

(Lent is here...)

INTERVIEW WITH KATERI

KATERI (*sympathetically*): Now, now, what is the Vice-Postulator worrying about?

VICE-POSTULATOR (*uneasily*): Dear Kateri, I'm not precisely worrying. I was thinking how poor you used to be when you lived here at the Mission. Even on your death-bed, you had to borrow a dress to die in; your other one was so torn and worn. You loved poverty as much as St. Francis of Assisi...

KATERI: Blessed are the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs (Matthew v, iii).

VICE-POSTULATOR: I was also thinking, Kateri, that your Cause is as poor as you were when you trod the banks of the Mohawk and of the St. Lawrence.

KATERI (*smiling*): Is it really so? The second issue of Volume 4 of "Kateri" is out, and always there has been enough to keep the bulletin going!...

VICE-POSTULATOR: Kateri! Kateri! Expenses are going up. Just now your little bulletin and your Cause have about \$25.00 to their credit! And there is not only the bulletin! More publicity is needed to make you better known, loved and invoked. Pamphlets and books should be distributed telling the wondrous story of your life. A series of radio and television sketches would place you before the public eye. Thousands only need to meet you to love you!

KATERI: Make it your first care to find the kingdom of God, and his approval, and all these things will be yours for the asking (Matthew, vi, xxiii)...

VICE-POSTULATOR (*uncertain*): Do you think that the addresses of possible subscribers to "Kateri" would be included in "all these things"?

KATERI (*siftly*): Man of little faith! (Matthew, xiv, xxxi)... H. B.

Original Kateri terra cotta by Mrs. B. Worthington, an alumna of Marymount College, Tarrytown, N. Y.

THE KATERI NOVENA!
20c postpaid

CALENDAR TIDBITS

Dec. 25, 1951.—For Midnight Mass, the Blessed Bread (*pain bénit*) was donated by the K. of C. of Caughnawaga and by other members of the Lachine Council. Five Fourth Degree members in full regalia assisted at the three Christmas masses and received Holy Communion, much to the edification of the faithful. They were Grand Knight Wilfrid Bélanger and Messrs. J.A. Bergevin, and Ernest Bergevin of Lachine, Josaphat Tessier and Emile Gauthier of Ville St-Pierre, P.Q. Mr. Norman Saylor, K.C., also a Fourth Degree Knight, was present doing his duty as President of the Caughnawaga Choir.

Jan. 20, 1952. — The Rev. John Brown, S.J., Superior of the Cœur d'Alène Mission of the Sacred Heart at De Smedt, Idaho, a Blackfoot Indian himself, an Algonquin like Kateri's mother, spent Sunday night at Mission Saint-François-Xavier. Father Brown is the oldest of a family of twelve. Born on Sept. 8, 1916, he began his schooling with the Ursuline Sisters at Browning, Montana, continued his studies at West Catholic High School in Philadelphia, Pa., at the end of which he decided to become a Jesuit. He entered the novitiate at Weinersville, Pa., studied philosophy at West Baden, Ind., and completed his theology at Alma, Calif.

Father is very devoted to Ven. Kateri Tekakwitha. One of his sisters is named Kateri. After a disastrous fire at his mission, he undertook, two years ago, to rebuild the church, the Fathers' residence and the Mission School. The church is now rebuilt and the



THE REV. JOHN BROWN, S.J.

debt will be wiped out by next October. This, Father Brown attributes in large part to Tekakwitha.

Monday morning, he visited Tekakwitha School and spoke to the Iroquois children. They learned that his people had been converted to the Faith over a century ago by several Caughnawagas, that not a single Indian in all this time had abandoned his religion, that no one ever misses mass on Sunday and, better still, that most of the faithful at De Smedt assist at two masses on Sunday. Not a single Cœur d'Alène has died without the Sacraments since the conversion of the tribe over a century ago — not even those who fought at Iwo Jima!

To my knowledge, the Rev. John Brown, S.J., of De Smedt, Idaho, and the Rev. Michael Jacobs, S.J., of St. Regis, P.Q., are the only two Indian priests in North America today.