

KATERIGRAM

SEVEN MONTHS from now, it will be the tercentenary of the holy death of Kateri Tekakwitha. To obtain her beatification for 1980 or shortly afterwards, a tidal wave of prayer is indispensable. Many of her friends are offering an Our Father and Hail Mary daily. I wish there were thousands more. Yet I am now suggesting that her devotees say a daily Rosary for this intention.

Several years ago, I heard a religious from France, very intelligent and very learned, but, unfortunately, lacking in sound judgment, advise a group of priests not to recite the Rosary. Someone objected, "But, Father, Pope John XXIII has made thirty-eight public appeals for devotion to Our Blessed Mother; in five of them he dwelt particularly on the Rosary. The first of these five appeals was the encyclical **Grateful Memory**, issued on September 27, 1959. The Pope added, 'We never fail to recite it in its entirety every day as an act of Marian piety.' Two years later, Pope John sent the Church an Apostolic Letter calling for the public and private recitation of the Rosary." The very intelligent and very learned religious, lacking in sound judgment, retorted, "True, but John XXIII is no intellectual!"

With his vast intelligence and his fine learning, this man must have had a very short memory. Hadn't he ever heard of the great humanist Leo XIII, known as "the Pope of the Rosary," who issued nine encyclicals on the Rosary? He is the one who had the invocation "Queen of the Most Holy Rosary" included in the Litanies of Loreto. Later on, Pope Pius XI issued a masterful encyclical on the Rosary in September 29, 1937. Before becoming pope, he was the curator of the famous Vatican Library, a post that only an intellectual could have held. His successor, Pope Pius XII, a genuine scholar, wrote the Rosary encyclical, **Of the Evils that Assail Us**. Then Pope Paul VI, an intelligent and saintly man, if ever there was one, published at least two encyclicals on the Rosary. And what about Pope John Paul II? On October 29, 1978, he told a crowd of about 150,000 people in St. Peter's Square, "The Rosary is my favorite prayer!" And he certainly is an intellectual. Even Father Greely admits this. I'd like to meet the religious from France, very intelligent and very learned though he may be, and ask him what he thinks of the Rosary today.

HENRI BÉCHARD, S.J.
Vice-Postulator

EACH NEW MOON



Kateri in the American Chapel of the Shrine of the Holy House in Loreto, Italy.

THIRTIETH BIRTHDAY

THIRTY YEARS. Next December, Kateri will be thirty years old. To celebrate this anniversary, if each reader obtained three new subscribers, one for each decade, the 10,000 mark would be reached. Ho! hum!

MARY-EUNICE DOES IT AGAIN!

For years, Mary-Eunice Spagnola of Mary Productions, Belford, N.J., has been an ardent propagator of devotion to the Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha. With her husband, Joe, she has assisted Father Joseph S. McBride, Kateri's Vice-Postulator at Auriesville, New York, in endeavoring to hasten the long desired beatification. From Italy, a recent issue of **The Shrine of the Holy House**, Loreto, (Vol. 11, No. 5-6, 1978) came to my desk. It contained an article by Mary-Eunice, "The Holy House of Nazareth and Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha." The article carries a pic-

ture of the stained-glass window of Kateri in the American Chapel of the Basilica.

A June letter informed me the Daughters of St. Paul, Boston, MA, have produced 13 TV programs by Mary-Eunice of Mary Productions, including **Lives of Saints and Others**. Among them are **The Life of Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha and Kateri's Last Days as Told by Marie-Teresa**. These dialogues are recorded on a 3/4 inch TV tape, in color, each with a different setting with background music. For more information, write to: Daughters of St. Paul, 50 St. Paul's Avenue, Jamaica Plain, Boston, MA 02130, U.S.A.

ST. REGIS CELEBRATES KATERI



The Mission of St. Francis Regis is located some seventy-five miles west of Montreal. Half of it is in New York State and the

other half in the Provinces of Quebec and Ontario. Spiritually it comes under the direction of the Bishops of Valleyfield, P.Q., of Alexandria, Ont., and of Ogdensburg, N.Y. The place is called Akwesasne, "where the partridge drums," referring to sounds made by a cascade at that point. About 1755, it was established by a party of Catholic Iroquois from Caughnawaga, Kateri's Mission, and in 1806 it received a considerable part of the Oswegatchie population made up of Onondagas and Cayugas. The Oswegatchies had