

EACH NEW MOON



GOLDEN JUBILEE

On November 19, 1977, at the Mission Church of St. Francis Xavier, the Golden Jubilee of the Caughnawaga Iroquois Mixed Choir and the annual celebration in honor of St. Cecilia were held. Fr. Paul Emile Beaudoin had the happy thought of honoring the couples of the mission celebrating their 25th and 30th anniversaries at the same time.

The Solemn Mass of thanksgiving began at four o'clock with the *Hymn to Christ the King* from the English psalter, but was sung in Iroquois, as all the rest. For the occasion, the choir had chosen Gounod's *Missa brevis*, to which were added Fr. Alfred Bernier's *Hymn for the Beatification of Kateri Tekakwitha*, and Gounod's *Ave Maria*, which Mrs. Annie Lachache sang as beautifully as I had first heard her sing it in 1945.

The celebrant was Fr. Michael Jacobs, S.J.; the co-celebrants, Fr. Thomas F. Egan, S.J., Director of the Shrine of Our Lady of Martyrs at Auriesville, N.Y., and his friend Fr. Raymond B. Fullam, S.J., Fr. Léon Lajoie, S.J., Pastor of the Mission, and Fr. Henri Béchar, S.J., Vice-Postulator for the Cause of Kateri Tekakwitha.

Fr. Beaudoin, Master of Ceremonies, briefly explained the meaning of a Christian marriage, and Fr. Egan in turn recalled the links that united Caughnawaga to Auriesville, where Kateri was born.

After the High Mass, in honor of the silver wedding couples, dinner was served at the Caughnawaga Knights of Columbus Hall.

The feast of St. Cecilia and of the Golden Jubilee of the Choir was feted at Kateri Hall, beginning at 8:00 P.M. The choir members, old and young, filled the hall: friends of the choir also, who had helped prepare the celebrations. Some seventy-five in all. Later on in the evening, the younger singers put on a variety show. Fr. Egan, Fr. Fullam, Mrs. Esther Phillips, Mr. James Foote, and Fr. Béchar were designated as judges. Mr. Eddie Cross was chosen as the best of an excellent cast. To top off the festivities, a cold buffet was served at midnight. Far into the night, memories of fifty glorious years were recalled, among them the names of choir directors who had particularly left their mark—Fr. Conrad Hauser, Fr. Alfred Bernier, and Fr. Martial Caron. At two o'clock in the morning, Fr. Egan, Fr. Fullam, and Fr. Béchar shook hands with their friends and retired. At their age, it was the best they could do.

CONGRATULATIONS !

On December 4, the following couples celebrated their silver wedding anniversary: Mr. and Mrs. Peter K. Beauvais, Mr. and Mrs.

Peter H. Deer, Mr. and Mrs. Gabriel Fazio, Mr. and Mrs. Wilbert Jacobs, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Lafleur, Mr. and Mrs. Johnny McGregor, Mr. and Mrs. William Meloche, Mr. and Mrs. Mathew Montour, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Rice, Mr. and Mrs. Donald Skye, and Mr. and Mrs. Russell Skye. Married couples celebrating their 26 to 30 years of wedded life were also honored: Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Diabo, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Hubbard, Mr. and Mrs. Percy McComber, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Meloche, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Rice, Mr. and Mrs. Percy Rice, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Stacey, Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Trudeau, and Mr. and Mrs. Duke Chiara. A single widower and several widows were not forgotten: Mr. Earl Dailleboust, Mrs. Louise Jacobs, Mrs. Ida Goodleaf, Mrs. Johanne Leborgne, Mrs. Dorothy Decaire, Mrs. Patricia Mayo, Mrs. Louise Montour, and Mrs. Annie Skye. Our congratulations to the Jubilarians and, also to Father Beaudoin for actively promoting the Mass, followed by dinner in their honor at the Knights of Columbus Hall.

FR. EMILE LALONDE, R.I.P.



On July 1, 1951, the Kateri quarterly announced that Fr. Emile Lalonde, S.J., who had been ordained a priest three days before, would celebrate his first High Mass at the Mission of St. Francis Xavier. Today it is my sorrowful duty to

advise our readers that this calm, good-natured religious died at St. Jerome, P.Q., on January 5 at the age of 59, after 39 years in the Society of Jesus. Since 1968, he has worked as librarian at the *Université du Québec* at Trois-Rivières, P.Q. Although he spent little enough time in Caughnawaga, the Iroquois population would have been happy to welcome him there as one of its priests. "Little Lalonde should stay here," Mrs. Annie Montour used to say. As there is no "L" in Iroquois, the words would come out, "Ritter Raronde!"

Fr. Emile came from a fine old Canadian family, as people used to like to have them before the Lazure and Morgentaler period. "We are thirteen children," he often said, "and thirteen has not been unlucky for us." Two of the girls became Sisters of the Presentation of Mary. One of them, Sister Yvonne, is now doing a year of spiritual *ressourcement* at the community House of Prayer at St. Hilaire, P.Q. The other, Sister Marie Emma, died from an attack of meningitis in 1920. Four of the boys became Jesuits, the youngest of whom was Father Emile. Armand, the eldest was killed in China on March 18, 1943, for his strong defense of the Catholic schools. Fr. Réal, the next in line, devoted himself to the faithful of Caughnawaga from 1938 to 1951. It was during his term of office that he invited me to work with him in Caughnawaga after my Ordination. He encouraged devotion to Kateri Tekakwitha everywhere he went. From the summer of 1951 to 1954, he was Superior