

# A Lily for Easter

The Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha walks towards the Mission church of St. Francis Xavier . . . and the old Jesuit residence built in 1717 . . .

Towards the mission residences scattered all over our planet . . . Towards the houses of the Oblate Fathers in the frigid Arctic. Towards the cottages of the Holy Cross Fathers in sweltering India. Towards the dwellings of the Fathers of the Foreign Missions in unhappy Korea. Towards the humble presbyteries of the Maryknoll missionaries at work in the Andes. Towards the rectories of the White Fathers in the African hinterlands . . . After her beatification Kateri will take over not only the hearts and the hearths of the missionaries but, better still, of their flocks.

The first women missionaries—hospital and teaching Sisters—in the history of the Church, came to French Canada in the first half of the seventeenth century. The Lily of the Mohawks, who knew them, was the first convert not a nun, not a martyr, not a mystic, at least, in the spectacular sense of the word, whose virtues were officially proclaimed heroic by the Church.

Her beatification will stimulate all Christians, even those brought up in the shadow of pagandom, to a higher sanctity.

The fragrant odor of the exquisite Lily of the Mohawks already pervades the entire Church militant.

**With your help, Kateri makes her way towards her beatification . . .**

