

## EACH NEW MOON



**BISHOP** André Cimichella, Auxiliary of Montreal and Bishop Ponent to the hierarchy for the Committee of the Founders of the Canadian Church, has naturally shown great interest in the six causes for the beatification or canonization of these saintly men and women: Blessed Margaret Bourgeoys, Blessed Margaret d'Youville, the Venerable Mary of the Incarnation, the Venerable Francis de Laval (Kateri's Bishop), Sister Catherine of St. Augustine, and Jeanne Mance, North America's first lay nurse. But the Bishop is open-minded; he understands the bond that united the Founders (with the exception of Blessed Margaret d'Youville who was born after Kateri's death) with the Lily of the Mohawks.

So Bishop Cimichella thought that ACTION was indicated in favor of Kateri. He visited the Center in Montreal, and suggested that we drive over to the Mission of St. Francis Xavier. We did this a few days later, after which, the Bishop revisited the mission church several other times.

On Sunday, April 9, at St. Francis Xavier's, Miss Claire Déry, the

Provincial Regent of the Daughters of Isabella, several Deputy Regents, and members of the organization from the dioceses of St. Jean de Quebec, Valleyfield, and Montreal, attended High Mass. It was celebrated by Bishop Cimichella, who also preached the homily, touching on the life and virtues of the Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha, much to the satisfaction of the Indian parishioners and also of the Daughters of Isabella. After the Eucharistic Celebration, ways and means were discussed to escalate prayer to Kateri, thereby hastening her beatification. In the next issue of *Kateri*, you will be informed of the practical solution that was chosen.

Meanwhile as Vice-Postulator for the beatification of the Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha, I sincerely wish to thank Bishop Cimichella, Miss Déry, the Indian Daughters of Isabella, and all the other members of this association who met in Caughnawaga on the first Sunday after Easter.

The Mission of St. Francis Regis dates back to 1752; it was made up of Indians from the Mission of St. Francis Xavier at Caughnawaga — Kateri's mission. Today, St. Francis Regis' with its mission church in the Province of Quebec, extends into Ontario and the State of New York.

On the eve of the anniversary of Kateri's death on April 17, 1680, Father Joseph McBride, S.J., my fellow Vice-Postulator, went into ACTION at the St. Regis Mission. Seconded by Iroquois Fr. Michael K. Jacobs, S.J., by the pastor, Fr. Francis Arsenaault, S.J., Fr. Alphonse Lévesque, S.J., and Fr. Robert Burns,

S.J., of Auriesville, he organized a National Day of Prayer.

At ten o'clock in the morning, a concelebrated High Mass was sung in thanksgiving to the Blessed Trinity for the glory that is Kateri's in heaven, with Fr. McBride as the principal celebrant.

Bishop Guy Bélanger of Valleyfield, P.Q., offered the Eucharistic Celebration at noon, and at three o'clock confirmed some sixty of the Indian children all in white albs. A chartered bus carried the Indian Choir members from Caughnawaga to St. Regis. Under the experienced direction of Father Henri Lalonde, S.J., they sang hymns in Iroquois, set to music by Mozart, Perosi, Haendel, and Noyon (*Sirisarem Kenthare: Jérusalem acclame !*), including also, the late Dr. Bernier's beautiful *Hymn to Kateri Tekakwitha*.

At four o'clock, practically all the faithful removed to the St. Regis Parish Center, on the American side of the Mission in Hogansburg, N.Y. Although Bishop Bélanger was expected at Ottawa that evening, he took time out with his chancellor, Msgr. Robert Tremblay, to take part in the public homage to the Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha. In a brief speech to the people, the Bishop revealed that his Irish grandmother had taught him devotion to Kateri at the very early age of four years.

Dr. Solomon Cook, Ph. D., a member of Fr. McBride's *Tekakwitha League Board*, and Fr. Jacobs' brother-in-law, summarized the life and virtues of the Lily of the Mohawks. Two Indian religious of St. Ann, born in St. Regis, Sister KATERI, and Sister Dorothy Ann

then read Pope Pius XII's decree proclaiming Kateri "venerable". Fr. McBride spoke about his work in favor of Kateri, and honored Fr. Jacobs and Dr. Cook with a special Kateri awards, the Mrs. Annie Lachache and Agatha Taylor-Foote (who were written up in the last *Kateri*), with honorary certificates.

Before serving the guests a delightful dinner, prepared by Mrs. Solomon Cook and other devoted women of the mission, I also said a few words about the widespread devotion to Kateri, as evinced by letters from all over the world, and stressed the need for an escalation of the Kateri Prayer Campaign.

Mr. John A. Greaves of London, England, in a N.C. release, publicized the conduct of the Honorable Norman St. John Stevas, M.P., who brought to the attention of the Honorable Richard Crossman, Minister of Social Services, a recent scandal to be added to the list of scandals that has been part and parcel of Britain's Abortion Act since it came into operation several years ago. Abortion clinics sold LIVE fetuses for study.

A consultant clinical physiologist decided to open a new field of research in fetuses. A worker in the medical field became aware of his plans and stated:

"He will obtain these from a source in the East End of London and plans to keep these in a state of suspended animation on heart-lung machines until they reach term — 40 weeks gestation — and then to use his own words, 'slaughter them.'

"This research on human embryology is being conducted for the