



ÉMILE BRUNET SCULPSIT.

PHOTO PAUL HAMEL, S.J.

Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha at her Mission of St. Francis Xavier in Caughnawaga.



To the faithful of the Church of  
Saint-Jean-de-Québec

Dear sons and daughters,

Last Sunday, June 22, in the Basilica of St. Pater of Rome, Kateri Tekakwitha was beatified! This young virgin lived her Christian life in your country and, after her death, was buried on the South Shore of the St. Lawrence River.

Today, you render homage to her in this diocesan pilgrimage. Together with brothers and sisters of her race, you thank the Lord that the "Lily of the Mohawks" has flourished in your land.

The beatification of Kateri Tekakwitha remind us, first of all, of the missionary epic of New France. Indeed, how could she have come to the Christian faith without the admirable action in your midst of the holy martyrs of Canada, of Blessed François de Montmorency Laval, Marguerite Bourgeoys, Margurite d'Youville, Marie de l'Incarnation and of the other founders of the Church of Canada? In the 17th century, your country became a vast and active field of the Mission of the Church. The Indian people as well as the White people established in North America received the Word of God and built a young and dynamic Church.

Down to this day, the Gospel has yielded abundant fruit in your country. The