL 17 will be the 301st anniversary of the death of Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha. As I quietly reread the story of her last year on earth, the thought came to me that she had realized the Paschal Mystery in her own way. This is the mystery that the Lord Jesus wants us to reproduce in our lives.

Willy-nilly, suffering and death are clearly a part of our human existence. Obviously one must not search for trouble, be it physical or moral, but accept it when it knocks at one's door. At the sight of the distress of his fellow men, Claudel wrote, "So much suffering in vain!" Kateri never wasted hers.

From her childhood, she was quite frail and from the autumn of 1679 to April 1680, a lengthly illness left her with a slow fever and stomach trouble accompanied by vomiting, caused, it would seem, by her vigils, her fasting, her austerities, which were too often excessive.

During the annual hunt of 1680, Kateri remained alone at the village in nearly complete solitude with a bowl of sagamité and a little water next to her. She turned to account this absence of all human consolation by attaching herself all the more to God. Nothing morbid, not the least bit of self-seeking was to be found in this suffering accepted in union with her beloved Jesus during the Passion.

Without flinching, Kateri endured the pangs of death. Immediately afterward, she astonished her people. Her face, pitted by small pox, suddenly changed, it had become radiant. Her friends cried out, "The glory of God is upon her!"

As Jesus after the Resurrection, Kateri appeared to many, among them her old friend Anastasia Tegonhatsiongo, with a luminous cross in her hands. "Mother," she said, "look at it! During my life, it was the source of all my happiness, and I counsel you to make it yours!"

At the thought of the eternal bliss Kateri is enjoying, who would not like to share in it with her? I pray Blessed Kateri to obtain for the friends of her Cause a foretaste of this celestial happiness. This is what I mean, as I wish them, "Happy Easter!"

HENRI BECHARD, S.J. Vice-Postulator

Enclosed is a check for twenty-five dollars for favors received through Kateri. First of all my sister-in-law had lost a check of \$2,000. and after praying to Kateri she found it. Second my girl friend was to be admitted to the hospital for a suspected brain tumor, her suitcase was packed and after making the novena to Kateri, it was just like a miracle, the pressure went down and she was cured. The doctor still can't give any explanation, but I know it was because of Kateri. Two weeks ago I was asked to make a novena for a fifteen-year-old boy who was injured in an automobile accident and the doctors said there was little hope that he would be able to walk again. Again I prayed to Kateri and last night I found out that the boy is going to be all right... (Staten Island NY)

#### Kateri's smile upon you, Sr. J.!

Enclosed is five dollars to help the cause of canonization of Venerable Kateri. I have been praying "through her intercession" for the success of an operation. At first the patient did not re-act but when taken home she did. She is now recovering favorably. (Saskatoon, Sask.)

#### Kateri's smile upon you, Mrs. G.S.!

The enclosed five dollars is to thank Kateri for protecting my daughter and for her safe return home. I pray every night for the beatification and canonization of Kateri... (Cairo, Egypt)

#### Kateri's smile upon you, Mrs. P.S.!

I am sorry it has been so long since I have written or contributed! Please accept this gift to help forward Kateri's cause. We continue to pray for the day of her glorification, for she has been our good intercessor for many years.

I have, in the past, told you of the various mission lands to which I have sent literature concerning Kateri. A new land can be added to the list. I have sent some Kateri holy cards to the Legion of Mary in Trinidad. They like to distribute holy cards during their evangelization visits to remote areas, and this includes visits to Tobago, Barbados, St. Lucia, and Guyana. Since they work frequently among Amerinds, I hope that Kateri will find new friends in these countries! Please pray for me.

(Carson, CA)

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



Louis Jobin sculpsit.

MUSÉE DU QUÉBEC

#### Christ Gloriously Resurrected!

"Et procedent qui bona fecerunt in resurrectionem vitae" (John, 5, 29).
"At the sound of his voice, those who did good will rise again to life..."

#### Kateri's smile upon you, Mr. and Mrs. S.P.!

"What Great News" I heard on the T.V. about Kateri being called "Blessed" by Pope John Paul in June. I was really delighted to hear it. You must really be pleased and

very grateful...

I'm enclosing a Money Order for thirty dollars for you to use as you wish. She has helped us this winter with a big building project and hopefully she will help us until the completion of it. We still need her intercession, as all is still not approved by Local Health Authorities. They can be very hard to please, but with Kateri's help we will make it. I will then immediately send a second donation in thanksgiving. Also, please pray that my left foot will heal properly. I'm not sure what is wrong with it, but I'm unable to walk on it. The doctors are unable to find out the problem, too; but with Kateri's intercession, I may recover completely. I've been praying to her; hopefullly she will answer my prayers.

Oh yes, I must tell you that when Pope John Paul visited the U.S. in October and said the Mass in Philadelphia at Logan Circle, my husband and I were two of the one hundred and fifty priviledged people to receive Holy Communion from his hands. We had taken up to the Altar all who we have ever known or thought of, and offered them in our prayers. You were among them. We

certainly had a great Blessing that day...

(Ottsville, PA)

Kateri's smile upon you, Mrs. S.B.!

Enclosed find a check for five dollars for favor received, and thanks. I had fallen down and thought I had a broken kneecap. I prayed to Kateri and said a rosary for her, and I am now off the cane and walking fairly well. Fervent prayers are always answered. (Raymond, NH)

Kateri's smile upon you, Mrs. L.M.!

I am enclosing a one-dollar pittance and hope it will be a little help. This is in thanksgiving for two successful cataract operations. I hope the further result will be a clearer vision if it is the Holy Will of God to grant it. I also am suffering from pain in my knee and leg, so again I ask if it be the Holy Will of God to cure them and give me strength in these areas. I sincerely thank you for all past favors. I know Kateri will be canonized.

(Alexandria, Ont.)

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

### EACH NEW MOON



#### AN EASTER PRAYER

OD OUR FATHER,
by rising Christ your Son
you conquered the power of
death and opened to us the way
of eternal life.
Let our celebration today

Let our celebration today raise us up and renew our lives by the Spirit that is within us.

#### IN THIS ISSUE

As a cause of beatification, according to the Bollandists, belongs to the country where the future saint died, many were surprised at the important role played by the American Bishops during the beatification ceremonies in Rome last June 22. A letter written in 1931 to the Most Reverend Edmund F. Gibbons, Bishop of Albany, N.Y., by Coadjutor Archbishop Georges Gauthier, Administrator of the Diocese of Montreal, explains for the first time how the American Episcopate was empowered to work at introducing the Mohawk Maiden's Cause of canonization before the Roman Tribunal of the Congregation of Rites. It also reveals why Bishop Howard J. Hubbard of Albany, N.Y., read the official petition to the Holy Father during the Mass of beatification, requesting him to elevate the Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha to the honor of the altars.

The last two issues of Kateri told the story of the celebrations held in honor of the new Blessed at Rome, at Caughnawaga, P.Q., on June 29, and then at St. Regis. and at the Village-des-Hurons near Quebec City. At the same time, Kateri's devoted friends in the United States did not hesitate to manifest their love for Blessed Kateri and their gratitude to God for having her declared "Blessed." In this issue of Kateri, in preference to others, the celebration organized by Vice-Postulator Joseph McBride, S.J., on October 18 at the Shrine of Our Lady of Martyrs, in Auriesville, N.Y., is being highlighted. On this hallowed ground, Blessed Kateri was born in 1656, the very spot where, a dozen years before, Sts. Isaac Jogues, René Goupil, and Jean de la Lande died for the faith. Bishop Hubbard graciously allowed us to publish his beautiful homily, which, with a few adaptations, he later on repeated In Washington, D.C., at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. Our heartfelt thanks to His Excellency as well as to Blessed Kateri's devoted friends, Sr. Kateri Mitchell, S.S.A., Mr. Joseph O'Brien, and Mr. Thomas Constantino, whose addresses on the same occasion appear in this

#### OTHER CELEBRATIONS



On October 5 at St. Patrick's Church in Montreal, were installed the new officers of the Fourth Degree K n i g h t s of Columbus, members of the D'Arcy McGee A s s e m b l y. Many Iroquois

Knights with their wives attended the ceremony. Auxiliary Bishop Leonard Crowley of Montreal presided over the Eucharistic Celebration and blessed a statue of Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha donated to the church by the Knights. At the end of the service, a relic of Blessed Kateri was venerated by the Knights and their guests. St. Patrick's of Montreal is the first church of the metropolis to have a statue of Blessed Kateri.

On the evening of December 5. at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Ft. Covington, N.Y., close by the St. Regis Reserve, a reception was tendered to Iroquois Fr. Michael Karhaienton Jacobs. S.J. For reasons of health, he had not been able to go to Rome for Kateri's beatification. At the same time, Bro. Eustache Savard. S.J., was honored. For more than thirty-two years he has dedicated his life to the Indians of Akwesasne and won their affection. The Rt. Rev. Bernard Carrier. S.J., the new Jesuit Provincial for French Canada, was the main celebrant at the Eucharistic Con-

celebration. Immediately afterwards a veritable banquet was served by the Indian women who had prepared it. Speeches and gifts for Fr. Jacobs and Bro. Savard followed. A gift to the latter, which I found thoughtful and touching, was a vacation ticket to the Saguenay, his birthplace. Fr. Thomas Egan. S.J., Director of Our Lady of Martyrs' Shrine, Auriesville, N.Y., who had given a masterly homily, now congratulated his two confrères along with Mrs. Alma Ransom from St. Regis, who had emceed with finesse and humor.



At the Villagedes-Hurons, on December 12, feast of Our Lady of Loreto.

once again thanks were given for the beatification of Kateri Tekakwitha, of her bishop, François de Laval, and of Mother Mary of the Incarnation. It was also the final day of the 250th anniversary of the little Huron church. Archbishop Jean-Marie Fortier of Sherbrooke, P.Q., offered the Holy Sacrifice in the company of other prelates and priests. With good reason, the Hurons love the Lily of the Mohawks. Are they not Amerinds as she was? And among the three braves who went down to help her escape from her village on the Mohawk river. wasn't one of them a Huron? And finally, were not the Huron Christian captives of the Iroquois, the frist ones in her native land to edify Kateri before continuing to do so at Kahnawaké on the St. Lawrence?

issue of Kateri.

In the December 1980 issue of **Kateri**, no. 126, the photo on p. 17 is credited to PHOTO FELICI, ROMA. It should have been credited to ARTURO MARI, who graciously authorized its publication in **Kateri**.

On p. 14 of the September 1980 issue of **Kateri**, no. 125, one may read the following statement: "There were also about twenty Hurons from Lorette, P.Q., whose trip was paid for by the Government of the Province of Quebec." Our information was faulty, the Huron pilgrims paid their own way to the Eternal City. We regret this error and hope that our friends from Lorette will forgive our unintentional error.

#### THE KATERI STAMP

For the last three years, **Kateri** has often urged its readers to write to the Postmaster General of Canada for a stamp to honor the tercentenary of the Lily of the Mohawks' death on April 17,

1980. Former Postmaster General, John Fraser, refused to accede to the requests of the Lily of the Mohawks' many friends; the Honourable André Ouellet, present Postmaster General, heeded the many petitions for a Kateri stamp, even before the beatification was announced. It will be officially launched on April 26, at the Mission of St. Francis Xavier, Caughnawaga. Our sincere thanks to all our friends who have made known to Ottawa their stand on this matter.

#### A NOVENA OF MASSES

A novena of Masses in honor of Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha, beginning on April 7 and ending on April 15, Wednesday of Holy Week, will be offered by Father Béchard, The Vice-Postulator, because April 17, the 301st anniversary of Blessed Kateri's holy death and her feast, falls on Good Friday this year. Don't hesitate to send in your intentions: the sooner the better.

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

I wish to acknowledge how Kateri has been helping me and one of my sons. He quit drinking and has a job...

I am happy to say our deacon is using Kateri in his talks and as an example of her simple Christian life. I love her more and more and have very much confidence in her, helping us, to hold onto Christianity, in spite of different cults. We need her very much for our own people.

(Wikwemikong, Ont.)

\*\* Kateri's smile upon you, Miss L.G.!

Please find enclosed a Money Order for ten dollars. I prayed to Kateri to find a job for my son. She did! I pray now that it will be a permanent job. I thank you very much.

(South Porcupine, Ont.)

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

Archbishop's Palace Montreal January 12, 1931

## A HISTORICAL DOCUMENT

My Lord Bishop,

I am in receipt of your communication of the 9th inst., in which you request my permission to open the cause of Beatification of Kateri Tekakwitha, the Indian maid, born in Auriesville, and whose heroic life and saintly death illustrated the land of America at the time of its colonization.

The See of Montreal, in the neighbourhood of which Kateri spent the remaining years of her life and died, possesses the greater portion of her remains and treasures them very religiously. I am overjoyed to hear that the Society of Jesus has sponsored the cause of Beatification and I herewith grant Your Lordship every permission necessary to bring her case before the Roman Tribunal.

The Catholics of Canada will unite in prayer with their brethren of the United States so that the noble efforts of Your Lordship be crowned with success, and, if such is God's will in the near future, the name of Kateri will be added to those of the Holy Canadian Martyrs in the annals of the Saints proclaimed and venerated by the Church.

With kindest regards and sincere good wishes,

I remain,
Yours fraternally in Christ,
(signed)) † Georges, Coad. Arch. of Montreal.

The Most Reverend Edmund Gibbons, D.D. Bishop of Albany 225 Madison Ave., Albany, N.Y.



Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha at Auriesville.

Blessed Kateri honored at Auriesville, N.Y. on October 18, 1980

# THREE GREAT QUALITIES

In his homily of great depth and beauty, the Most Reverend Howard J. Hubbard, Bishop of Albany, N.Y.,¹ extolled the three outstanding qualities of Blessed Kateri's life. He repeated it with a few adaptations on November 12 at the annual reunion of the Catholic Bishops of the United States in Washington, D.C. This is the revised version.



Bishop Hubbard

It is wtih great joy that we gather here in this National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception to commemorate the beatification of Kateri Tekakwitha, the first native American to be declared Blessed by the Church on June 22 of this year and to dedicate in her honor the beautifully carved relief in the nave of this magnificent basilica.

It is fitting, I think, that this dedication takes place in the context of the annual meeting of the American Catholic Bishops because it was the bishops of the United States, assembled at the Third Council in Baltimore in 1884, who first petitioned the Holy See to consider Kateri's cause.

More recently, in 1976, as part of the Church's observance of our bicentennial as a nation, it was our Conference of Catholic Bishops which again urged the Holy See to advance Kateri's cause. Two years later, that same petition was included in the **ad limina** reports of most of our nation's bishops.

We, bishops of the United States, can take pride in the role we and our predecessors have played in working with the Jesuit community, the Indian people, the Canadian hierarchy and the thousands of devoted followers of Kateri over the years, to obtain this well-deserved recognition.

 Concelebrating with Bishop Hubbard were Bishop Frank Harrison of Syracuse, N.Y., Bishop William Connare of Greensburg, Pa., and Bishop Joseph Pernicone, retired Auxiliary of New York. At first flush, one might wonder what, if anything, the life of this quixotic Indian maiden, who lived in an historical and cultural context so radically different from our own, might have to say to our contemporary Church and society.

Yet despite the pristine simplicity of the civilization she experienced and the rather drab ordinariness of her life, there are, I believe, some lessons to be drawn from her pilgrim journey of faith.

#### Kateri's life story

Her life story can be captured quite succinctly.

Tekakwitha was born in 1656 of an Algonquin-Christian mother and a Mohawk warrior at Ossernenon (now known as Auriesville, in upstate New York). Tekakwitha was left orphaned at the age of four, when her mother, father and baby brother were fatally stricken by a smallpox epidemic which ravaged the tribe in 1659 and 1660. Tekakwitha was also stricken with the dread disease and was left with facial pock-marks and weakened eyesight, physical infirmities which were to plague her for life.

She was adopted by her uncle, chief of the neighboring village of Caughnawaga, where she was taken and raised in accordance with ancestral beliefs.

Although Tekakwitha was not baptized as an infant, she had fond memories of her good and prayerful mother and of the stories of Christian faith that her mother shared with her in childhood. These remained indelibly impressed upon her mind and heart and were to give shape and direction to her life's destiny.

At the age of eight, in keeping with tribal custom, Tekakwitha was paired by her foster parents with a boy of the same age with a view to eventual marriage. Tekakwitha, however, made it clear that she did not want to marry, but desired to give her life to the great Manitou (that is, the true God), to whom she prayed frequently in the quiet of the wooded area near her village. Such unusual, indeed almost incomprehensible behavior under the circumstances, can only be explained by the powerful influence of her mother's memory and by the impulse of God's call in her life.

Tekakwitha had only a cursory contact with Christianity during her childhood and adolescence when the Jesuit missionaries would stop by her village enroute to other destinations.

In 1674, however, when Tekakwitha was 18, Father James de Lamberville, S.J. established a permanent mission in the village and inaugurated a catechumenate program. Despite intense pressures from her foster parents and other villagers, Tekakwitha zealously pursued initiation to the Christian life, and on Easter Sunday, 1676, she was baptized and given the name Kateri, the Iroquois word for the Christian name, Catharine.

This event of joining the religion of the white man only intensified the ridicule, calumny, and hostility to which she was subjected by family and community alike, to the extent that her life was threatened so that in 1677, upon the advice of Father de Lamberville, and with the assistance of three Christian catechumens, she escaped from her homeland and migrated north to Caughnawaga, Canada, a Christian settlement where she was able to practice her religion in more tranquil surroundings.

Her virute flourished in her new surroundings under the direction of the Jesuit fathers. On Christmas Day 1677, only twenty months after her baptism, Kateri was privileged to receive the Eucharist for the first time. According to sacramental practice of the seventeenth century this was an unusual privilege to receive the two sacraments within such a short interval of time.

Kateri lived just three years after this, spending most of her time caring for the sick and the elderly in the village. In 1679, with the permission of her spiritual director, she made a vow of perpetual virginity; according to her biographers she was the first woman of the Iroquois Nation to bind herself to such a commitment. However, the poor health which plagued her throughout life consumed her with violent pain and effected her death in 1680 at the tender age of 24.

In many ways she led a very ordinary life. For example, she did not found a religious community nor new apostolate; she did not launch any great spiritual movement; she did not even exert much influence on those closest to her, her foster parents and fellow villagers, but her life was extraordinary, I believe, because of three beautiful qualities she embodied in a very heroic way.

#### The mystery of the Cross understood and accepted

First, Kateri was a woman who understood well and accepted with patient resignation the mystery of the Cross, that mystery which proclaims that our faith is founded on a paradox:

the paradox of death leading to life; the paradox of suffering leading to glory; the paradox of defeat and failure leading to victory.

God knows Kateri experienced the Cross: an orphaned childhood; a lifetime of ill health; the ridicule, scorn and rejection of her foster parents and fellow villagers; the pain and risk of leaving her homeland and launching forth into the unknown and the unpredictable; the anguish of her final excruciating illness which took her life when the first fruits of her new-found faith were just beginning to blossom. However, she accepted these trials and sufferings patiently and bore them with love. Kateri did not allow these crosses to discourage or defeat her but she saw in them an opportunity for growth and an inspiration to work quietly and selflessly to alleviate pain and suffering in the lives of others.

In this day and age, when the pleasure-principle so dominates our society, and when people expend all kinds of time, effort and energy to remove the Cross from Christianity and to escape the sometimes harsh realities and responsibilities of mature Christian living, Kateri Tekakwitha stands as an heroic example of how to integrate the mystery of the Cross with the mystery of the Resurrection in a way that gives honor and glory to God and that ensures loving service to His People.

We need to accept the reality of the Cross in our daily lives. Not that we have to become morbid or masochistic; not that we have to indulae in suffering for suffering's sake; not even that we have to embrace voluntary sacrifice and penance, although these can be very beneficial and yet perhaps too readily dismissed in our post-conciliar Church as spiritually passé! But we must recognize that the Cross is inevitable in our Christian lives: be it the physical pain of illness and infirmity; be it the psychic pain of misunderstanding, hurt, loneliness, fear, or rejection; be it the minor irritants of daily living, like unsympathetic friends and co-workers, feuding children and annoving neighbors, or the administrative red tape with which we all get bogged down; be it more major problems: job loss, the death of a loved one, a terminal illness, doubts about one's faith or vocation, or ministerial burnout. These are the crosses we must bear with the same spirit of patience and trust as Jesus bore His Cross and Kateri wore her Cross; we must believe, even though we cannot understand how or why, that these crosses will help us grow as persons, redound to the benefit of others and contribute to God's loving plan of salvation for humankind.

Second, Kateri was a woman of magnificent fortitude, dogged determination and unswerving conviction. A lesser person might well have yielded to the pressure to conform to the pervading culture: to go along with the marriage plans arranged by her foster parents; to squelch that thirst for the God of the Christians that the Holy Spirit had so copiously stirred up in her heart; to abandon her pursuit to a more intimate union with God in the interest of domestic peace and tranquility. But Kateri was not to be dissuaded; she was not to become the victim of human respect; she was not to sacrifice principle or conviction for expediency. Remember, she did all of this with virtually no human support or encouragement.

What a marvelous example and inspiration for all of us. We live in a culture that runs so counter to many of our deeply held traditions and convictions. For example, any contemporary sociological survey reveals that the attitudes of American Roman Catholics about such critical moral issues as abortion, divorce, sexual ethics, nuclear armament, the death penalty, welfare, consumerism and poverty, are not significantly different from those who have no formal religious belief whatsoever, or from those who belong to religious traditions who may have positions on these matters somewhat divergent from our own.

In the face of such harsh realities we are frequently put on the defensive, that is, made to feel old-fashioned or irrelevant, out of step with the times, adhering to a teaching or moral view that no longer speaks to contemporary man and woman.

If this be true for all of us in general, how much more so is it verified in the lives of our young people today. Our teenagers and young adults are bombarded constantly with pressures to conform with the latest fad, fashion or movement: drugs, alcohol, the newest philosophy, art form, cult experience. They are told in so many ways, both subtly and not so subtly, "You've got to go along to get along; you've got to compromise and give in a bit if you are to gain acceptance, popularity and credibility." They are encouraged incessantly to substitute money for concern, style for substance, things for self, and sex for love. The rising rates of abortion, out-of-wedlock pregnancies, venereal disease, alcoholism, drug abuse, crime, juvenile delinquency and abandonment of religious practice among teenagers and young adults reveal how devastating these pressures can be.

The young, as well as we ourselves who are called to be their teachers and role models need to be strong and courageous. We need to be a counter witness to the prevailing culture and mindless wisdom of the age. Above all, we need to believe deep in our hearts that Christian values and ideals are truly possible and attainable in the midst of the nitty-gritty push and pull of contemporary twentieth century living. What better example, model and inspiration could we have than Kateri Tekakwitha who almost singlehandedly defied the social conventions of her day and made a radical conscience decision to follow that God who revealed Himself to her in the most difficult and unlikely circumstances?

#### Her prayer life

Third and finally, Kateri was a woman of great prayer, a woman who had a deep and abiding awareness of the Lord's love for her and an ongoing personal relationship with Him. How else but through her life of prayer can we explain her extraordinary faith response?

Just as prayer was a key to Kateri's life, it must also be the foundation of our lives today however busy, hectic and frenzied they may be.

I mention this and underscore it because we contend to be very activist these days; we contend to become so involved with the here and now, or so caught up with doing for ourselves or others, that we frequently excuse ourselves from prayer or make prayer a second or third priority in our lives.

Yet what a tragic mistake this is, for if there is no prayer in our life, there is no God in our life. If we do not take the opportunity to pray regularly, no matter what the pretense or excuse, no matter how deeply preoccupied we may be, then for all practical purposes we are atheists. In other words, if we do not pray, we do not know who the Lord is nor in which direction He is calling us in our everyday lives. Furthermore, without prayer in our life, we are unable to transcend the many frustrating, unpleasant and at times totally incomprehensible aspects of our human existence, we are unable to bring to those with whom we live and work and to those whom we are called to serve the love of the Lord whom we have met and known in our own moments of prayer and reflection.

The nature and style of our prayer, I believe, is relatively unimportant: be it reflecting on the Scriptures or quiet conversation, be it traditional or charismatic, be it formulated or free-floating. What is absolutely essential, however, is that we

pray and pray frequently, for wtihout prayer our lives will be spiritually empty and our ministry to others will be bankrupt. Karl Rhaner, the renowned Jesuit theologian, stated recently that in a world that offers little institutional support for organized religion, the only Christians in the future will be those who have had an experience of God. As Kateri's life so well demonstrates, prayer, however one defines it, is the only way to gain that experience and lead others to Him.

May we, then, who honor Kateri this evening, be truly enriched, uplifted and renewed by the example of this humble Indian maiden, the Lily of the Mohawks. May this celebration of her beatification also make us vividly conscious of the needs of our Indian brothers and sisters, Kateri's physical and spiritual descendants, who have been so exploited by personal and national greed, paternalism, racism and broken promises. There is no better way in which we can honor Kateri's memory than by supporting the priests, religious and laity working in Indian communities, especially through assistance to the American Indian Bureau and by recommitting ourselves to alleviate the injustices suffered by our Native Americans so that they can taste the fruits of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness which are our national heritage. Finally, may we pray that in the near future, Kateri's life of faith, love and service may be recognized and acclaimed by the entire Church in and through her canonization.

### KATERI AND HER PEOPLE

At the beginning of the Eucharistic Celebration on October 18 at Auriesville, N.Y., Sr. Kateri Mitchell, S.S.A., principal of the Indian School on Cornwall Island, Ont., explains what Blessed Kateri means to her people.



Sr. Kateri Mitchell,

In the person of Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha, God has given us Indians a very precious gift, a treasure. At this particular time her Beatification is the cause of our joy, our jubilation, and our celebration.

Out of the wilderness of the Mohawk Valley sprang a Lily that was to bring hope to an oppressed and wounded people. In God's plan, the blessing bestowed on Kateri is in actuality a sign of how God is blessing the Indian people today. It is a prophetic sign

from the Great Spirit, who is spiritually moving and renewing the North American Indian everywhere.

We see in Kateri one who lived an exemplary Christian life, a woman of strength and courage, who lived to perfection the life of a Christian Indian woman in her work and prayer, and by accepting suffering, unkindness and ill health.

Her profound spirituality, her deep-rooted faith and love, made her an apostle among her own people. Today, we recognize and admire her quest for personal fulfillment, the human dignity that was hers by having the courage to say "yes" to her Creator even though it meant standing alone at times, and even leaving her loved ones and country in order to live out her Christian commitment.

We are very fortunate and also very proud of Kateri Tekakwitha, who lived only a few years, she was truly a great lady, who is still today challenging us, her Indian people, to live out our Baptismal commitment and to witness unrelentlessly the joy of living a deep Christian life by our gift of Faith, an ever-growing love, and by continuing to strive for peace.

With the great impact that this young and holy Mohawk woman has already had on our lives by her example in her prayerfulness, her charity and kindness and her heroic courage

(Continued on p. 26)

# "SPREAD DEVOTION TO KATERI!"

Mr. Joseph T. O'Brien, Knight of Malta, from Cleveland, Ohio, speaks to the business world. A signal benefactor of the Kateri Center, he has furthermore paid over half the cost of the marble tomb in which Blessed Kateri's remains repose at the Mission Church in Caughnawaga, P.Q.



I was honored, as a business man, when Fr. McBride asked me to publicly express my experience for the past forty years, and also my reflections on the beatification of our Indian maiden.

But first, a few brief words on my background.

I graduated from John Carroll University in 1931, in the midst of the great depression. You could not beg, borrow or steal a job in

Mr. Joseph T. O'Brien those days. I was fortunate to land one in a gas station for \$27.50 a week. I was far from happy with the work, but it was the best available.

Having worked under adverse conditions for five years, I was really depressed, until one day, a friend of my devoted mother introduced me to the Indian maiden. The prayer for "the favor we beg through her intercession" appealed to me because it was brief and to the point. I began praying for her intercession for me!

What has happened to me in the following forty years has been every special grace short of a miracle.

I was promoted from a gas station operator to the manager of a large superstation. Then to a supervisor of twenty-eight stations. My next promotion was to sell the new car dealers their service items. In calling on dealers, one of them took a personal interest in me and offered me an opportunity to enter the business. The rest of my story is short of a miracle! Never having sold a car, in seven and a half years I became the dealer.

For ten out of the past twelve years, I have been the

president of the largest dealership in Cleveland, and also acquired another dealership in the suburbs.

What has happened to me after years of devotion and promotion to Kateri—call it a special favor granted—but I call it short of a miracle!

Our Indian maiden has at one time or another touched each and everyone of you. I owe all my success to the good Lord and Kateri! That is the reason we are here.

Let us all show our appreciation for her beatification as we storm heaven with our prayers of thanksgiving, imploring God to raise her to the sainthood of heaven.

I know, and I am positive, that whatever you ask will be answered, if not a miracle, a very special grace will come your way. I implore you—please don't stop now asking for her intercession, but keep spreading her devotion to your friends so the day of her sainthood will not be too far in the distant future.

Let's all pray that "this little 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!"

#### Kateri and her People, contd

and strength, we can truly rejoice and say that here on earth Kateri Tekakwitha, our Lily of the Mohawks, grew and blossomed and that Yahweh, our Lord, makes both goodness and praise spring up in the sight of all tribes and all nations.

A citizen of the Mohawk Valley praises Bl. Kateri

# THE CROSS HAS MANY STORIES

Mr. Thomas B. Constantiono, President of the Noteworthy Company of Amsterdam, N.Y., and a devoted friend of Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha, in the capacity of citizen of the Mohawk Valley, praises her, by recalling that there are many stories about the Cross and that one of them was hers.



Mr. Tom Constantino

The story of our Martyrs here at Auriesville and the story of Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha is the continuing story of the cross. There have been many stories about the cross, but here in the new world, in the Mohawk Valley, and at the dawn of America, the story of the cross was renewed in the story of the Martyrs and the story of Blessed Kateri.

When the early Christians died in the Coliseum of Rome, the watchword was "The Blood of the Martyrs is the Seed of the Church." The blood of the Martyrs in the old world was no different than the blood of the Martyrs in the new world. And it was here, on these hallowed grounds, where we are tonight, that it happened. It is most fitting that we too have this symbolic coliseum and it is also fitting that Auriesville is known as the land of crosses.

I was asked to address you tonight as a lay person from this valley. I am honored and privileged to talk on this auspicious occasion, as one of you, for Kateri was one of you—a lay person. In this regard, perhaps, she represents the majority. But Kateri was also an Indian, and in this sense she represents the minority.

To you, who are without parents or who are for any reason persecuted, remember that Kateri endured these same crosses. To those who are natives of this valley, Kateri was one of you. But, she also travelled to a distant land in search of freedom to love God, even as many of you have come here in search of a better life. I address the most esteemed Bishop, the good Fathers and Sisters in the religious life. Kateri too had made her own religious vows. And so, in every sense, Kateri represents all of us.

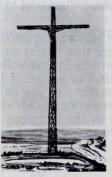
As we gather here tonight, we give thanks to Almighty God for the many blessings He saw fit to bestow on our Mohawk Valley. In His infinite wisdom, He gave us Kateri to open up a new era. And, as we look back over the years, we see like spokes in a wheel, the many spiritual and temporal blessings that were given to us. Here, in this breadbasket of America, was the turning point of the American Revolution. The great engineering feat known as the Erie Canal opened the West-it was the birthplace of higher education in America (Union College)—and our scientists developed such new marvels as the locomotive and the harnessing of electrical power. These things helped to make us the greatest nation in the world. Later, when America found itself in troubled times, it learned that it had to go back to the basics, and the age of ecology was born. Oh! what an inspiration it was to have Blessed Kateri, a child of nature, with her love of the land and all of God's creation to guide us! She was known even then as a "Lady of Quality to Put Things in Order."

And so in all things, we can look to Kateri as our own guiding star. She has watched over us and given impetus to religion, to technology development and to individual awareness of the environment.

If I may, I would like to conclude with "reaching for the stars." And, isn't it interesting to know that one of the sons of this valley, Dr. Rocco Petrone, directed America's successful effort to conquer space and put a man on the moon?

As we gather here, giving thanks to Almighty God and remembering all the wonderful events that have happened in this Mohawk Valley since the time of the Martyrs and Blessed Kateri, let us ever be mindful that there is no better way of showing gratitude than by dedicating ourselves to an attitude that will make us worthy of all God's blessings.

Thank you.



"The Cross has many stories. . ."

Kateri's smile upon you, Miss K.O.'D.!

Attached, please find my check as promised to Kateri. About a month ago my sister-in-law's mother was told she had lung cancer. The whole family prayed and I promised Kateri that if she would make her better I'd give a donation. Well, when I returned from my vacation I found out that she was completely cured. The doctors say it's a miracle for they can now find nothing wrong with her. I'd like you to pray for us to Kateri that her brother and father as well as my niece all recover from some strange sickness that has the doctors baffled. They had thought it was epilepsy, but have now ruled that out. Please pray that a complete cure is forthcoming. Also, please, pray that my brother obtain a secure position as he has been out of work since early October and has a family to support. Thank you for all your prayers over the years and thank you to Kateri for being there when we need her. Please pray that she doesn't desert us now. May Kateri smile upon you! (Chomedev. P.O.)

Kateri's smile upon you, Miss M.P.!

This is a five-dollar donation. I wish to renew my subscription to the magazine Kateri. The Lily of the Mohawks granted me a special favor. I lost something and I found it after praying to Kateri for her aid and to Our Lady of Czestochowa. (Cleveland, OH)

Kateri's smile upon you, Mr. and Mrs. R.F.!

In June I asked for your prayers for two brothers who were sick. Both are very much improved. Others will still have to be worked out. I know Kateri has interceded for myself and the rest of my family. Please continue to pray for us. I thank Kateri again. She is a Saint.

(St. Mary's PA)

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

Yes, Kateri did smile on me and my young relative. Her premature baby's recovery was, to put it in her words, "terrific" and Katie came home today having gained the required weight. Thank you for your prayers. I am petitioning that I can be fitted with proper glasses

at the end of April when the specialist is available. God bless you and all up there for your prayers as I do for your continued success in Kateri's Cause.

(Queens Village, NY)

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

Kateri's smile upon you, Miss V.P.!

Little Kateri has heard my prayers for I just received a telephone message (from my married sister) that my great-niece is to be baptized in the Catholic Faith this coming Sunday. The baby is now five months old and I am so very happy I could cry. I have been praying for this miracle since the baby was born. Please offer two Masses in thanksgiving for this miracle from Little Kateri. Remember me with a Hail Mary. (Baltimore, MD)

Kateri's smile upon you, Mrs. C.T.!

I am writing to you in thanksgiving to Kateri Tekakwitha for a favor received. I will send you a check later on when I hear from you, as I am not certain of the address or where to send this recognition of this great favor.

In June, my brother phoned me to say he would have to undergo an operation on his left eye. I promised Kateri, that if the operation was a success, I would make it known. Last night he phoned me, he has his contact lens and his vision is 20/20. Now you see, my brother is a diabetic fifty-six years old and in a wheelchair, he has been a very sick man for over fifteen years. He is not able to do physical work, but has devoted his time, painting, carving, making toys for children, etc. and his eyes are very important to him. I am so grateful and thankful to Kateri Tekakwitha for interceding for me in this great demand. I told Kateri that night that I would immediately let it be known if Paul's operation was successful. To me. it is a miracle, as he was able to come 600 miles to a family reunion on my Mother's 90th birthday, and he thoroughly enjoyed his trip. Please send me a prayer in French for my Mother, and one for me in English.

(Kelowna, B.C.)

Kateri's smile upon you, Miss C.P.!

Enclosed is twenty dollars for a favor received. My little niece had to have a blood test that sounded serious. So we prayed to Kateri that everything would be alright. When the test results came back, everything was fine. Also, my mother is praying for my brother who needs help. I hope Kateri will help him, too. I also would like to renew my subscription to **Kateri**. We will continue to pray daily to Kateri for favors and for her canonization. (Florence, KY)

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

Why read

#### THE ORIGINAL CAUGHNAWAGA INDIANS

by Vice-Postulator Henri Béchard, S.J.?

It's a first-rate introduction to the life and times of Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha.

\$10.00 plus \$1.50 for handling and mailing

# PILGRIMAGES TO THE KATERI SHRINE

Kateri's friends are reminded that the Kateri Shrine, where her remains now rest, is also the Mission of Saint-François-Xavier, on the Kahnawake (Caughnawaga) Indian Reserve. This Mission is a regular parish with normal parish services. It has been so ever since 1668. Regular parish activities have precedence over Shrine activities. This situation will very rarely create any problem. But it may happen that an unforeseen funeral has to be scheduled at a time reserved by a group of pilgrims. In such a case, notification would be forthcoming immediately.

#### Regular Parish Masses:

Sundays:

Weekdays: 9.00 A.M. and 7.00 P.M. A.M.: 8.00 - 9.30 - 10.30

P.M.: 12.15 only.

Pilgrims are welcome to any of these Masses.

#### Special Masses:

Except for Sunday A.M., a local celebrant is available for groups of twenty (20) or more, provided a previous request is made and times are determined beforehand.

Groups of any number, accompanied by their own celebrant, may have a special Mass at any time, outside the hours for regular Masses. Here again pre-arrangements are recommended for readiness and to avoid any possible conflicting interests.

• Tourist Buses: During the Tourist Season, tourist buses come by regularly towards the end of the afternoon, but they are no more than a minor inconvenience for pilgrims.

#### HOW TO GET TO THE RESERVE AND THE SHRINE.

The Reserve is on the South Shore, of the St. Lawrence River, opposite the western half of Montreal Island, precisely opposite Lachine and Ville La Salle. The Kahnawake (Caughnawaga) Village itself is just to the right of the southern tip of Pont (Bridge) Mercier.

1. Travellers coming from or through Montreal Island, make their way to thruway 20, taking the direction EST (East) or OUEST (West) leading them towards the bridge. Further on PONT MERCIER indications show the way.

Route 138 also passes by the bridge.

- 2. Coming down from the bridge, keep to the right and take the Caughnawaga exit. Once completely off the descent, stay on the same road till you come to the riverside and there turn right. You will come to the Church.
- 3. Travellers coming from the southeast of Montreal should eventually take Highway 132 Ouest (West), at the latest in the area of thruway 15 (see No. 4 just below).
- 4. From N.Y. State, Interstate 87 is very convenient. In Canada it becomes 15 and should be followed. Before reaching the St. Lawrence River, take exit to 132 and then Ouest (West). Soon indications for Caughnawaga appear. Just after passing the tunnel, follow the H sign. You will then come to the Church.
- 5. Travellers from Western Canada and Ontario travel on 401 or 417. In Quebec 401 becomes 20 and eventually Pont (Bridge) Mercier signs will be encountered. These signs lead you to the bridge. Then follow the instructions given at No. 2 above. On the other hand 417 becomes 40 in Quebec. Exit at MONTEE SAINT-JEAN in Pointe-Claire. Take direction SUD (South) to 20 EST (East). Follow instructions given just above as for coming from 401.
- 6. Hints for finding the Church in the village:

The church is right on the river. So once you are in the village, make for the river. Driving on the street closest to the river will bring you to the Church.

#### Notes of Interest:

- 1. The church compound is that of the former Fort Saint-Louis. The presbytery was erected in 1717 and the outer walls in 1725. The present church was erected in 1845.
- 2. For the present time, spring 1981, eating and sleeping conveniences in the immediate vicinity of the Shrine are less than limited.

### The Kateri Sympathy Cards!

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

#### SEND IN YOUR INTENTIONS NOW

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

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

# PLEASE RENEW YOUR SUBSCRIPTION; SEND GIFT SUBSCRIPTIONS TO:

	(1)	NAME	CODE
SS & CODE	(2)	NAME	CODE
PLEASE INDICATE MR., MRS. OR MIS	(3)	NAME STREET CITY OR TOWN PROVINCE OR STATE	CODE
	(4)	NAME STREET CITY OR TOWN PROVINCE OR STATE	CODE
	(5)	NAME STREET CITY OR TOWN PROVINCE OR STATE  (GIFT NOTE SENT UNLESS OTHERW M: NAME ADDRESS	CODE
	Δ	As I am sending the names of FIVE now subserve	ihous to the Veteri Contra

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 Susan Tegananokoa 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.