

No. 164

KATERI
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Champlain, N.Y.
12919

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COMPLIMENTS

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KATERI

No. 164

SPECIAL ISSUE

THE SISTER MARY THERESA GANNENSAGOÜAS ROLL

LITTLE SISTER WANTS TO KNOW...

EACH NEW MOON

KATERIGRAM

THE SACRED HEART BY AN INDIAN ARTIST

REV. HENRI BÉCHARD, S.J., V.-P. R.I.P.

FUNERAL HOMILY

CORRESPONDENCE

LILY OF
THE MOHAWKS

Kahnawake, P.Q., Canada

Summer • 1990



Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha

Katerina obtainable from the
Office of the Vice-postulation
(The Kateri Center)
Box 70, Kahnawake, P.Q., Canada
J0L 1B0

ISSN 0315-8020



Medals

1. Aluminum 15¢; Mat silver-plated: 50¢
2. Gilt-silvered: \$1.00; Gilded: \$3.00
3. Bronze medaillon of Kateri: \$25.00

Kateri Prayer Cards and Pictures

1. Sepia (brown), by Sculptor E. Brunet (5" x 2 1/2"): 5¢
2. Colored, by Mother Nealis (4 1/2" x 2 3/4"): 0,10 \$
3. Colored, by John Steele (4" x 3"): 10¢
4. Colored, by John Steele (6 1/2" x 5") for framing: 25¢
5. Colored, by John Steele (24 1/2" x 18 1/2"): \$4.00

Touch Relics

1. Small Kateri pictures with silk applied to relics: 50¢

Kateri Plaques

1. Plaque, plastic case with prayer (2 1/2" x 1 1/2"): \$1.65

Novena

1. In the form of a short biography: \$1.00

Statues

1. In hydrocal, ivory or bronze finish (6 1/2"): \$10.00
2. In bisque (8 1/4"): \$15.00
3. Kateri key chain: \$1.00
4. One inch statuette in plastic case: 75¢

Books

- In English – *The Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha*, by Henri Béchar, S.J., 20 pp., illustrated: \$1.00
- In English – *Kateri Tekakwitha*, With a Prefatory Note of John Cardinal Wright, by Francis X. Weiser, S.J., hardcover: \$8.00; paperback \$6.00
- In English – *I am Indian*, by Gualbert Brunsman, O.S.B.,: \$1.00
- In English – *The Original Caughnawaga Indians*, by Henri Béchar, S.J., hardcover: \$11.50 postpaid.
- In French – *L'Héroïque Indienne Kateri Tekakwitha*, by Henri Béchar, S.J.: \$10.00
- In French – *L'Astre dans la Nuit, Kateri Tekakwitha*, by Rachel Jodoin: \$14.50
- In German – *Das Mädchen der Mohawks*, by F. Weiser, S.J.: \$10.00

Kateri Seals

1. 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 bereaved family, the Vice-Postulator will be happy to send a note of sympathy.

One box of twelve cards: \$2.50. Each yearly enrollment in the Kateri Guild: \$2.00

Subscription to "Kateri"

Three dollars a year. Please renew your subscription yearly.

WHEN ORDERING, PLEASE ALLOW THREE WEEKS FOR DELIVERY



KATERI, No. 164

Vol. 42 No. 3

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 also seeks 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 people of Kahnawake and their friends.

BENEFITS

Your contribution (\$3.00 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. The spiritual treasure of the good works of the Society of Jesus is opened;
5. Extra graces are merited by working for Kateri's canonization.

JUNE 1990

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THE SISTER MARY THERESA GANNENSAGOÛAS ROLL

An Iroquois of Huron origin, she was admitted by St. Marguerite Bourgeoys into the Congregation of Notre-Dame. She died with a reputation of holiness on November 25, 1695.

1. Mr. Téléphore Béliste
2. Mr. Kenneth Pearman
3. Mr. Edwin Bradley
4. Mr. Paul Desjardins
5. Mr. Nicholas Gironde
6. Mrs. Eunice Guild
7. Mrs. M. Anne Cavanaugh
8. A Soul in Purgatory
9. Mrs. Marie-Laure Bouchard
10. Mr. Albert LaBarre
11. Mr. John Sanders
12. Mr. Austin Roberts
13. Mrs. Alfred J. Loeffler, Sr.
14. Mr. Léandre Hébert
15. Mr. Léopold Ménard
16. Mr. Albert Comeau
17. Mrs. Cassie Calligan
18. Mr. René Guindon
19. Miss Velma Doiron
20. Mr. Réjean Longpré
21. A Soul in Purgatory
22. Mrs. Rolande Paulin
23. Mr. Cleophas Dubé
24. Mr. Claude L'Italien
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26. Mr. Henry Laberge
27. Mr. Delore Thomas
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29. Mr. John Brazeau
30. Mr. Adrien Larouche
31. A Soul in Purgatory
32. Mr. Ernest Bouliane
33. Mr. Claude Boucher
34. Miss Mary Lockwood
35. Mr. Alyre Riel
36. Mrs. Laetitia Deschamps
37. Mr. Charles-Edouard Chénier
38. Mr. André Malo
39. Mrs. Marie-Ange Deschamps
40. Mrs. Irène Malo Deschamps
41. Mr. Louis-Philippe Aubry
42. Miss Theresa Cosgrove
43. Mrs. Geneviève Lord
44. Mr. Maurice Gauthier
45. A Soul in Purgatory
46. Mrs. Lucie Gallant
47. A Soul in Purgatory
48. Mr. Louis T. Zipperer
49. Mrs. Mary Zipperer
50. Mr. Pierre Bouffard
51. Mrs. Elmiere Kerr
52. Mr. Arthur C. Wasson
53. Mrs. Agna Duchesneau
54. Mr. Emile Leduc
55. Mrs. Emile Beauchamp
56. Mr. Christian Renaud
57. Sr. Kathleen Shea

58. Mr. Russel Roberts
59. Mrs. Virginia Paré (Archambault)
60. Mr. Gaston Robitaille
61. Mr. Roland-Louis Sulla
62. Mrs. Léonidas Saint-Laurent
63. Mr. Georges Bruneau
64. Miss Alda Berthelette
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66. Mrs. Jacqueline Morissette
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70. Mrs. Dorothy Babin
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72. Mrs. Placide Vigneault
73. Mrs. Imelda Tremblay
74. A Soul in Purgatory
75. Mr. Albert Arseneau
76. Mr. Isaac Curry
77. Mr. Aurel Gallant
78. A Soul in Purgatory
79. Mrs. Fernande Perreton
80. Mrs. Annie Brideau
81. Mr. Aristide A. Arseneau
84. Mr. Clarence John Maurer
85. Mr. Gaston Beaudoin
86. Mrs. Lucy Ann Schork
87. Miss Leona Pete
88. Mr. Joseph Wand
89. Mrs. Carrie Stricker
90. Mrs. Leona Pete
91. Mr. Wilfrid Ratelle
92. Mr. Robert Roy
93. Mr. Tranquille Brideau
94. Mr. Paul Poirier
95. Mr. Roger Mailhot
96. A Soul in Purgatory
97. Mrs. Gertrude Perron
98. Mrs. Lilianne Wilson
99. Mrs. Donna Zwetko
100. Mrs. Evelynne Bertrand
101. Mr. Pettigrew
102. Mr. Mario Gauthier
103. Mr. Joseph Ekemberg
104. A Soul in Purgatory
105. Mrs. Isabelle Leclerc Tremblay
106. Mrs. Hélène Cormier
107. Mr. Valère Brideau
108. Mr. Paul Lincoln Danielson
109. Mrs. Yvette Tassé
110. Mrs. Sylvana Pillin-Neang
111. Mrs. Eddy Bond
112. Mr. Yvon Pétrin
113. Mrs. Germaine Brais
114. Mrs. Josephine Thomas
115. Mrs. Yvonne Thomas
116. Mr. J. Marc Roy
117. A Soul in Purgatory
118. Mr. Angelo DiFrancia
119. Mrs. Helen C. Carey
120. Mr. Ahnanzor Pilote
121. Mr. Wilfrid Cyr
122. Mr. Laurent Saindon
123. Mr. Alfred Richard
124. Mr. Thomas McHenry
125. Mr. Joseph Binette
126. Miss Aurore Nolet
127. Mr. R. Laberge
128. Mr. Bernard Doucette
129. Mr. Michel Gregoire
130. Mrs. Ida Rattie
131. Miss Aurore Allard

Little Sister wants to know...



Kateri Arbour
5 years old
Sainte-Marcelline, P.Q.

...if you won't help us get at least 50,000 promises of a daily Our Father, Hail Mary and three Glories!

We need them to obtain from the loving Heart of Jesus the speedy canonization of Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha.

Some 23,251 pledges have come in after eight years' effort.

Please send yours to: The Kateri Center
Box 70, Kahnawake, P.Q.
Canada J0L 1B0

MY PLEDGE TO KATERI

Date

I, the undersigned, pledge to offer up each day one Our Father, one Hail Mary, and three Glories until the miracle needed for Blessed Kateri's canonization is obtained and approved.

Name

Street or Box.

City or Town

Province or State Code

Country Telephone

EACH NEW MOON



KATERI'S SMILE ...

Favors registered at the Kateri Center from January 9, to April 30, 1990:

Alcoholic Problems Solved	2
Articles Found	2
Better Health	27
Cures	16
Employment Found or Kept	17
Financial Aid	2
Lodgings	8
Peace in the Family	2
Properties Bought or Sold	3
Safe Pregnancies	6
Safe Trips	4
Successful Studies	7
Successful or Averted Operations	12
Temporal Favors	14
Spiritual Favors	4

TWENTY-FIVE PRAYER PLEDGES OR MORE

Mrs. Marlene McCauley, Phoenix, Arizona; Sr. Rolande Larochelle, Montreal, P.Q., 35.

MRS. ROSE-ANNA TCHERNOFF R.I.P.



A fervent devotee of the Mohawk Maiden passed away in Baie Comeau on April 8, 1990. She, with her two daughters, made a pilgrimage to Kateri's Mission last year in thanksgiving for a cure one of her daughters received. The family, on this occasion, suggested that donations be sent to the Kateri Center.

KATERI INSPIRES A SPANISH SCULPTOR



An artist from Barcelona, Mrs. Araceli, sculpted a magnificent bust of the Lily of the Mohawks. The photo of this work, which inspires piety and devotion, along with the authorization to reproduce it were received through the courtesy of Miss Mireille Moreu, a devoted friend of Kateri from Spain.

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 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 Lily of the Mohawks is guaranteed.

Write to the Kateri Center, Box 70, Kahnawake, P.Q., Canada J0L 1B0 for a free sample card.

One dozen cards boxed: \$2.50

Each yearly enrollment in the Kateri Tekakwitha Guild: \$2.00

SEND IN YOUR INTENTIONS NOW

Spiritual

- ☐ Love in God
- ☐ Conversions
- ☐ Peace of Soul
- ☐ Resignation in Trials
- ☐ Vocations
- ☐ Faithful Departed
- ☐ Happy Death
- ☐ Obedience to the Holy Father

Temporal

- ☐ Positions
- ☐ Health
- ☐ Lodgings
- ☐ Financial Aid
- ☐ Happy Marriages
- ☐ Happy Deliveries
- ☐ Good Friends
- ☐ Success in Studies
- ☐ Peace in the World

Other Requests

YOUR INTENTIONS SHALL BE FORWARDED TO FATHER ANTHONY ROUSSOS, S.J., ON SEPTEMBER 1, AT BEYROUTH, LEBANON. HE WILL CELEBRATE NINE MASSES FOR YOU IN THE AGONY OF CONTINUED WAR.

(NO OFFERING REQUIRED.)

KATERIGRAM

HOW MANY CATHOLICS, even among the best, know that they are the temples of God: Jean Vanier asked himself recently on T.V. Still Saint Paul repeated it often enough, even to the longshoremen of Corinth: "Didn't you realize that you were God's temple and that the Spirit of God was living among you? If anybody should destroy the temple of God, God will destroy him, because the temple of God is sacred; and you are that temple." (1 Cor. 3, 16-17)

The Jesuits of the Mohawk Valley and of Kahnawake on the Saint Lawrence River were no more fearful than Saint Paul with his longshoremen of speaking to their flock of the Divine Dwelling within us.

The life of Kateri bears witness to the fact that this teaching was well received. In the spring of 1678, the first chapel of the Sault was built. Kateri and Marie Therese Tegaiguenta walked around it. Kateri asked where the women would be placed in the chapel. Therese showed her the place reserved for them. Kateri answered that it was true that "it is not in these material temples that God takes most pleasure; our hearts are the sanctuary most agreeable to Him..." Blessed Kateri had quickly absorbed the doctrine by which we become "Monstrances" and "Christophers".

The Fathers who knew her wrote:

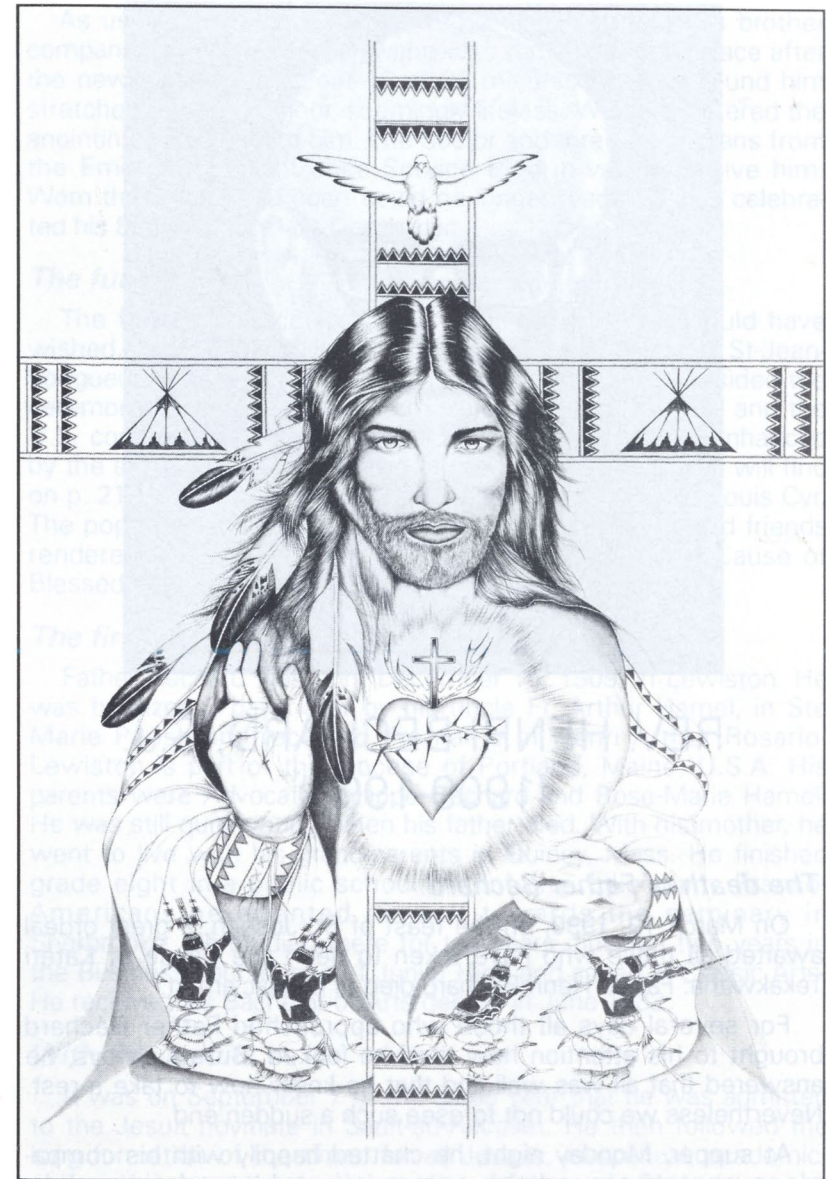
"Her courage was heroic; her faithfulness to the service of God, inviolable; her devotion, tender; her tears, as well as her union with God, were constant. She possessed a remarkable gift of prayer without having had any other teacher than the Holy Spirit."

"This young girl... was so filled with the spirit of God, and tasted such sweetness in its possession, that her entire exterior gave testimony of it; her eyes, her gestures, her words, were filled with divine love at such moments. If one were with her, it did not take long to be touched by it, and to become warmed with this heavenly fire."

Let us pray to this young Mohawk maiden to give us her keen sense of the Divine life within us.

Henri Béchard, S.J.,
Vice-Postulator

Written on March 19, 1990



SACRED HEART

Artist: Mel Herrera, Apache, Mescalero, NM



REV. HENRI BÉCHARD, S.J.
(1909-1990)

The death of Father Béchar

On March 19, 1990, on the feast of St. Joseph, a great ordeal awaited all those who have taken to heart the Cause of Kateri Tekakwitha: Father Henri Béchar died of cardiac arrest.

For several days all those who approached Father Béchar brought to his attention how tired he looked. But as always, he answered that all was well and that he knew how to take a rest. Nevertheless we could not foresee such a sudden end.

At supper, Monday night, he chatted happily with his companions seated around the community table at Immaculate Conception Parish. We mention his happiness because he always looked happy. His well-known phrases were referred to as "bécharisms".

As usual he watched the news on television with his brother companions. He was the only one who remained at his place after the news was over. About 15 or 20 minutes later we found him stretched out on the floor, seemingly lifeless. We administered the anointing of the sick to him. The doctor and three technicians from the Emergency Ambulance Service tried in vain to revive him. Worn threadbare, his heart could no longer react. He had celebrated his 80th birthday last December.

The funeral

The funeral was celebrated in Kahnawake as he would have wished. Mgr. Bernard Hubert, bishop of the diocese of St-Jean-Longueuil, where the Kahnawake reserve is situated, presided the ceremony. About 30 priests from various parts of Canada and the U.S. concelebrated. The liturgical service was certainly enhanced by the exceptional performance of the Mohawk choir. You will find on p. 21 the text of the homily that was given by Father Louis Cyr. The population of Kahnawake and numerous relatives and friends rendered vibrant homage to a life consecrated to the Cause of Blessed Kateri.

The first years

Father Béchar was born December 16, 1909, in Lewiston. He was baptized 3 days later by his uncle Fr. Arthur Hamel, in Ste Marie Parish and received the name of Henri Arthur Rosario. Lewiston is part of the diocese of Portland, Maine, U.S.A. His parents were Advocate Philippe Béchar and Rose-Marie Hamel. He was still quite young when his father died. With his mother, he went to live with his grand-parents in Quincy, Mass. He finished grade eight in a public school in that city. Like many Franco-Americans he oriented himself towards the seminary in Sherbrooke. He studied there for ten years, finished two years in the Business course, one of Junior High and seven in Classic Arts. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree in June 1932.

With the Jesuits

It was on September 7 of the same year that he was admitted to the Jesuit novitiate in Sault-au-Récollet. He then followed the long formation of the times for all Jesuits, in spiritual, academic, philosophical and theological studies. At the end of his philosophical studies, he was named professor of Methodology, the equivalent of a tenth grade in secondary schooling, at Jean-de-Brébeuf College.

After three years Fr. Béchard returned to studies in theology. At the end of the three first years in this discipline he was ordained a priest by Mgr. Joseph Charbonneau, Archbishop of Montreal, on August 13, 1944. After completing a final year of theology and a third year of probation, he served for two years as director of scholastics, philosophers and theologians, at Immaculate Conception College.

With the Amerindians

At the the very end of his theological studies Fr. Béchard requested of his Fr. Provincial to minister to the Amerindians of Caughnawaga, now Kahnawake. The parish, named St. Francis Xavier Mission, was founded in 1668. In addition to the apostolate with the aboriginals, Fr. Béchard felt drawn to the historical context of the mission.

His wish was granted in 1948. A new catholic school was built the following year under the jurisdiction of the Federal Government. Fr. Béchard became its first director, a post he held for six years.

On Sept. 25, 1949, he received his nomination as Vice-Postulator for the Cause of Kateri Tekakwitha. From then on we can say that his whole life was consecrated to this gently unassuming Lily.

In 1948 he started the Kateri periodical which was published only in English until 1958. From then on there would be two editions, one in French and one in English. Fr. Béchard single-handedly edited each pamphlet, translating each text according to need either in one or the other language.

From 1959, Fr. Béchard founded and directed the Kateri Center in Montreal. He resided at Immaculate Conception College and at Antoine Daniel Residence where he was Superior from 1968 to 1984. Since the closing of this house he was part of the community of Immaculate Conception Parish until the time of his death.

In addition to the articles in his magazine, Fr. Béchard published a few works in French and English, one of which was the life of Kateri. At the time of his death, two manuscripts were almost ready to be sent to the publishers, a new biography of Kateri in French and the life of Jérôme le Royer de la Dauversière in English. Fr. Béchard had already foreseen the task of translating these two works. It was not going to be his. Others would undertake the task.

We can say that Fr. Béchard's entire active life was centered on the Cause of Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha. A man of intense spiritual life, he created a great movement of prayer in favor of the Cause. It is this dedication, without a doubt, that led to the beatification of this Iroquois virgin in 1980.

To all those who recommended themselves to Kateri, Fr. Béchard promised to confide their intentions to her, himself. Here is the text of a very meaningful prayer, written by him, that we found on his bedside table on the same evening of his death:

*O Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha
I beg you
watch over all those
whose problems I confide to you
spiritual as well as temporal.
They believe in you
because they know
that you loved the Lord Jesus
and His gentle Mother
during your stay here on earth
and that you served them
in love and in purity.
Take these friends by the hand
and lead them
through the difficulties of life
to the throne of Mother and Son.
Amen*

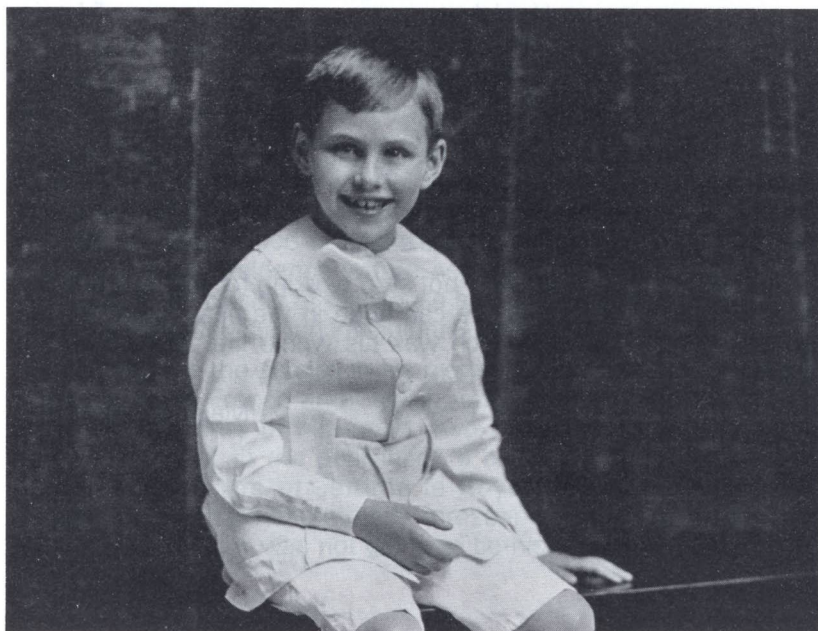
Well known by all who assisted at the Amerindian gatherings in Canada and the U.S., Fr. Béchard left the legacy of a man who was gentle and meek like those of the gospel who conquer the earth. He did it with graciousness and a smile.

In heaven, he will certainly not stop working for the canonization of Kateri. More than ever we can hope in the near future for the success of the Cause, which was his whole life. Thank you, Fr. Béchard.

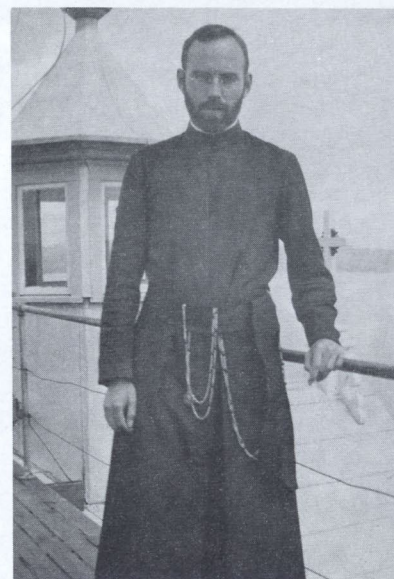
Maurice Ruest, S.J.



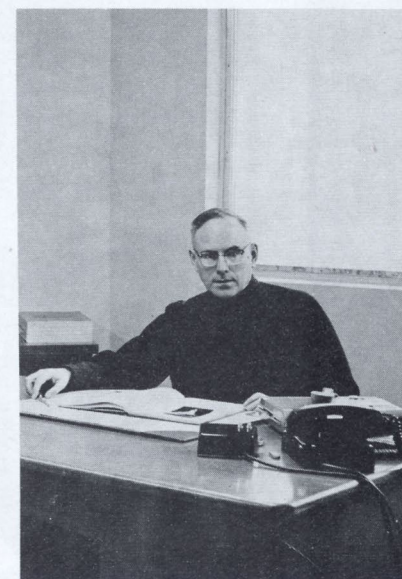
Fr. Béchard at six months, 1910.



Fr. Béchard's First Communion, 1916.



Fr. Béchard as a scholastic, 1938.



Fr. Béchard, opens Montreal office 1959.



Sra. Da Ilda de Fernandez-Shaw, Miss Emily Charest, Fr. Béchard, Fr. Robert Picard and Sr. Don Carlos de Fernandez-Shaw at the launching of the book on Bernard de Hoyos, 1959.



Fr. Paul Molinari, Postulator General of Kateri's Cause,
Pope John Paul II, Bishop Bernard Hubert and Fr. Béchar
at Kateri's beatification in Rome, 1980.



Bro. Gilles Hardy, the Kateri Keneakthenha bell and Fr. Béchard, 1969.



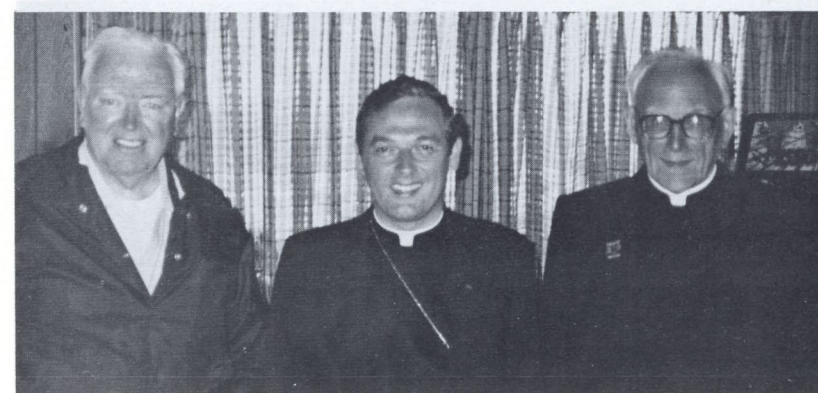
Fr. Béchard, Fr. Michael Jacobs and Bishop Gérard-Marie Coderre blessing the Kateri monument, 1972.



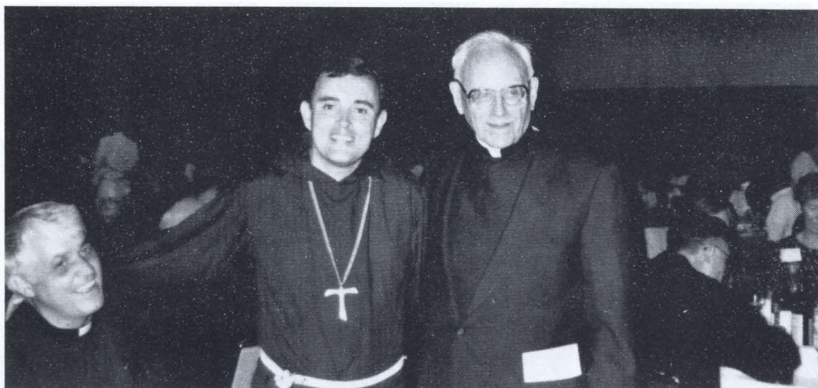
Fr. Béchard blessing a statue of Kateri at the Motherhouse of the Hospitaller Sisters of St. Joseph in Montreal, 1982.



Fr. Béchard giving a talk at the National Kateri Tekakwitha Conference in Syracuse, N.Y., 1984.



Fr. Thomas Egan, Bishop Donald Pelotte and Fr. Béchard at the Jesuit Martyrs' Shrine, Auriesville, N.Y., 1986.



Bishop Charles Chaput and Fr. Béchard at Rapid City, S.D., 1988.



Fr. Thomas Egan, Fr. Béchard, Cardinal Francis Arinze, Fr. Robert Boyle and Fr. Gérard Lavigne at the National K.T. Conference in Fargo, N.D., 1989.



Fr. Béchard celebrating his 80th birthday, 1989.

HOMILY FOR FATHER HENRI BÉCHARD'S FUNERAL

Scripture: 1.1 John 3/14.16-20
2. Matthew 5/1-12

HERE ONCE ROAMED, through these wide expanses of ours, a happy, smiling, warm-hearted, noble, meek and peace-loving person.

A gentleman to the core, kindness and goodness his trademarks.

From the ancient, immortal spirits of the earliest inhabitants and immigrants of this continent of ours, he also inherited a gracefulness that melted away any obstacles, much like the spring sun that thaws the creaking ice of our frozen lakes and rivers.

From them he inherited an unassuming and charming smile, that was as refreshing to the woes and sufferings of humankind around him, as the dew drops of early dawn on the parched summer grass.

From them he inherited the irresistible urge to wander, from the sandy and rocky Atlantic coast of his native southern Maine, to the desert expanses of Arizona and to the rolling plains and ranges of Montana, all the while pushing roots ever more deeply into the wintery shores of modern day Hochelaga.

His coveted emblem and ideal: a spotless and unblemished lily from the turtle clan of the Mohawks, whose every footstep between the Mohawk and St. Lawrence valleys became familiar to him, to whose blessed destiny he witnessed in numerous books, articles, congresses, but especially in prayer, and through his unshakable belief in the sacred brotherhood of all peoples, native and immigrant, who have graced and enhanced the waters, forests, mountains and plains of our neighborly lands.

Father Béchard had no enemies, for he was basically a blessed and happy maker of peace, and as such, an eminent son of God.

Violence of whatever kind was absolutely foreign to him for his gentleness was all too happily respectful of divine growth in

humankind, and as such, he felt at home everywhere in these lands of ours, truly his blessed inheritance.

Father Béchard was as merciful and humorous towards the misdemeanors and shortcomings of others as he was with himself. Little wonder, then, that he happily sowed and reaped blessed trust, jovial acceptance and unlimited mercy, wherever he trod.

His unswerving hunger and thirst for justice and equality among all peoples of this land were contagious, and as such, he happily witnessed the change of heart of so many oppressors and oppressed who called on his wisdom.

Father Béchard was not shackled down by the countless donations he needed and constantly solicited to further the cause of saintliness in our clime; and as such, his readily outstretched hand always radiated the happy, selfless possession of the truly poor in spirit, who know very well deep down they have found the Kingdom's most precious pearl and treasure.

His most profound sympathy with the plight and sufferings of others happily made of him a blessed purveyor of solace and comfort to countless numbers of mourners and bereaved.

The freshness and purity of Father Béchard's beaming face, eyes and heart gave him direct access to the innermost impulses of the divine, beating and breathing in our hearts and souls.

And even if his good-naturedness and easy going manner were spared misunderstanding, ridicule, and outright rejection, there can be no doubt that in the untold sufferings of those who confided in him, he carried more than his share of the burden of Christ's Cross. Yet, how could we tell, since he never let on, simply because his steadfast faith in Christ and in Blessed Kateri's assistance made light of every burden with a disarming and ever compassionate smile.

To implement, in the manner of Fr. Béchard, the charter of the beatitudes here below, basically involves building the enduring and permanent happiness of God's Kingdom with one's own hands and heart, from day to day, from here on in, and not only for tomorrow, for the life beyond.

For, to paraphrase the words of Robert Lebel, one of our religious poets from Quebec: "Many are they, and we are among them, who are happy and blessed in everyday life, of whom little notice is ever taken; the blessed of the humble class, who perform no miracles, who never experience ecstasy; the blessed of naught

who never make the headlines nor are mentioned in history books, but who wear their hands out making and earning their daily bread, and who above all unceasingly love their neighbor as well as their God. Yes, truly countless are they, and eternally happy and blessed, all of them, ourselves included, in His Kingdom, as of now." (From Lebel's hymn collection *Printemps de Dieu*, hymn no W-72, Editions Studio SM, Paris)

So thus it is, that the poor in spirit, the gentle, those who mourn, those who hunger and thirst for what is right, the merciful, the pure in heart, the peacemakers among us and that we all are or aspire to be: thus it is that we so easily recognized in Father Béchard one of ours, one of the eminently happily blessed of our heavenly Father's Kingdom that is growing ever so imperceptibly but unmistakingly, here, among us.

Thus it is, that the spirit of our risen Christ, our Brother, Savior and Redeemer, gently crossed our daily paths, unassumingly revealing to us in Father Henri's heart, face and hands, his unfathomable love for each and every one of us.

Thus it is, that the holy founders of the Father's Kingdom in our midst, not the least blessed Kateri, mindfully of their saintly travels over these waters and lands, reach out to us, sharing their happiness with us and inspiring us with their courage and strength.

Thus it is that, in the words of Saint John, we can ourselves pass through death and into life, because they who have preceded us into the invisible life beyond, laid down their lives in Christ out of love for us, firmly convinced that, in deeds as well as in words, we could ourselves turn our hearts around and do likewise, as happily and lovingly as they did.

Thus it is that our days and nights are enlightened and transfigured by the gentle smiles of Kateri and Father Béchard, hand in hand.

And for all of this, we can be forever grateful, happy and blessed, beginning here and now, in our Father's Kingdom of love.

Rakeni Henri Béchard:

Sahiaskontako ne lésos shanrenheie tekaiaasonthne, saiohsats-ténhseron ne raieronke, nok saioiatoron ne raononkwénhsa, thonikonhrahsaahnton tsi rahsere ne Raweniio Raowenna raonoronhk-wahshera.

Raweniio raoiahsa, raieronke tanon raonekwenhsa, shahrenheie tanon tsi shotonnheton, raotonnhets tanon raonoronhkwahshe-ra, iaesaiaatenhawe ne ianihnéha.

Tanon nii tsi nition onhwentsake sékon iakwes, katkekshonha ise tanon ne Kateri Tekakwitha iatentsitewatatken, tsi thononhsote ne tshitewaniha ne karonhiake. Onen! Ethonaiawen!

"Dear Father Henri: you have been immersed in Christ's Death, signed with His Cross, nourished with His Body, washed in His Blood, grafted onto His life, enflamed with His Spirit, and you have served Him with love. May Christ's Cross, His Body and Blood, His Death and Resurrection, His Spirit and Love now accompany you to the Father. As for us, we shall see you again one day with Kateri in His Father's house."

(Quoted mainly from the funeral hymn *Tu as été plongé* no S 69-1, Editions Studio SM, Paris, text by Didier Rimaud, S.J.)

Louis Cyr, S.J.



Bishop Bernard Hubert, Fr. Léon Lajoie, S.J.
and Fr. Maurice Ruest, S.J.



Approximately thirty priests concelebrate.



Indian Deacon Ronald Boyer reads the Gospel.



Fr. Louis Cyr, S.J. gives the homily.



Msgr. Paul Lenz of the bureau of Catholic Indian Missions speaks of Fr. Béchard.



A color guard of the 4th degree K. of C.

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

Enclosed is a check for ten dollars in thanksgiving to Kateri in obtaining the dismissal of an unjust traffic ticket. A police car hit me head on while I was at a total stop and as a result I was given a ticket to appear in court for failure to yield the right of way...

(Webster, NY.)

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

Enclosed please find the first of three equal installments for many favors granted - full recovery from an automobile accident, employment for my husband, a biopsy which was negative and a successful gall bladder operation just last week. I am most thankful that my prayers of praise and thanksgiving to Kateri now outnumber my prayers of supplication. God bless you all!

(Fair Lawn, NJ.)

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

Enclosed is a small donation to Kateri's Cause in grateful appreciation for a favor received. The safe and healthy birth of a beautiful baby boy to my granddaughter.

(Astoria, L.I., NY.)

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

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

Little Kateri has come through again! My 87 year old sister was (and is) having trouble with her eyes. She had to keep cold compresses on her eyes at night to get to sleep as the pain was so severe. I told her to pray to Kateri. She was having an appointment with the specialist the next day. You may be sure I begged the little future Saint to help her. The doctor gave her new drops and she is not in such pain now. She, too, feels that Kateri was not idle! This is not the first time I have received help for this particular sister...

(Kingston, Ont.)

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

Enclosed is a check for ten dollars in thanksgiving for my son's successful shoulder operation...

(Baltimore, MD.)

❖ **Kateri's smile upon you, Mrs A. C.!**

Enclosed are twenty dollars for a favor received two days ago. This is in thanksgiving for my husband's position. I promised Kateri twenty dollars. Once again, she heard my prayers. We are blessed with so much. I pray daily for her canonization. She always answers my prayers. Thank you, Blessed Kateri!

(Baltimore, MD.)

❖ **Kateri's smile upon you, Mrs. J. G.!**

Enclosed is a donation in thanksgiving to Kateri for my brother-in-law's peaceful and beautiful death on April 6. May he rest in peace. He had been enrolled in the Kateri Tekakwitha Guild by a friend. Thank you for your prayers and God bless you in your good work.

(Toronto, Ont.)

❖ **Kateri's smile upon you, Mrs. H. F.!**

Enclosed is a check for ten dollars. I wish to thank Kateri for the many favors received through her intercession. Since I had cancer in April 1988, I believe it is due to Kateri that I am now feeling well. Please continue to pray on my behalf.

(Douglastown, Qc.)

❖ **Kateri's smile upon you, Mr. and Mrs. R. T.!**

Thank you for the prayers and masses that you said for my husband's father who had hip replacement surgery on Kateri's Feastday. Your personal response was a source of comfort to him and the family. Kateri certainly smiled upon him—his operation was a tremendous success—he is even bowling again! Thanks be to God, His Angels and Saints and especially to Kateri. God be with you and all of Kateri's friends.

(Willowick, OH.)

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

❖ **Kateri's smile upon you, Rev. R. F. M.!**

Enclosed is a donation in thanksgiving to Blessed Kateri for helping a friend pull through a very risky major operation.

(Rochester, NY.)

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

I am sending a check for twenty-five dollars in thanksgiving for many little favors I have received through the intercession of Blessed Kateri, but especially for helping to have my son's car back in good working condition and at no cost.

(Roseville, MI.)

❖ **Kateri's smile upon you, Mrs. A. H.!**

Kateri has again helped our family through a medical crisis. As I promised her, I am sending this donation to aid you in your efforts to hasten Kateri's canonization. Best wishes to you all and may we soon realize this wonderful event.

(Coral Gables, FL.)

❖ **Kateri's smile upon you, Mr. R. D.!**

Enclosed is my small donation of one hundred dollars toward helping the Cause of Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha. I pray for her canonization every day. Recently through her intercession I got this job which I always dreamed of. I will continue praying for her canonization and asking her help in my new job and watching over my family. Also I have a few other requests to Kateri and I believe very much that she will help me... Thank you, Blessed Kateri!

(Ottawa, Ont.)

❖ **Kateri's smile upon you, Mrs. D. M.!**

Enclosed please find a check in the amount of ten dollars to further the canonization of Blessed Kateri. I promised to make a donation if the condition of my daughter, who was in the hospital, improved enough to have her doctors change their minds about transferring her to another hospital. Her condition improved and she is now at home. She suffers from a progressive disease but we are hoping that one day our prayers will be answered and Blessed Kateri will find a cure for her. I am also enclosing an additional three dollars to renew my subscription to your quarterly bulletin.

(Chicopee, MA)

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

Enclosed are twenty-five dollars as an offering to Kateri. My sister was able to buy a house with many obstructions finally overcome. Strangely this house is on Algonquin Drive.

(Old Bridge, NJ)

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

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

I am enclosing a cheque for fifty dollars for favors received. My nephew was given forty-eight hours to live due to cancer. He said the prayers to Kateri I had given him and started treatment. The doctors believe it is a miracle he is doing so well. My son was looking for a reliable sitter for his children and was able to find one, thanks again to dear Kateri...

(Quyon, Qc)

✧ **Kateri's smile upon you, Mrs. T. M.!**

Enclosed is my donation of twenty dollars which I promised the Kateri Fund if my daughter and son-in-law sold their home within a specified time. Thanks to Kateri and the souls in purgatory they did sell this house and were able to purchase a larger home which they wanted. Thank you, Kateri.

(South Porcupine, Ont.)

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

Thank you for answering my prayers. My face did clear up and I am most grateful—I know I can always turn to you, Kateri.

(Hackensack, NJ)

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

Enclosed is a twenty dollars bill I promised our beloved Kateri if my daughter, S., recovered from her accident. She has.

(Corona, NY)

✧ **Kateri's smile upon you, Mrs. P. N.!**

I'm sending five dollars for a favor received by Blessed Kateri. I obtained the funding I needed at this time. I'm now praying for peace of mind for my son D. Thanks to Blessed Kateri for all my blessings.

(Butler, PA)

✧ **Kateri's smile upon you, Mrs. E. S.!**

I am sending you seven dollars for a favor received. I would like to have it published in Kateri. Many thanks to Blessed Kateri for helping my daughter through college. She didn't get the job she would have liked to get, but she got a job anyway. I know in the future Blessed Kateri will help her.

(Campbellton, NB)

✧ **Kateri's smile upon you, Mrs. R. C.!**

Enclosed is an offering to say thank you for saving us and our property during our last Hugo hurricane. A promise I had made if we were spared – Kateri heard my cry.

(Stuart, FL)

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

**PLEASE RENEW YOUR SUBSCRIPTION;
SEND GIFT SUBSCRIPTIONS TO:**

- (1) NAME M
STREET
CITY OR TOWN
PROVINCE OR STATE
- (2) NAME M
STREET
CITY OR TOWN
PROVINCE OR STATE
- (3) NAME M
STREET
CITY OR TOWN
PROVINCE OR STATE
- (4) NAME M
STREET
CITY OR TOWN
PROVINCE OR STATE
- (5) NAME M
STREET
CITY OR TOWN
PROVINCE OR STATE

(GIFT NOTE SENT UNLESS OTHERWISE REQUESTED)

FROM: NAME
ADDRESS

As I am sending the names of FIVE new subscribers and their addresses to the Kateri Center (\$15.00), I now inscribe, free of charge, the name of one deceased person dear to me on the Sr. Marie-Thérèse Gannensagoüas 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.