

# The Kateri Seals



**A** HEARTFELT, resounding thank you! Thank you to all who acknowledged the sheet of Kateri seals and the accompanying letter.

Far more important than the financial is the spiritual aspect of the seals. Thanks to the Kateri seals you have the opportunity of making Kateri known to countless would-be friends, Christians and otherwise. Of the 45,000,000 Catholics in North America, a little more than 10,000 are members of the Kateri Guild. With 20,000 members, it would obviously be possible to make her better known. The aim of more subscribers is more prayer in view of the beatification of the Lily of the Mohawks. "Jesus,

Mary and Joseph, hasten Kateri's beatification!"

As 'Kateri' readers know, the Center labors under a heavy liability. With the seal returns, it was possible to pay off the last issue of 'Kateri', a little more than \$2,000.00, thereby not increasing the debt. You will be interested to know that 24% of our subscribers answered our appeal, many of them with contributions exceeding the dollar that had been suggested. Perhaps, if circumstances permit, the remaining 76% of the Kateri Guild membership will send in their dollar with a little note: "For the Kateri Seals!" Please address your letter to the Kateri Center, Box 70, Caughnawaga, P. Q., Canada.

One dollar for the seals of my little Kateri and another one for someone who cannot afford them . . . (Mrs. M. G., Montreal, P. Q.)

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Thank your for your clever letter along with the sheet of Kateri seals. Anyone who would not respond to your short, to the point appeal just doesn't have a heart. Enclosed you will find one dollar . . . (Miss S., Cleveland, Ohio.)

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We received your letter with the Kateri seals. Glad to have them. I am sending you \$10.; do the best you can with it . . . (Mr. and Mrs. L. R., Montreal, P. Q.)

(X)

Her life rather than her faith!

## Flowers Also

**T**HIS Christian Indian<sup>1</sup>, who had pertinently answered that she never honored Mary as God, went into a deeper explanation of her devotion to her: "As the Lord was willing to make himself man for our salvation," she continued, "and he chose Mary to be his Mother, isn't it reasonable that we should honor her in that capacity? If Jesus Christ, her Son, has himself honored her, if the angels and saints pay her their respects in Heaven, why shall we not render her our homage on earth? As for the rest of your reproaches, this rosary that we wear aids us in paying to her daily a fixed number of acts of devotion. Her image, which we have so often before our eyes, recalls her to our minds and renews in our hearts the love, the trust and the respect that we ought to have for our Savior's Mother."

Another convert, Marie Tsiaouentes, successfully argued with some inhabitants of New Amsterdam who did not approve of her wearing a crucifix at her neck.

"You are very simple minded," they said, "to believe it necessary to pay honor to wood and brass as if they were the masters of our lives."

1. Name unknown. See Kateri, no. 68, Spring 1966, p. 12.

Marie made answer as follows:

"When we pray, prostrated before the Cross, we do not address ourselves to this piece of wood or copper, as to him who has made us what we are; for we know too well that God, who is the author of our lives is a pure spirit who cannot be seen with the eyes of the body, and whom we shall not see as he is, except in Heaven. We are not ignorant that wood and copper are far inferior to ourselves, and that they have no power; but we wear this crucifix because, at the sight of it, we are reminded that Jesus Christ was fastened to a cross, that he died there, to give us life and earn Paradise for us. That is why we love and adore him on this cross, as we adore him in Heaven."

Many Dutchmen found that this Indian had spoken well.

The most fervent of the praying Indians, Marie Tsiaouentes, hoping to prevent them from further attacks against her religious practices, boldly took them in hand:

"You urge us not to listen to the voice of those who bear the word of God. Should we listen to you?—to you, I say, who have never taught us anything but wrong-doing? You, who are interested only in our beaver