



FOR PRIVATE DEVOTIONS

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First Day

"A New Star in the New World . . ."



Kateri Tekakwitha, the Lily of the Mohawks, was born of a pagan father and a Christian mother in 1656 at Ossernenon (Auriesville), a few miles from what is today Albany, N.Y. Some time before, the Mohawks had raided Three Rivers in Canada. The raiding chieftains brought home to the very spot, hallowed by the martyrdom of St. Isaac Jogues, St. John de La Lande and St. René Goupil, a young Algonquin captive who was to become the wife of one of them and the mother of Tekakwitha.

The child was still a little tot with beautiful, lustrous, black eyes and funny little pigtailed when an epidemic of smallpox carried off her father, her mother and her baby brother.

People who had known her mother claimed that she was a good Catholic, that she prayed until her death and that perhaps her prayers later obtained the grace of Baptism for her daughter.