

EACH NEW MOON



TRICENTENNIALS

THE NEXT FIVE years are important historically, for from 1675-80, the Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha became a Christian, rose to mystical union with Christ, and died with a smile upon her lips, breathing the holy names of Jesus and Mary.

Although the ground may be sheeted in snow, in the warmth of our hearts, let us begin to celebrate those last years of Kateri's life by intense daily prayer (intimate conversation with Jesus, Mary, and Kateri). It will lead us to frequent communion and to greater efforts on our part to make her known and loved so that, in the very near future, she may be granted the honors of the altar.

In this issue of *Kateri*, I am stressing two events in the life of the Lily of the Mohawks:

1. A statue of Our Lady of Foy in the round was honored in Mohawkland during the early winter of 1675;

2. Young Tekakwitha began to take instructions in preparation for baptism in the late summer of 1675.

New Year resolution: Prayer pledges for Kateri? . . .

FOR THE NAVAJOES

From Tekakwitha Mission at Houck, Arizona, Father Cormac Antram, O.F.M., addressed the following letter to the Kateri Staff:

"For the past several months, I have been running a series of radio programs on the life of Kateri Tekakwitha. This has been a broadcast on our Navajo Catholic radio program, 'The Padres' Hour', which is in the Navajo language program heard over three stations. For the basis of my script, I have used the book *Kateri Tekakwitha* by Fr. Francis X. Weiser, S.J. Now I would like to publish the radio scripts as a booklet. It would be a condensed version of Fr. Weiser's book, redone in simple English. The booklet, which would be printed in our mission press, would not be for sale on the open market, but would be for distribution among the Navajo people. We plan to print 500 copies. Father Weiser would be given full credit as being the source from which this booklet was condensed. . . My only purpose is to help make Kateri better known among our Navajo people."

Of course, permission was readily granted and the result, *This is Kateri*, is beautiful. God bless you very specially, dear Father, for making Kateri better known and loved among the Navajoes!

EXCOMMUNICATED?

At the beginning of the year, retired Archbishop Claude Dupuy of Albi, France, refused to accept

his nomination as member of the Legion of Honor, the highest distinction his country awards to its citizens since Napoleon I. In strong protest against President Giscard d'Estaing's approval of the bill allowing the abortion of any ten-week-old fetus, he refused the 5-rayed star of white enamel and gold, with its beautiful center medallion.

The acceptance of the Medal of Honor from a president who sustained "oppressive liberty" rather than defend the rights of "innocent beings unable to defend themselves," would have seemed shameful to this great prelate.

Is the president of France a Catholic or not? I don't know. If he is, following the first successful abortion permitted by the new bill, he stands excommunicated.

The president of France has been invited to visit Canada in 1976. Obviously this visit has not been planned to congratulate him on his excommunication.

TWO PARAGRAPHS TO THE WISE



PHOTO PAUL W. STAUBER

Kateri Tekakwitha to the public at

The July 1975 *Liguorian* (Liguori, Missouri, 63057) is worth the reading. Mary-Eunice, a member of the International Kateri Committee, introduces the Venerable

large as "a new Star in the New World." The author is well-known for her dramatic monologue productions, including one on Kateri Tekakwitha. She and her husband, Joe Spagnola, conduct *Mary Productions* at 58 Lenison Avenue, Belford, New Jersey, 07718. For a copy of her Kateri monologue write to Tekakwitha Indian Orphanage, Sisseton, South Dakota, 57262.

The New England issue of *The Jesuit*, Autumn 1975, published by the Jesuit Foreign Missions, 314 Darmouth Street, Boston, Massachusetts, 02116, reached me as *Kateri* was going to press. May I suggest that the friends of the Lily of the Mohawks get a copy and read the article by Fr. Richard McKeon, S.J., of Le Moyne College, Syracuse, N.Y., which appeared on pages 12 to 15? It tells the story of "America's Indian Martyrs," whose death Kateri foretold ten years or so before it occurred. Very well done.

IN THE EARLY DAWN

Have you noticed in the *Kateriana* on page two, among other new items, *In the Early Dawn*, the story of the Indian people in the days of the first missionaries, edited by the Rev. James S. McGivern, S.J.? If the subject interests you, order your copy from *Kateri*, Box 70, Caughnawaga, P.Q., Canada.

A SLOVAK TRANSLATION

Fr. Steve Sencik, S.J., of the Slovak Jesuit Fathers, Cambridge, Ontario, proposes to translate into