



This star quilt with 8 points was the logo of the 61st Takakwitha Conference held in Lincoln, Nebraska. Like a star, Kateri shines in all directions, having the cross and her lover Jesus nailed to it, always in her vision. The lilies symbolise the purity of her life which led her to make a vow of virginity.

The conference includes worship, prayers and workshops focusing on American Indians and their relationship to the Catholic Church.

Participants will also review reported miracles and hearings attributed to Blessed Kateri, which could help move her toward sainthood.

Kateri was scarred and weakened by smallpox, but remained spiritually strong and worked to help her people, LaMere said in address. "This young lady, this young relative we come to celebrate is so powerful that her message transcends the ages."

"All of us as native peoples are scarred," he said. "All of us are carrying a great burden within ourselves. But we emulate her sacrifice by forgetting our scars and moving on to make ourselves spiritually strong."

BOB REEVES
LINCOLN JOURNAL STAR



Grandfather
help us to see
that
what we see
that
what we touch
is sacred
is holy
that the ground
upon
which we walk
is holy

help us to
imitate
the sun in
warming
our sisters
and brothers
the birds
and
the trees
whose secret
is peace

help us to
be like the spring
wind
which does
not destroy
what it touches

JAMES JANDA



Theresa Steele, Mohawk, with Jacques Bruyere, the Canadian Vice-Postulator, after giving her monologue on Bl. Kateri Tekakwitha's life at the conference.