

## EACH NEW MOON



### KATERI'S SMILE . . .

Favors registered at the Kateri Center from November 1, to January 25, 1984:

Alcoholic Problems Solved	2
Articles Found	8
Better Health	5
Businesses Sold	1
Cures	43
Employment Found or Kept	44
Financial Aid	2
Happy Deaths	1
Lodgings	7
Peace in Families	1
Properties Bought or Sold	5
Safe Pregnancies	4
Safe Trips	6
Saved from Fires	1
Successful Studies	5
Successful or Averted Operations	15
Temporal Favors	22
Articles Sold	2

### TWENTY-FIVE PRAYER PLEDGES OR MORE

Mrs. O. F. Kavalac, Cincinnati, (OH), 32; Mrs. F. McColgan, Chalk River, (Ont.), 48; Mrs. Philomene Richard, Orleans, (Ont.), 50.

## NO ROSE GARDEN

"I didn't promise you a rose garden!" The Canadian Post certainly didn't promise me a rose garden nor did it give me one. In Montreal, since last December, its procrastination has been holding up the winter issue of *Kateri*, which you should have received nearly two months ago (at the time of this writing). Kindly pardon me for not having more influential friends able to expedite matters . . .

### FAITH-SHARING IN KAHNAWAKE



Sr. Roseline

In February, 1983, the Diocese of St. Jean, Longueuil, Quebec invited their people to join together and spend a weekend at the Retreat House on St. Bernard Island in Châteauguay, Quebec. We were to be initiated in the Parish Renew Program.

Shortly after, we, at St. Francis Xavier Mission joined in prayer to form a small nucleus of six persons to pray for the success of Renew in our Diocese and on our Reservation. Soon after, other persons joined us and by the month of May, we were as many as 18 persons coming together on Tuesday evenings to pray, to sing the glory of God, and to share and to study the Scriptures.

In July, 1983, the Pastor of Kahnawake, Father Leon Lajoie, S.J., had received literature on the *6th Summer Institute on Amerindian*

*Christian Leadership*, to be held at Thunder Bay for the Native Indian people. Among the objectives of this summer Institute, one could read:

"to find light, guidance, courage and strength to fulfill our responsibility as Native people in responding in our way, expressing faith our way, living the Gospel our way."

Our Pastor made a leap into faith! He did not know how to finance the representatives of this Reserve. Nevertheless, he quickly contacted six people and asked them if they were interested in this type of study. They all agreed to go. It was through the generous gift offering of: *THE CATHOLIC CHURCH EXTENSION SOCIETY of TORONTO*<sup>1</sup> that our people were able to go. They financed the complete trip and since then, they also gave an offering to help us meet the expenses for the Renew Program. Without the help of this Society, there is no way we could ever have paid this debt. So to Msgr. Roy A. Carey, President of this organization, as well as to the Benefactors of this group goes our most heartfelt gratitude.

The trip to Thunder Bay did not go without seedlings! . . . Our delegation came back elated! They were quite impressed by what they had seen, heard, and witnessed. They also had attended a Prayer Session and they came to realize that our Indian people were no different from anyone else . . . they, too, had been called by name and they, too, shared God's gifts and they also had been made heirs to His kingdom.

At the request of the members of our Faith-Sharing Group and moved by the Spirit, they wanted to share with their brothers and sisters, a part of what they had seen and heard in Thunder Bay; so, we soon began making plans for a weekend. This marked the beginnings of our Kahnawake Kateri Days. It lasted for two complete days. Mr. Gene Bannon, an Ojibway Deacon from Thunder Bay, was invited for the weekend. His topic was: "On Being an Indian and a Christian" Another invited guest was our well-known, Father Henri Béchar, S.J., the Canadian Vice-Postulator for the cause of Kateri. Father's talk was entitled: "Dialogue on Kateri Tekakwitha—Her Spirit of Hope." *The Singing Prayer Group* of Richard Sayers from Blind River, Ontario led us in prayer and in song.

It was on Sunday, October 9, that we witnessed sadness and joy. Sadness to see our friends leave for their respective Reserves but joy in having brought peace, joy, and reconciliatory opportunities to all. The trip to Thunder Bay had paid off!

Today, the Faith-Sharing Group continues. We have an adult group of 15 to 18 persons, and since a few months, we also have the youth group, teenagers who meet for the same purpose. They are searchers in quest of answers to their identity, to their doubts, to their assertions. This is a most promising group under the leadership of Fr. Jacques

1. This is an organization which helps the Home Missions in all kinds of needs; an organization which is working for the underprivileged brothers and sisters. We, at the Mission in Kahnawake, can assure you that your offerings to the Catholic Church Extension Society really reach out to those in dire need.