



## The Kateri Statue

Let's Not Take Twenty Years :

The future bronze statue of Tekakwitha to be erected in her parish, will cost about \$4,000.00. The Rev. Fr. V.-Postulator gratefully acknowledges the following donations :

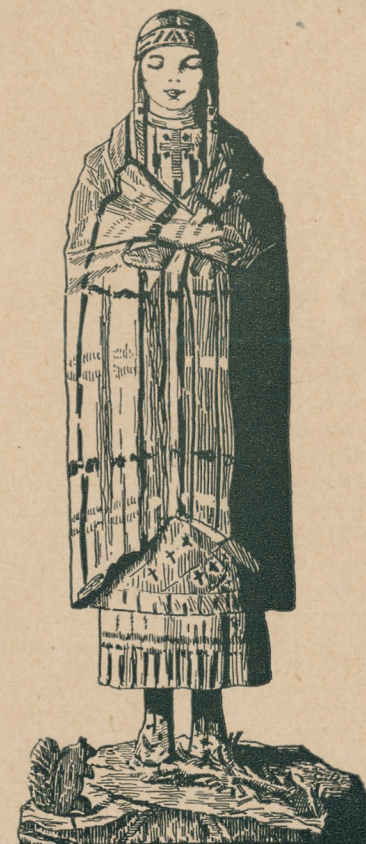
Mrs. Lillian Isabella.....	\$ 1.00
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Miss Katherine Cummings.....	6.00
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Miss Margaret Villano.....	2.00
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	<hr/>
	\$ 50.00
Prior Donations.....	257.00
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	\$307.00

(Please notify us of any error)

THE KATERI NOVENA !  
20c postpaid

Kateri appeared to Fr. Chauchetière after her death and expressed the desire that pictures of herself be made... A bronze statue in her own parish certainly would answer this request and bring down her blessing on the donors...

# KATERI



Vol. 3

September 1951  
CAUGHNAWAGA, Que.

No 4



To Aunt Florence,  
Henri S.J.

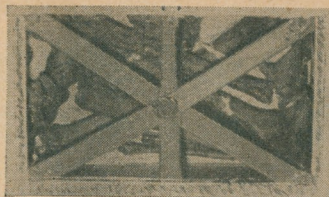


Photo: J. G. Martin

# THE RELICS OF TEKAKWITHA

KATERI

Vol. 3

No. 4

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## THE KATERI TEKAKWITHA GUILD

The sodalists of the Blessed Virgin of Caughnawaga, Quebec, who are descendants of the earliest Christian Indians in Canada and New York State, have formed themselves into a Guild to spread devotion to the Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha.

Our quarterly bulletin, KATERI, intends, above all, to tell her tale, to foster devotion to her and to record the favors both spiritual and temporal you receive through her intercession. As a result, it is hoped the cause of her Beatification will progress more rapidly.

A one year subscription to KATERI (\$1.00) or any other offering, no matter how modest, will enroll you as a member of the Kateri Tekakwitha Guild for one year, to share in a special Mass offered each week for your intentions in the old Mission Church of St-François-Xavier.

Published quarterly to spread devotion to the *Ven. Kateri Tekakwitha* by Rev. George Brodeur, S.J., at Mission Saint-François-Xavier, Caughnawaga, Que., Canada.  
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SEPTEMBER, 1951

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Rev. George Brodeur, S.J.

## WELCOME !

THE NEW SUPERIOR of Mission Saint-François-Xavier is not a new-comer to Caughnawaga. For the greater part of the long years of his Jesuit formation, Fr. Brodeur taught catechism each week to the Indian children of the Mission. His heart went out to them and never returned. After finishing his philosophy course at the Immaculate Conception Jesuit Seminary in Montreal, he was stationed at Caughnawaga for his three years' regency. Then, beside studying Iroquois, he got better acquainted with his present parishioners. In 1940, he was made an honorary chief of the Caughnawagas and received the name of Tehonikonhrathe. After his Ordination and Tertianship, during the summer of 1946, he was named Superior of Mission Saint-François-Régis among the Iroquois. Fr. Brodeur comes to Caughnawaga very well prepared for his new assignment.



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## TO OUR MARTYRS

*For Sept. 26th,  
Feast of SS. John de Brébeuf,  
Isaac Jogues and Companion Martyrs*

*Eight martyrs fill the Ordo's will,  
To praise today's elect ;  
They felt the life of savage strife,  
But would the faith protect ;  
And in the end found Him their Friend,  
Who does not love reject.*

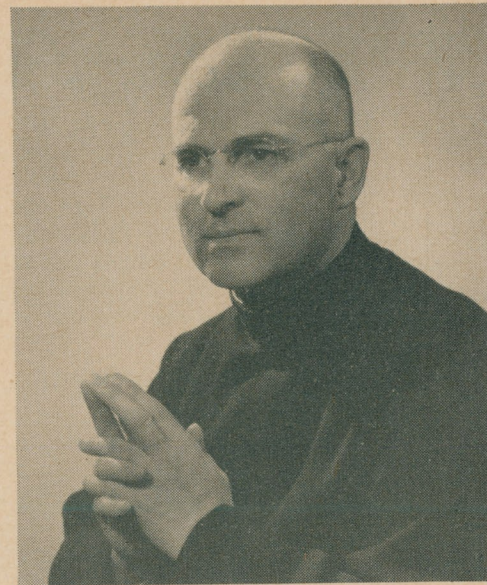
*When battle cries assault the skies,  
And missiles fence the air,  
They quickly kneel, to God appeal,  
While faithful Indians stare ;  
As arrows bore, and hatchets gore,  
They life with martyrs share.*

*The Mohawk Maid lived in that glade,  
Received the faith they brought,  
And spent her days in virgin ways,  
In love that penance taught ;  
Give her the gift that saints uplift  
To bliss on Altar wrought.*

— T. F. Kramer, C.P.P.S.

✠ One Our Father, one Hail Mary and three Glory be to the Fathers daily for the quick Beatification of the Ven. Kateri Tekakwitha ! ✠

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Rev. Réal Lalonde, S.J.

After over fourteen years at Caughnawaga, Fr. Lalonde has been appointed Superior of Mission Saint-François-Régis. This Mission is intimately connected with Saint-François-Xavier. In 1752, a group of Caughnawagas under the leadership of Fr. Gordan, S.J., founded Saint-Régis on the shores of Lake St. Francis, a broadening of the St. Lawrence River. Today it covers the neighboring segments of Quebec, Ontario and New York State. The skull of Tekakwitha and other important relics which had been transferred to Saint-Régis by the founding fathers, were destroyed with the first church a few years after its foundation. Tekaronhianeken, as Father was named when he became an honorary Iroquois chief on August 22, 1936, brings to his new post along with his love for the Ven. Kateri, many years of experience among the Iroquois (see next page).

✠ Did you notify the V.-Postulator about that favor you received through Kateri's intercession ? ✠



# “ HIS SOUL WAS KNIT... ”

By Tekaronioken

“ THE soul of Jonathan was knit with the soul of David, and Jonathan loved him as his own soul” (1 Kings, xviii, 1). Fr. Réal Lalonde's love for Mission Saint-François-Xavier, Kateri's Mission, resembled that of Prince Jonathan.

## ● The last fourteen years

To Fr. Lalonde, during the last fourteen years, the Mission meant, first of all, the soul of every Caughnawaga Indian : those who live there as well as those who have definitely established themselves at Brooklyn, N.Y., or other large American cities.

## ● Fervent Catholics and others...

It meant the souls of his most fervent Catholics, those upon whom he could count, as well as the less fervent ones (Easter-time Catholics), and those, finally, who strayed away from the one true Fold through weakness, ignorance, incomprehension or even pure ill-will. St. Gertrude relates that in one of her visions, she learned that the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus first beat once

with love for the just and once for sinners and has thus been beating ever since. Fr. Lalonde modeled his heart after that of Christ.

## ● The work he did...

The work he did and the results obtained, definitely classify his pastorate as one of the most important since the return of the Society of Jesus to Saint-François-Xavier in 1903. Today peace reigns at Caughnawaga and the tranquillity and order of which it consists, spring, in great part, from his prayers and efforts.

The Iroquois Choir organized by Fr. Conrad Hauser, later became, under the direction of Fr. Lalonde aided by Dr. Alfred Bernier, what is probably the best small-town choir in America. With the help of several friends of Caughnawaga, Fr. Lalonde efficiently prepared, in 1945, the centennial of the Mission Church. Three years later, after repeated visits to the Department of Indian Affairs in Ottawa, he obtained for Caughnawaga, beautiful, up-to-date, twelve-room Tekakwitha School, complete with an air-conditioning unit. Two Jesuit Fa-

thers, a dozen Sisters of St. Ann and five lay teachers (an Indian girl among them), take care of the Catholic Indian school-children.

Even though the Sunday collection is by far the lowest in the diocese, Fr. Lalonde renovated the sacristy, Kateri Hall, the old 1719 Jesuit Residence and tidied the grounds. To his credit go a score and more of other achievements of great benefit to the Indians of Caughnawaga.

## ● A devotee of Kateri

In 1680, the Ven. Kateri Tekakwitha died at Mission Saint-François where her relics are still kept. Father has always been a great devotee of hers. He received thousands of pilgrims and visitors yearly. He personally wrote hundreds and hundreds of letters to

her clients throughout the world, promoted devotion to her by means of the Tekakwitha Guild and encouraged the present vice-postulator in his project of publishing the Kateri bulletin.

All this and his daily ministry besides ; all this and a hundred thousand acts of kindness beyond the pale of duty, endeared Fr. Lalonde to those of the Mission capable of understanding (the majority) his great heart and the love burning within it, the love of Jonathan for David !

On July 31st, Feast of St. Ignatius, Fr. Réal Lalonde, S.J., was appointed Superior of Mission Saint-François-Regis, Caughnawaga's sister-mission. Kateri will bless and help him in this new assignment. His friends are asking her to do so, even though they feel she already owes it to him.

Fr. Lalonde blessing St. John's Fire



✉ Write to Miss A. Bouvier of 30 School St., Brookline, Mass.  
if you wish to buy a statue of Kateri. ✉

✉ Enroll your deceased relatives and friends in the Tekakwitha Guild : your best gift to them  
on All Souls' Day ! ✉



## DON'T BE AFRAID !

Don't be afraid of this picture of Kateri. It has character and much else that is worthy of note.

Last spring, Mission Saint-François-Xavier was honored by the visit of Dom Pierre Minard, Master of Novices at the Benedictine Priory of Saint-Benoît-du-Lac in Quebec. The story of Tekakwitha and the sight of her relics awakened his interest in her. He remembered having seen her picture in the library of his abbey in France.

In the middle of July, he sent along with the engraving of the Lily of the Mohawks which you now see, a letter to the Mission.

"I am happy," he wrote, "that I can give you, as promised, this small picture of Kateri Tekakwitha which I had spoken to you about. I asked my Father Abbot (of the Abbey of Ligugé in France) for it and he gladly offers it to you. It belonged to an old collection of pictures of the saints, and to me it seems that it dated from the first years of the sixteenth century. This illustration, made in Paris, was probably intended for some book. It is the reproduction of a xviiith century painting of which you showed me a copy. It belonged to an old collection of pictures gathered together during his whole lifetime by a Fr. Meurisse of Roubaix (Northern France), who gave it to the Abbey of Ligugé in 1934..."

This engraving is the reproduction of a painting of the Venerable, made by a man who knew her well : Fr. Claude Chauchetière. Thanks to him, we know how she was attired. But the features are certainly not fine enough. "After her death," wrote Chauchetière himself, "her face appeared instantly so beautiful and so smiling that (her people) who came to see this wonder were quite carried away by it as well as the French..." According to Fr. Cholenec, her confessor, Fr. Chauchetière "made the painting as best he could. Other pictures were made also, and though these were badly done on paper, the Canadians value them highly..."

The illustration of Kateri on the next page apparently stems from one of these pictures. The houses in the background were added by the French engraver.

Sticking several thousand stamps on several thousand letters is a long, slow job. To give you better service KATERI has acquired a stamp meter for the year. Rentage : \$118.00. Stamps : app. \$500.00, Total : \$618.00... 13



Join the Tekakwitha Guild : a mass is offered every week for the members, both living and dead.



"She walked about barefoot with snow up to her knees..."

## OUR HEROINE

### The Life of Kateri Tekakwitha

By Lorraine Fitzgerald

#### CHAPTER VII. — HER SPIRIT OF PENANCE.



HE penances of saints such as St. Aloysius greatly impressed Kateri.

Whether in the village or in the forest she was constantly trying to inflict them upon herself. Many of the acts of mortification which she used were not made known until after her death.

While in the forest or on the way to the hunt, it was the practice of the Indians to go to fetch the meat of an animal someone had killed at a distance from the camp. Kateri, never seeking to draw attention to her austerities, let her companions pass and then following behind walked for a long time barefoot on the sharp ice. This was noticed by the husband of one of her cousins. As soon as she perceived the others watching her, she hastily put on her shoes and tried to dissuade them from thinking that she had done anything to mortify herself.

Also, she had chosen a secluded brook as a place of prayer. While

praying there she was in the habit of chastising herself harshly with rods. She did this especially on feast days and supplemented it with the devotions she was accustomed to perform at the village.

It is also recorded that on the Feast of the Purification she was known to walk about the fields barefoot, in snow up to her knees, saying her beads several times. Anyone who has experienced a Canadian winter will readily realize the suffering which she must have endured while thus reciting her rosary.

One of the many stories of her austerities related by her companions tells how one day, while Kateri was carrying a large burden of wood, she wore at the same time a girdle of iron with long spikes, fastened around her. She slid on the ice and fell down a hill while coming from her field to the village. This fall pushed the spikes of her girdle deep into her flesh. But she only laughed and would not give her burden to her companion, but picked it up and went to her cabin. There she hid her injury so well that no one suspected it.

§ The addresses of prospective clients of Kateri are gratefully accepted. §

This spirit of penance was inspired by her first instructress, Anastasia, whom she called mother. In instructing Kateri, she told her that the fire of hell should cause her more fear than all else that God had made to chastise sin. Kateri, touched and pierced with sorrow for her sins, did not sleep all that night. But when everyone was sleeping, she burned herself from toes to knees with firebrands. Though her legs were burned, she spent the rest of the night in the church. Another time, her companion, Marie Thérèse, told Kateri that she wished to brand herself as a slave and to put an ember between her toes while saying a Hail Mary. Kateri said that she wished to do so too, and that they would both do it. Marie Thérèse then replied she was afraid she was not brave enough, as she was frightened by the pain when she considered the ember burning her flesh. The next day she saw Kateri in her cabin and admired her constancy, for she had a large hole in her foot, a thing which she could not have done without feeling great pain.

When her companions noticed that Kateri ate nothing on certain days of the week, as Wednesdays and Saturdays, and that she worked hard every day, they took care of her and would not let her go before she had eaten. However, she usually found some excuse. When she had nothing to detain her, she would go into the forest. If they did not let her abstain from meals, she mortified herself by eating her soup mixed with cinders, especially in Lent and often even on the Wednesdays after Easter. This she would do after she had worked hard all day.

The horror which the new Christians had for the life they had led among the Iroquois before their Baptism so aroused them against sin that they did not spare themselves in the practice of great penances. However Kateri knew nothing of these penances except what she surmised. No one would enlighten her, feeling that her poor health would not stand them.

When Kateri learned that her companion chastised herself with rods, she too decided to use this form of penance. Having previously gathered some rods in the cemetery, she hid then under the mat in the cabin, and when the others left to go to night prayers in church, Kateri and her companion made use of them. Each wanted to be the first to suffer, fearing that there would not be time. After this they said a prayer together, and when their zeal was satisfied, they went to the church filled with joy, even though their shoulders were covered with blood.

Kateri never found the prayers so short as that day and never was happier. The two did not rest until they found a suitable place to continue this harsh devotion, and so chose a wooden cabin belonging to a Frenchman who traded with the Indians, but who lived at Laprairie. This man left his cabin open, so that it was suitable to them, especially as it was in the middle of the cemetery. This chastisement they used each Saturday as a preparation for confession, along with an Act of Faith, recitation of the Rosary of the Holy Family. At certain intervals, they gave themselves five strokes more.

(To be continued.)



# LETTERS TO KATERI

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

*Matane, P.Q.*, July 25 : It is a pleasure for me to express my thanks to the Ven. Kateri Tekakwitha for the favors received through her intercession. Last winter, my son, aged 10, was suffering from articular rheumatism and could not walk. We said the customary prayers to Kateri and he was completely cured and walks perfectly. My daughter, who is married, lives at Dorval (P.Q.). Seeing that the water (from the river) was nearly up to her door, she placed a picture of Kateri on the door, and the water stopped at the threshold... I trust that these favors will inspire confidence in her to many others... Mme J.-E. G.

*Montreal, P.Q.*, July 31 : I wish to express my thanks to Kateri Tekakwitha for a cure through her intercession. I had an infected nerve and neuritis in my face for four years and suffered almost unbearable pain which no Doctor or medical attention could help; then I prayed to this little Indian Maiden and was cured. Mrs. M. N.

*Jersey City, N.J.*, June 28 : Inclosed, please find a small offering in thanksgiving for a favor received through the intercession of Kateri. Kindly pray for a very special favor... Mmes W.W., H.D., & S.B.

*Winooski, Vt.*, July 14 : I am sending you a small offering to thank the Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha for having cured my foot. Please pray that I may soon regain my strength completely so as to get back to work... Miss A. C.

*Athlone, Ont.*, June 27 : I am writing to tell you that my exams were successful and words cannot express how thankful I was to get them. I was very glad when I heard the results...

Miss C. B.

*Toronto, Ont.*, July 3 : ...Please find enclosed \$1.00 as offering to Kateri for a special favor received... Miss H. B.

*Chicago, Ill.*, July 5 : I promised a public thanksgiving if I got through to the U.S. to take a position which had been offered to me through no effort of mine. Thanks to Kateri Tekakwitha, I got here without any trouble. For nineteen years, I wanted to return to the U.S., but could never get the necessary papers; so gave the idea up as useless. This offer was quite a surprise and not one I would have chosen; but here I am back in the States, though late... Miss M. A. M.

*North Adams, Mass.*, July 5 : Enclosed, please find \$5.00 donation for the Kateri Statue Fund, which I am sending in Thanksgiving to Tekakwitha for favor received. Please pray that my son will choose the right vocation. Will you please send me a relic of Kateri Tekakwitha if you have one and a Kateri Novena... Mrs. E. L.

*Lachine, P.Q.*, June 11 : Enclosed find a check for \$5.00 for a Mass in honor of the Heart of Jesus and of Mary Immaculate in thanksgiving for a cure obtained through the intercession of Kateri Tekakwitha...

Miss M. A. G.

*St. Louis, Mo.*, July 27, 1951 : Enclosed please find \$10.00 in thanksgiving for a favor granted through the intercession of Kateri Tekakwitha. Recently, I received a promotion on my job and want to thank Kateri for helping me get it. I am very grateful to her... Miss M. J. D.

*Olean, N.Y.*, May 18 : Am enclosing \$1.00, a very small offering. Kateri helped my husband. He has a small business and had to meet a payment and had not enough money. Kateri brought enough to make payment possible... Mrs. M. W. S.

*Cedar Hill, Tenn.*, June 3 : My husband died in Dec. 1948 and ever since I've been trying to get a widow's pension as he was in World War II, but haven't been able to. I promised Kateri an offering and publication if I got the pension. Yesterday I got a letter telling me I'll get the pension. Now I'll have the means to raise my two little boys. I thank Kateri... Mrs. H. L.

*Hazleton, Penn.*, May 7 : In gratitude to little Tekakwitha for answering my petition for a successful nasal operation upon my son, George, I am sending you five new subscriptions to "Kateri". Enclosed five dollars, also the addresses. Mrs. G. I. P.

*No. Attleboro, Mass.*, June 16 : Enclosed, please find \$6.00. I promised \$5.00 if I didn't have to be operated for a lump in my throat. The first day they told me it was a cyst and to come back the next day. But when I returned, they told me to go home and not to worry about it. I would also like a one year's subscription to Kateri...

Miss J. C.

*Malta, G.C.*, July 12 : Thank you heartily for your two issues, Jan. & June of your periodical 'Kateri' sent to me gratis. I wish to express my deep regret now, that because of the prohibition of our Government concerning the sending of money abroad, I can't subscribe to your fine and interesting periodical... If you wish to send it to me gratis, I heartily accept it... The writer of this letter is an ex-novice of the Jesuit Order, who, because of a dreadful disease, had to stop his career. I have been ill for over 13 years, but I accept my disease from the Will of God heartily. 'Fiat voluntas tua, Domine...' Mr. E. A.

*Almonte, Ont.*, July 13 : Once again, I am writing to you. My son-in-law is gaining strength and is back to his home thanks to God and to Ven. Kateri. It is a wonderful cure because he was so near to death, and still recovered. It will be nine or ten months before he will be able to work, but his wife is going to try and do something to help earn a living for him and their four small children and we shall try to help them too. God is good and they will manage... Mrs. J. E.

*Baltimore, Md.*, May 19 : I am writing to express my gratitude for a favor received recently thru the intercession of Kateri. My nephew was sent to a Veteran's Mental Hospital on Dec. 5th, 1950, and on April 6th, 1951, he was sent home on trial as cured. I know it was nothing but prayers that did it, and I am going to ask you to please continue to pray for him... Enclosed, please find \$2.00 in thanksgiving... Miss M. A. S.





(Twelve thousand drachms...)

## INTERVIEW WITH KATERI

KATERI : " And they found under the coats of the slain some of the donaries of the idols of Jamnia, which the law forbiddeth to the Jews... And so betaking themselves to prayers, they besought him, that the sin which had been so committed might be forgotten... And making a gathering, he (Judas Machabee) sent twelve thousand drachms of silver to Jerusalem for sacrifice to be offered for the souls of the dead... " (2 Machabees, xii, 40.)

CLIENT I must admit that with the exception of the death of someone dear to me and during

November, the month of the Holy Souls, I don't pray much for them.

KATERI : Charity is measured by the need to which it responds. No need is more pressing than that of the souls in purgatory. It exists all year round. They cannot help themselves. Your prayers for them are more pleasing to God than prayers for the living.

CLIENT : What is the best way to help them ?

KATERI : The Sacrifice of the Mass and Holy Communion come first. The Holy Year Indulgence may be applied to the Holy Souls and, until the end of December, may be gained as often as the Jubilee conditions are fulfilled. The recitation of the Rosary and the Seven Penitential Psalms help greatly. And alms cover a multitude of sins — even those of our beloved departed in purgatory.

CLIENT : Dear Kateri, teach me never to forget the Faithful Departed in my prayers — and don't forget me when my turn comes !..

H B.

### A SPARK AMONG REEDS

Have you written in to Ottawa (or Washington) requesting that your country send an Ambassador to the Vatican ? Mr. James G. McDonald, former American Ambassador to Israel, recently remarked that "while Myron Taylor did a fine job as personal representative of the President" at the Vatican, he "would have done a better job if he had been an Ambassador." *Kateri* respectfully invites all the members of the Tekakwitha Guild, the Third Orders, the Sodalitys, the Legion of Mary, the K. of C., the Daughters of Isabella, the Catholic Women's League, etc., etc., to throw the spark of their letters Ottawawise and Washingtonwise... Send in the answers you receive to *Kateri*.

## CALENDAR TIDBITS



Rev. E. Lalonde, S.J.

May 24, 1951. — His Excellency Mr. Stanley Woodward, Ambassador of the United States to Canada, accompanied by Mrs. Woodward and Mr. Marius Barbeau, R.A., visited the Mission church and the old Jesuit Residence.

June 20. — One of our Indian boys, Thomas Lazare, graduated from Catholic High in Montreal, coming out fourth in a class of 35. For the last two years, Tom has been acting as part-time secretary of the Vice-Postulator.

July 1st. — Rev. Emile Lalonde, S.J., ordained three days ago, sang his first High Mass at Mission Saint-François-Xavier. He is the 4th of the family to be ordained priest. Rev. Réal Lalonde,

S.J., (see pages 5 and 6), received Holy Orders in 1934 ; ; his brothers, Rev. Armand Lalonde, S.J., in 1937; Rev. Henri Lalonde, S.J., in 1939. Among the many relatives present, was a sister of his, a Presentation nun, who traveled back from France for the occasion. Along with his departed parents, another sister, member of the same community, who died in 1920 after contracting the flu at the bedside of patient she was nursing, must have been present at this important day of her brother's life. Fr. Armand Lalonde, also, who was executed in China on March 18, 1943, by order of a Japanese Commander, for his able defense of Catholic Schools. "There were thirteen children in our family," said the newly ordained Jesuit, "but thirteen has never been an unlucky number for us !" *Ad multos annos !*

July 31. — Rev. Fr. George Brodeur, S.J., of Mission Saint-François-Régis has been named Superior at Caughnawaga ; Rev. Fr. Réal Lalonde, S.J., is to replace him as Superior at Saint-Régis.

Aug. 15. — The painting of Kateri by Madam Andrée Soboscka de Groot (see *Kateri*, Vol. 1, June 1949), safely arrived from Rome where it had been shown at the Vatican during the Holy Year.



Fr. Henri BÉCHARD.