

❖ **Kateri's smile upon you, Mr. S. M. !**

I have a strong feeling that the reciting of the Lord's prayer for the prompt beatification of Kateri had much to do with the successful open heart surgery performed on my wife last May... Please apply a portion of the enclosed toward the subscription cost of the Kateri publication for 1974... (Euclid, Ohio.)

❖ **Kateri's smile upon you, Mrs. A. R. !**

My son-in-law was out of work and jobs are not plentiful, even with a trade. I prayed Kateri, which I do every day, but this time. I prayed a little harder. Last Monday, he went around all the employment places without any luck, but at the last one, they hired him. I know Kateri did it, so here is the small offering I had promised... (Portland, Me.)

❖ **Kateri's smile upon you, Mr. and Mrs. S. P. !**

Enclosed find a money order for twenty-five dollars to use as you see fit. It is in thanksgiving for the successful summer we had in our new business. We just know that Kateri must care for us and is sending customers our way. We hope to soon be able to send another donation... (Revere, Pa.)

❖ **Kateri's smile upon you, Mrs. L. Z. !**

Enclosed please find two dollars for two new subscriptions to your **Kateri** publication. This is in thanksgiving for a favor I received. My son bought a house and it was not what he thought, so he had to get rid of it. Thanks to Kateri, he did, and with no expense to him... (Hanover, Ont.)

❖ **Kateri's smile upon you, Mrs. C. S. !**

When my mother was in the hospital and very sick, I promised Kateri twenty dollars. I prayed to God and Kateri. Today my mother is in fine health. Kateri is a good friend, she always helps me. I'm adding ten dollars for a test on me that came back O.K. (Brooklyn, N.Y.)

❖ **Kateri's smile upon you, Miss M. G. !**

I am enclosing a check for six dollars — five in thanksgiving for a favor received — a transfer to another city was feared, but did not come to pass — and one to renew my subscription to **Kateri**. I say a prayer every night to hasten Kateri's beatification and shall continue to do so. (Montreal, P.Q.)

(When acknowledging favors to Kateri, be sure to indicate details.)

ST. FRANCIS MISSION RELIES ON KATERI'S INTERCESSION

Bernard D. Fagan, S.J.



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In the heart of Sioux country midst the plains of South Dakota at St. Francis Mission on the Rosebud Reservation stands a statue of the Mohawk maiden, Kateri Tekakwitha.

At first blush, it might seem strange that this child of the Iroquois, of which the Mohawks were a band, should be found among the children of Red Cloud, Sitting Bull, Crazy Horse, and Spotted Tail. But, on reflection, it seems not at all far-fetched. Centuries ago, when the Iroquois first heard the Good News of Christ, they responded by sending some of their Christian men to carry the Word to western tribes even as far as the present State of Montana. Moreover, when shortly before her death Kateri had said: "I will love you in heaven. I will pray for you. I will help you." She likely wanted to include her Sioux brothers and sisters. It was with this hope of blessings through

Kateri's prayers that the Jesuits at St. Francis Mission have erected a shrine in her honor.

St. Francis Mission was founded in 1886. The Rosebud or Brule (Burnt-Thigh) Sioux had experienced earlier contact with Black Robes, notably Father De Smet in the mid-1800's. When towards the end of that century they were located on the Rosebud Reservation, the Brule Chief Spotted Tail and other sub-chiefs requested Black Robes to educate their children. It happened that a group of Jesuits, as well as Franciscan Sisters, who had been expelled from Germany, were in Buffalo, New York awaiting an apostolic assignment. They answered the call of Bishop Martin Marty, first Catholic Bishop of Dakota Territory, and began work on the Pine Ridge and Rosebud Reservations.

Through the generosity of Katherine Drexel, wealthy Philadelphia socialite who was later to found the order of Blessed Sacrament Sisters, a school was built. It wasn't long until the school became one of the largest Indian schools in the nation with over 400 students. Along with work in