



## Prayer

*for the Beatification of  
Catherine Tekakwitha*

**O** GOD, Who, among the manifold marvels of Thy Grace in the New World, didst cause to blossom on the banks of the Mohawk and of the St. Lawrence, the pure and tender Lily, Catherine Tekakwitha, grant, we beseech Thee, the favor we beg through her intercession (*Insert request*) that this Little Lover of Jesus and of His Cross may soon be raised to the honors of the altar by Holy Mother Church, and that our hearts may be enkindled with a stronger desire to imitate her innocence and faith. Through the same Christ Our Lord. *Amen.*

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

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Bishop of Thennesis  
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Artist Raymond Fortin carved the Kateri reproduced on this page. He aimed to portray her in her profound, interior life. We believe he has succeeded.

## Unconditional Surrender !...

(Sixth Day)

**K**ATERI made her First Holy Communion on Christmas Day, 1677, a few months after her arrival at the Mission. In those times, the Indian neophytes were subjected to a trial of several years before they were privileged to receive Our Lord in the Elessed Sacrament. The missionaries did this to give them a high idea of the Holy Eucharist. This rule, according to Father Cholenec, did not hold for her ; " she was too well disposed and desired with too great an eagerness to receive Our Lord, to be deprived of this great grace, so she was promised some time before the feast that she might receive Him on Christmas, after she had been instructed in the mystery. "

She knew beforehand (and this was one of the great joys she experienced) that into her heart would come for the first time, Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ with His infinite Love. Kateri Tekakwitha, the little illiterate Indian girl, who never went to confession without weeping profusely because she thought of herself as the greatest sinner alive (she was of angelic innocence) was to receive her Redeemer into her heart ! And we well understand her increasing joy as the great day approached. Her first biographers mention her unconditional " surrender to this furnace of sacred love that burns on our altars. "

After that first Christmas Day at Mission Saint-François-Xavier, Kateri was different. Her fervor was renewed and she remained, even long after her first communion " full of God and of love of Him... "

Detail worthy of note, as long as she lived, the good women of the Mission hurried to place themselves next to her in church. The mere sight of her was a wonderful preparation for Communion.

### PONDER AWHILE . . .

Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament is Somebody, not something. Kateri *knew* this and this knowledge changed her life. Her first communion left her with a heart completely and definitely altered. The Heart of Jesus and her heart seemed to have melted into one... I too, need to go to communion with sentiments similar to Kateri's... Is it possible nowadays, among the temptations that await me at every corner, to live in the state of grace without receiving practically each week that Somebody Who is the Lord and Savior of the Universe ?... (Now turn to page eight and read the Prayer for the Beatification of Kateri.)

⊗ Your offering, no matter how modest, will help us attain the \$600.00 required at each issue. ⊗