

Bengali, the first edition of which was soon out of print. So it was that little by little the reputation of the Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha was becoming international.

During a good part of the same year, the Indians of the Mission, at Caughnawaga, well-known skyscraper and bridge builders, worked at the restoration of their church, hoping, no doubt, that it would be in good condition for the beatification of the Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha. They discovered beneath the floor of the nave, the remains of more than one hundred persons, among them Ignatius Thaiserha and Cecilia Otsioga, who died past the age of one hundred years, and who quite probably were acquainted with youthful Kateri.

In 1967, the Venerable's friends were pleased when Fides Editions of Montreal published the *L'héroïque Indienne Kateri Tekakwitha*. This was by the Vice-Postulator for Canada, who studied the interior life of the Mohawk girl, already known to Fr. de Charlevoix in the 1700's as "the protectress of Canada."

Many years were to go by before the beatification of the Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha. On all hands, however, devotion to the Iroquois "saint" was on the increase. In 1970, a splendid manifestation among the Western Indians of the United States gives clear indication of it. Since 1955, the Jesuits who were working among them thought of erecting a statue in her honor. Several years later, Fr. Joseph Karol, S.J., of the Mission of St. Francis, in Rosebud, SD spent a weekend at the Mission of St. Francis Xavier in Caughnawaga, where he saw Brunet's work of art. In 1969, the family of Mr. H. J. Birmingham offered Fr. Karol to erect a statue of the Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha as a tribute to the great love of the Amerindians for Kateri and in memory of the late Mr. Birmingham. The Jesuit immediately thought of the statue of Kateri at Caughnawaga.

Happily Mr. Emile Brunet had not destroyed the mold of the original statue, which he kept in his Parisian studio. He immediately set to work, and this duplicate with its base of dark polished granite, donated by Mr. and Mrs. James Stengel, Protestant friends of the Indians, was in place for the unveiling on May 10, 1970. Bro. Joseph Schwarzler, S.J., and his team of men had transplanted to the Mission full grown trees, in these plains where they are scarce, to embellish the site.

During the unveiling of Kateri's statue at Caughnawaga in 1954, a warm sunny day had enhanced the occasion. So it was on Sunday May 10, 1970 at Rosebud, SD. At two o'clock, in the gymnasium, each class from grade I on to high school, was part of the entertainment with its songs, sketches and playlets. At four o'clock, a Eucharistic Celebration was held in the church. His Excellency



All Saints' Day 1972: From left to right, Architect Edouard Piché; Frs. Léon Lajoie, S.J., and Henri Béchard, S.J.; Mr. Albert Lazare, Mrs. Ida Goodleaf, Regent of the Daughters of Isabella, Lily of the Mohawks Circle, Caughnawaga; Mr. Paul Aiello and Mrs. Claire Déry, State Regent of the Daughters of Isabella, Victoriaville, P.Q., witness the translation of the Venerable Kateri's relics.



Bishop Gérard-Marie Coderre followed by Fr. Michael Karkaionton Jacobs, S.J., and Fr. Henri Béchard, sprinkles Kateri's tomb with holy water.