

will be lost before the tide changes. It is sometimes a struggle teaching our four children against what is coming from the parochial school.

In the meantime, life goes on and we are doing our best to promote what we see to be God's will here.

I have distributed the five subscription envelopes to people I know will respond. I would like to put my mother's name on the Mary of Onondaga Roll. . .

As a young girl, . . . I became devoted to my heavenly mother, Mary, as did Kateri. It has been a joy to become acquainted with Kateri and now to work for her cause. Our family may be able to visit the Montreal area this summer.

Please send me one hundred pledges and envelopes. I am a Regent with the Catholic Daughters of America. We'll be having an area convention in May. I have made up an informational scrapbook and I plan to spread her name there. I am working on a write-up for our diocesan newspaper to promote "Respect Life" and children. Kateri's example in living her life as the temple of the Holy Spirit will be emphasized. I am on the board of our diocesan pro-life committee. Thank you and God bless your work.

Mrs. L. H., Annandale, Va.

## PRAYER FOR EACH DAY

### *Ancient Arapaho Invocation*

O my Father, Holy Spirit,

O Four Old-Men  
And Keeper of the  
Sacred Pipe,

O Morning Star  
And all good things  
of creation —

I mention these good things.  
the light of dawn,  
the good wind,  
the timber  
the soil,  
and the animals.

Listen —

All you creatures  
under the ground,  
All you creatures  
above the ground  
and in the waters.

May this People  
be long in life,  
and increase.

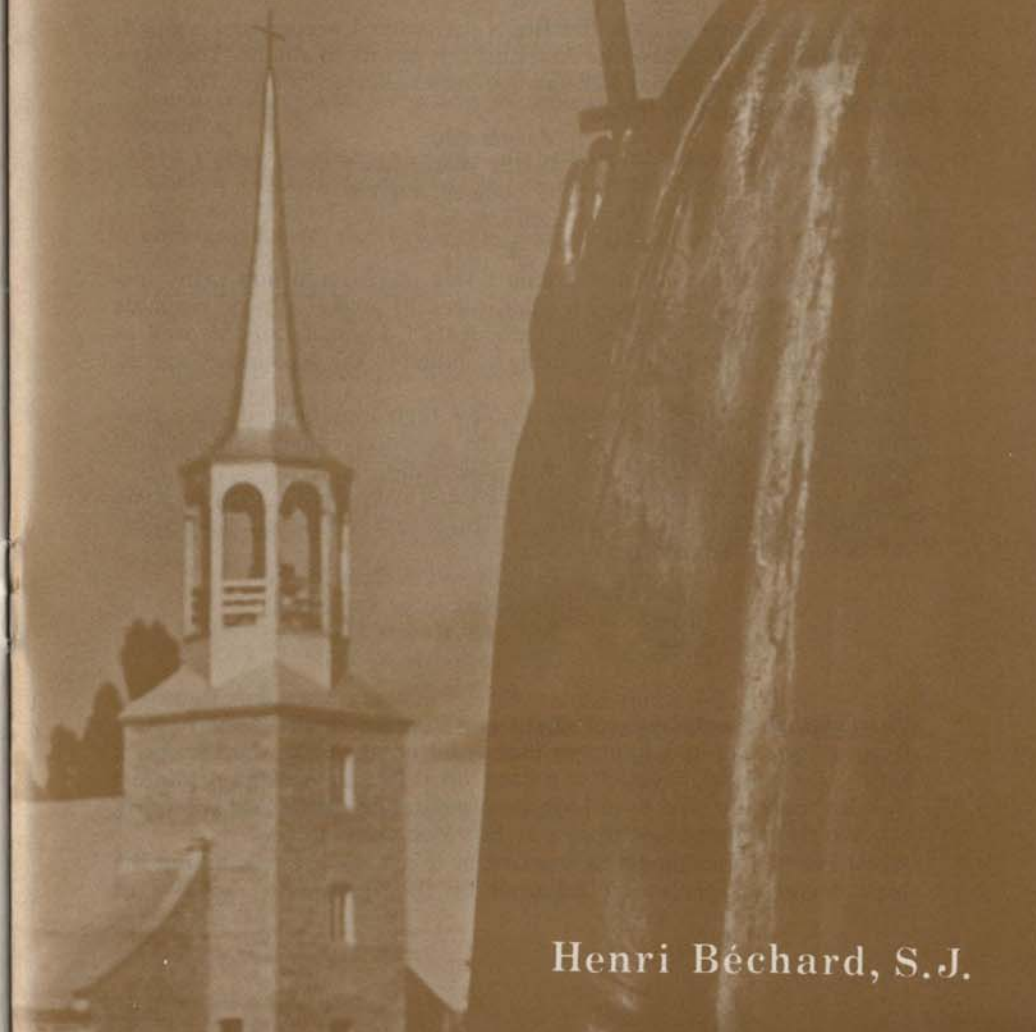
May our boys and girls,  
our children of all ages

May our grown men  
and women,  
and all our elders . . .  
May they increase,  
and be strengthened.

O Father Creator,  
We ask this blessing  
upon our food.

And we ask for all your  
peoples  
the growth of loving  
hearts  
and the happy life  
of peace and harmony.

# The Original Caughnawaga Indians



Henri Béchard, S.J.

## From Our Readers:

With great pleasure and profit, I read your book **The Original Caughnawaga Indians**. The general setup of the volume is most attractive; the book is well written and well researched. It will certainly do much good by making known to us the Caughnawaga missionaries of the Colonial period and by the vigorous spirituality they inculcated on their neophytes. My sincere congratulations!

Rev. Léon Pouliot, S.J.  
Former Provincial  
Professor Emeritus of Church History  
at the Pontifical Faculties of the  
Immaculate Conception, Montreal, P.Q.

★

**The Original Caughnawaga Indians** is just what I needed and wanted. A beautiful job! Oh, how the Amerind can put us to shame. You were able to tell so much that hat has not been collected before. The book is inspirational and spiritual.

Mary-Eunice  
Better World Mary Productions  
58 Lenison Avenue  
Belford, N. J.

★

Your book is a monument to long hours of research and many moments of tedious piecing together facts to make a very readable account of those who probably knew Kateri. I was amazed as well as very pleased to find Kateri figuring so much in the accounts. Congratulations!

Readers of your book are going to have their eyes opened when they come upon the passages describing the penances engaged by the holy people of that day. I hope they will understand.

Who had to proof read the book? It must have been a torture to do it with those long Indian names... I pray that it will sell rapidly, for it is a fine contribution to the field.

Rev. Joseph S. McBride, S.J.  
Vice-Postulator for Kateri  
National Kateri Center  
Auriesville, N. Y. 12016

★

**The Original Caughnawaga Indians** is a very interesting book to read from a Canadian and American historical point of view... This book forms the second book of a trilogy on different aspects of Kateri Tekakwitha's life, and both have been written by Rev. Henri Béchard, S.J., who is an eminent authority on this Mohawk maiden.

While the historical facts themselves in this book are fascinating the high degree of perfection achieved by the Indians in the love of

Christ through their devout religious practices, impresses this reviewer most.

With regard to some brief remarks on the literary aspect of **The Original Caughnawaga Indians**, it is the reviewer's opinion that the story is objectively written, and in a direct manner. Moreover there are several passages containing descriptions of the seasons, nature, dress and customs of the Indians, which reach such heights of artistry that one appears to be reading poetry rather than prose.

In conclusion, **The Original Caughnawaga Indians**, is a true story rather than fiction. This fact immediately makes the book interesting to avid readers. If one is a Canadian or American and loves history, this volume will reveal the origin of important events...

Brother Jerome Hart, F.P.M.  
Montebello, P.Q.

★

The fruits of modern, scientific and technological "progress" are indeed a two-edged sword. This becomes strikingly evident to me when reading and preparing to review two books about our native peoples.

The first is a historical study of the lives of some of the first Caughnawaga Indians, related by Father Henri Béchard, S.J., who is probably the foremost authority in the field. He is vice-postulator for the canonization of the Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha, the "Lily of the Mohawks," who died in 1680. Her cause for canonization is being vigorously pressed today.

Through Father Béchard's book, **The Original Caughnawaga Indians**, we are taken back in history three centuries; we are shown the simple and very saintly lives, lived by a group of Christianized Indians in the Mohawk Valley and along the banks of the St. Lawrence. It relates the inspiring story of the lives of a number of Tekakwitha's intimate friends—young married couples for the most part, some of whom became martyrs for the Faith.

The book is enhanced by the inclusion of 10 hitherto unpublished sketches by Father Claude Chauchetière, S.J., who was present at Kateri Tekakwitha's death in 1680.

C. J. Eustace  
*The Catholic Register*  
Toronto, Ont., April 2, 1977

★

What a delightful surprise to receive the autographed book of Caughnawaga history. Congratulations! I remember so well your telling me about the Indian martyrs for the Faith whose stories are not known. Father, the scholarship of the book really stagger's me... I can appreciate all the documentation in it...

Sister Providentia, S.P.  
Mount St. Joseph  
Spokane, Wa.

A perfect introduction to the life of the  
Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha—  
**THE ORIGINAL CAUGHNAWAGA INDIANS**

by  
**Henri Béchar, S.J.**

This book presents the detailed story of some twenty-five Indians among whom the Lily of the Mohawks lived from 1677-80 at the Mission of St. Francis Xavier, today Caughnawaga, Québec, where she achieved union with God and died. Early Caughnawaga numbered warriors, mystics, and martyrs within its palisades. Ten hitherto unpublished, seventeenth-century, pen-and-ink drawings by Father Claude Chauchetière, one of Tekakwitha's acquaintances, serve as illustrations.

This work is equally of interest to Americans as well as to Canadians, for it treats of the history of Colonial times in both countries.

"To my knowledge," wrote Dr. Lucien Campeau, Professor of History at the University of Montreal and Associate Editor of the *Monumenta Historica Societatis Iesu* in Rome, "this is the first time that an impressive, well-documented list of Indians, who profoundly lived their Faith and actively propagated it with their blood and sufferings, is offered to the public at large."

Please send me a hardcover postpaid copy of  
**THE ORIGINAL CAUGHNAWAGA INDIANS**

by Henri Béchar, S.J.  
Vice-Postulator for the Cause of the  
Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha.

I am enclosing my cheque for \$10.00. (Add \$2.00 in U.S.A. and \$1.50 in Canada for mailing and handling.)

Name .....

Street .....

City or Town .....

Province or State .....

Country with Zip Code .....

✻ **Kateri's smile upon you, Mr. and Mrs. H. D. !**

We would like to take this opportunity of thanking you for the kindness shown on our behalf... We are so grateful to Kateri as she has helped us on numerous occasions during the past years. The following is proof of her goodness. Where shall we start: they are so numerous!

1. Two years ago J., our eldest daughter, married outside the Church, and her husband, J., had the twins T. and J. christened. They were one year old. J.'s parents and ourselves stood for them.
2. Kateri has answered our prayers for your recovery, Father, and for the health of your staff.
3. For the past four years, D. and I have accompanied the Golden Age Club to Notre Dame du Cap and Our Lady's Shrine at Rigaud. Every seat on the bus is always sold.
4. Our sick and I are all doing well and recovering.
5. Young N. D. will be ordained in September.
6. Last April Mom passed away and how Kateri helped us with all the arrangements! Nothing was missing from a bilingual Mass to the Choir singing, "*C'est le Mois de Marie*", as a march, when we left the church. D. and I could never have managed without Kateri.
7. Our godchild K., aged seventeen, from Finland, visited us for twenty-one days at Christmas. Although I had been laid up with my back, I was able to accompany her on numerous side trips.
8. C., who is nineteen, is working in Hamilton and likes it very much.
9. B., aged eighteen, is working at Steinberg's.
10. K., who is twelve years old, is doing well in her studies.
11. D. is always working and in good health.
12. Numerous hours of overtime worked without side effects.
13. On March 18, I received a very high evaluation report of my work. I was very much pleased.
14. On March 19, I was advised that a \$2,300 yearly raise was on its way.
15. On March 20, J. advised us that she and J. had enrolled R. in the French Catholic Notre Dame School in Hamilton. This itself was a very special favor.
16. I have more patience.