



Father Thomas J. Coffey, S.J., stationed at the Martyrs' Shrine in New York, recently retired as Vice Postulator for the Cause of Beatification and Canonization of the Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha, after many years of devoted service. Father William J. Schlaerth, S.J., of Le Moyne College, Syracuse, N. Y., has been assigned to this post.

After Kateri's Tekakwitha's beatification, it will be possible to tell in detail all the fine work Father Coffey did for the Lily of the Mohawks. Kateri lovers everywhere will then realize how much they owe him.

The above picture shows Father Coffey (right to left), taken during the summer of 1963 with Sister Kateri, S. S. A., an Indian from St. Francis Regis, and Father Béchard, who is the Vice-Postulator for Kateri in Canada.



## A NEW STATUE

On Easter Monday, April 18, at Hogansburg, N. Y., a statue of the Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha was unveiled and blessed in front of the catechetical Center of the St. Regis Mission. The pastor, Fr. Michael K. Jacobs, Iroquois Jesuit, realized the project with the special help of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Diebow.

Dedication ceremonies began with a hymn entitled *Kateri, Lily of the Mohawks*. Fr. Henri Béchard, S. J., urged all to pray for the prompt beatification of Kateri. The Rt. Rev. Msgr. Morris Dwyer of Massena officiated at the Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament.

Following the unveiling of the statue by Mr. Diebow and by his daughter, Mrs. Sandra Terrance, it was blessed by the Very Rev. Jean-d'Auteuil Richard, Jesuit Provincial of the Province of Montreal. Excerpts from *The Song of Tekakwitha* by Robert E. Holland, S. J., were read by Mrs. Millicent Cook and by Miss Evelyn Martin. The Rev. William J. Schlaerth, S. J., then spoke on the merits of the Lily of the Mohawks. The ceremonies were brought to a close with the hymn *Kateri Tekakwitha*, sung in Iroquois by the Caughnawaga Choir.

◀ Fr. Michael K. Jacobs, S.J., and Fr. Francis Arsenaault, S.J., his assistant.

Photo: Scott's Studio, Massena, N. Y.



▲ The Catechetical Center.

*Photo: Nick Podgurski.*

▼ Fr. Michael K. Jacobs distributes the Kateri quarterly to his guests.

*Photo: Nick Podgurski.*



Mr. Thomas Diebow unveils the statue.

*Photo: Nick Podgurski.*



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After the blessing, Rev. Michael K. Jacobs, Rev. Henri Béchar, S. J., Very Rev. Jean d'Auteuil Richard, S. J., Rev. William J. Schlaerth, S. J., and the Rev. Francis Arseneault, S. J.

Nearly 400 guests were present, among them Sisters of many communities; in particular, the Sisters of St. Ann who teach at St. Regis and at Caughnawaga, Jesuit seminarians from Bellarmine College in Plattsburg, and the Indian Choir from St. Francis Xavier.

Photo: Nick Podgurski.



Photo: Nick Podgurski.

Kateri's own offer her flowers.



Photo: Nick Podgurski.

Fr. Michael K. Jacobs (holding documents) and the two Vice-Postulators, Fr. Henri Béchar, S. J., and Fr. William J. Schlaerth, S. J.

by Sister M. Joseph Clare, O. P.

## THE ANSWER IS PRAYER

A group of New York World's Fair visitors were admiring the bronze images emblazoned on the main doors of St. Patrick's Cathedral on New York's Fifth Avenue. With a western drawl one of the women identified each image: Christ the Redeemer, Our Lady, St. John the Baptist, the Apostles, St. Joseph, St. Patrick, St. Isaac Jogues. Then she hesitated: "That must be Mother Cabrini. This of course is Mother Seton, I'd know her anywhere. But who is the Indian girl next to her?"

Unfortunately not all Americans recognize the American Indian girl called "The Lily of the Mohawks". An unusual title. But Kateri Tekakwitha earned it, and in January, 1943, Pope Pius XII, in pronouncing her Venerable, placed his stamp of approval upon her virtues.

Born at Ossernenon (now Auriesville, N. Y.), in 1656, Tekakwitha was to lead a life of suffering. In the smallpox epidemic of 1659, she lost her Mohawk father, her Algonquin Christian mother, and her baby brother. For any little girl of four, that is tragedy. Besides, the disease had left her with a scarred face; and her lustrous black eyes had

