



Phillis Dennis Pinxit

Blessed Kateri takes her crucifix to her people.

THROUGH KATERI'S INFLUENCE...

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WHILE visiting my family in Ottawa on July 1, 1981, I came to the realization that I definitely needed some assistance to answer new needs and to add a new dimension in the spiritual lives of the Shuswaps here in the Cariboo. In a quandry, I decided to make a special pilgrimage to the shrine of Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha in Kahnawake, Quebec, in view that through her intercession God might be persuaded to act. Together with my parents and a dear friend of the family, we prayed earnestly to Kateri and celebrated the Eucharist in her honor.

Unknown to us, God was already at work preparing the groundwork in answer to our prayers. I still felt that His arm needed a little twisting and so I decided to return to the shrine in August, 1982 with my parents and Sister Devlin to petition Him once again through the influence of Blessed Kateri. Having returned to the Cariboo and feeling even more convinced that I absolutely must have help, I began to write to some religious orders of sisters. I wrote both to the C.N.Ds. who were already present in Williams Lake; and to the Sisters of the Child Jesus, who had come to this area in 1895, and had just closed their last remaining house in Williams Lake. Realizing that both communities, like most, were short of woman power, I was still hopeful that some good fortune might come my way. I waited with anticipation some word from either one of the communities, but no news came. It wasn't until the first Saturday in March while travelling with Rev. Jules Goulet, O.M.I. to Anaham, B.C. that things began to evolve. Father Jules had mentioned that Sister Dorothy Bob, S.S.A., a Lillooet Indian, who had been with the diocese of Kamloops in Lillooet for the past nine years, had returned from her Sabbatical and was looking for work. I couldn't believe it! Determined to contact her upon my arrival that evening, I phoned Sister Dorothy at Cambridge House in Victoria without hesitation and learned that all I had heard was true. However, I had to act quickly as she had the opportunity to work in Bishop Doyle's diocese