

EACH NEW MOON

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WHY ?

IN 1961, at a public consistory at St. Peter's in Rome, the Dean of Advocates formally requested that Pope John XXIII beatify the Maronite hermit Charbel Makhlouf and the Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha. If I remember correctly, Mother Seton's beatification was also mentioned. After sixteen years what do we have? Not only have Father Charbel and Mother Seton been beatified; they have even been canonized. The Church officially recognizes them as saints. Not so with the Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha.

The question that Kateri's friends naturally ask is, Why? Let me first say that the ways of God and those of man are not the same. Let me add that He alone knows when the beatification and canonization of the Lily of the Mohawks will be the most advantageous to the Amerinds.

One must not forget that a canonization does not add anything to the glory of the new saint in heaven.

On the other hand, it supposes a wealth of prayer and sacrifice in the Church militant, that is on the part of its members today. The world must be a somewhat better place to live in after a canonization. In other words, if it takes the sanctifying efforts of millions of Christians to obtain a saint. Now the English and French Kateri subscribers listed at the Caughnawaga Center in Canada come to about 13,000; those listed at the Auriesville Center in New York State come, I presume, to approximately the same number—26,000 in all.

As Kateri belonged to the laity, she has no community to pray for her canonization; many people of her own race do know about her and beg the good Lord to grant that she be officially recognized as a saint, but others don't.

This Christmas is the tercentenary of Kateri's First Communion at the age of twenty-one. Of your charity for the Amerinds, who have no saint of their own, won't you do all in your power to find new friends for Kateri? The *Kateri* publication costs only \$1.00 a year—just about what it takes to prepare your stencil and mail the four issues to you. Our English-language subscribers number 7177. Please help us reach the 10,000 target. It can't be done without your help.

UNICEF

On January 30, 1971, the Vatican Secretariat of State sent papal representatives around the world a document designed to help them counter the ever-widening spread of artificial birth control projects and programs. The February 1 issue of *Times* of that year said in particular that Car-