



THE 301st ANNIVERSARY

▲ Bishop Bernard Hubert of Saint-Jean-de-Québec presides at the Eucharistic Celebration for the 301st anniversary of Blessed Kateri's holy death and for the launching of the commemorative stamp in her honor. To his left are: Fr. Léon Lajoie, S.J., Pastor of the Mission, and to his right, Fr. Henri Bécharde, S.J., Vice-Postulator for Kateri Tekakwitha. To the extreme left of the picture: Bishop Gérard-Marie Coderre, former Ordinary of Saint-Jean-de-Québec, Bishop André-Marie Cimichella, Ponent for the Causes of Saints in the Province of Quebec, and Auxiliary Bishop Gilles Bélisle of Ottawa. To the far right, the Honourable Gilles Lamontagne, Minister of Defense, substituting for the Honourable André Ouellet, Postmaster General, and Chief Delisle.

▼ After the Unveiling of the Kateri commemorative stamp, Chief Delisle receives an album-souvenir of the occasion and the congratulations of the Honourable Gilles Lamontagne.

Bishop Bernard Hubert
to Kateri's people

"KATERI IS OUR FRIEND"



THE ANNUAL GATHERING for Kateri's Day is always a day of joy, a day of thanksgiving. This year, the launching of a stamp in honour of Kateri Tekakwitha gives extra scope to our annual gathering. The decision of the Government of Canada to render homage to Kateri is an occasion for us to welcome in Kanawake a number of illustrious visitors. I extend a fraternal greeting to the bishops who have come to join the Indians in celebrating Kateri's Day: Bishop Gérard-Marie Coderre, who for twenty-seven years, was the bishop of this diocese of Saint-Jean; Bishop André Cimichella, auxiliary in Montreal; Bishop Gilles Bélisle, auxiliary in Ottawa. I also greet Minister Gilles Lamontagne, representing the Government of Canada at this celebration, in which we not only give homage to Kateri, but are also about to assist at the launching of a stamp in her honour.

On this occasion, the Word of God speaks to the Indians. It calls them to action. To this effect, God presents to us in the Gospel people who are very much like ourselves, Native People or White Faces. St. John describes for us the state of mind of the Apostles after the death of Jesus. They were disappointed men, for they had put their trust in Jesus of Nazareth, and His death on a cross in Jerusalem had ended all their hopes of an interesting, productive life in companionship with this Man. They were also worried, for Jesus was put to death. The Apostles and Disciples were afraid of what people thought of them. They feared the Jews. And even though the Lord, risen from the dead by His Father, appeared to them from time to time, they were so hard put to understand what had happened that they were unable to believe. The discomfort which they experienced at this time appeared typically in the attitude of Thomas, the Apostle who was not there the night of Jesus's first appearance to His disciples.

They were very much like we are. Because of so many social changes that are happening, often in our own families, in our social environment, in which we must struggle with problems such as inflation, unemployment, in which political