



Sr. M. Fides Glass

KATERI TEKAKWITHA

# The Lily of the Mohawks

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*PRESENTING:— a new likeness of Kateri from the portrait painted by Sister M. Fides Glass, Seton Hill College, Greensburg, Pa. Posed for by Mrs. Mimi Baum Landes, artist, of Phoenixville, Pa. Presented to Rev. Thomas J. Coffey, S.J., Vice-Postulator, 30 West 16 St. New York City.*

## ON THE RIVER OF RENOWN

### Voice of the People

In life, Tekakwitha was a marvel to behold. In death it has been the same. Pope Pius XI said: "Her life itself is a miracle." Without relating in detail the particulars of favors confidently reported by devotees of the Lily throughout the years, of graces reputedly received — in all an undeniable spiritual pressure on the part of the people for her glorification — it will be well here to summarize her impact on America and the world with the necessary statistics.

### 1680 Up to Now

The seed whence sprang the Lily of the Mohawks was planted in 1656 at Ossernenon on the Mohawk River and nurtured there for 10 years, until 1666. Today Ossernenon is Martyrs Hill, Auriesville, New York, National Shrine of the North American Martyrs, Birthplace of Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha, mecca of thousands of pilgrims during the shrine season, May to November.

The flowering of the Lily came between 1667 and 1677 at Caughnawaga on the north side of the Mohawk. Today Caughnawaga is the site of Tekakwitha Friary, Fonda, New York, a shrine to which pilgrims come to pray for Tekakwitha's beatification — it is the place of her spiritual rebirth through Baptism.

The Lily flowered also at Caughnawaga on the St. Lawrence from 1677 until her death on April 17, 1680. Today Caughnawaga, Province of Quebec, Canada, is the site of the Mission of St. Francis Xavier. The relics of Tekakwitha are kept there in a sealed case. Caughnawaga is a third place of pilgrimage for devotees of Tekakwitha.

### THE HARVEST

#### 1884

The Archbishops and Bishops of the Third Plenary Council of Baltimore petitioned the Holy See to institute the process for the beatification of Kateri Tekakwitha.

#### 1931

After years of preparation, the cause was instituted by the Most Reverend Bishop of Albany, Edmund F. Gibbons, on May 22. Sessions for the Informative Process opened June 2, 1931, and testimony had all been taken by February 23, 1932. Report and Review were concluded May 1, 1932, and the process finished June 4.

#### 1932

The process, *de non cultu* (public veneration), was instituted June 29, 1932, and the visit to Tekakwitha's tomb in Canada was made with all solemnity July 21, 1932.

1938

During June, the Historical Section of the Congregation of Rites at Rome declared that the documents of the case of Tekakwitha were complete, genuine and trustworthy, that they established Tekakwitha's renown for holiness, and a solid basis for final judgment that her virtues were heroic.

1939

On May 20, His Holiness Pope Pius XII approved the introduction of the cause of Kateri Tekakwitha.

1940

November 26 of this year was set, with the Holy Father's approval, as the date for the first discussion of the virtues of the Servant of God, Kateri Tekakwitha.

1943

At Rome, January 3, was issued the decree approved by His Holiness Pope Pius XII declaring heroic the virtues of the Servant of God, the Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha.

#### AND NOW?

Since the decree terming Kateri's virtues heroic and allowing her to be called Venerable, a constant search for miracles attributable to her intercession has continued. Several apostolic processes concerned with purported miracles have been concluded or are presently in progress. The business of these processes is simply to take testimony under oath. The judgment rests with the Holy See.

### A NOTE FROM THE AMERICAN VICE-POSTULATOR

*I can well appreciate the holy impatience with which you await news of progress in Tekakwitha's Cause. It is more than equalled here by all at Tekakwitha League. We were consoled to learn very recently that our new Holy Father, Pope John XXIII is aware of our yearnings, and that our Roman Postulator, Father Miccinelli, S.J., is 'hopeful'. Father Bechard, Canadian V. Postulator, notes in a recent issue of KATERI, that Pope Pius XII wrote once to Miss Gilberte Bouvier of Brookline, Mass., great devotee of Tekakwitha, that the last book read by his predecessor, Pope Pius XI before his death was the life of Kateri. We all know what great steps Pope Pius XII took to advance the Lily to the altars. He approved the discussion of her virtues and on January 3, 1943 signed the Decree making her 'Venerable'. Let us try hard to prove to our new Holy Father that America earnestly desires the speedy beatification and canonization of Tekakwitha, — which means constant interest, prayers, and alertness to the possibility of clear miracles wrought by God through her intercession. And, oh yes, if you like the new portrait of the Lily let us know.*

*Sincerely in Christ,*

THOMAS J. COFFEY, S. J.

### PRAYER FOR THE CANONIZATION OF VENERABLE KATERI TEKAKWITHA

O God, Who, among the many marvels of Thy grace in the New World, didst cause to blossom on the banks of the Mohawk and the St. Lawrence the pure and tender Lily, Kateri Tekakwitha, grant, we beseech Thee, what we ask: (here mention your petition) so that this little lover of Jesus and His Cross may soon be raised to the honors of the Altar by Holy Mother Church, and that our hearts may be enkindled with a stronger desire to imitate her innocence and her faith, through the same Christ Our Lord. Amen.

Imprimatur:

† Most Reverend Edmund F. Gibbons, D.D.

For further information on her cause:

*In the United States:*

Rev. Vice-Postulator, Cause of Tekakwitha  
30 West 16th Street  
New York 11, N. Y.

*In Canada:*

Rev. Vice-Postulator, Cause of Tekakwitha  
Mission of St. Francis Xavier,  
Caughnawaga, P.Q., Canada.

## Thanksgivings

"Enclosed donation for Kateri's Cause is in thanksgiving for many favors received during the past several years. I have been very lax in not having written you sooner and acknowledging receipt of this divine assistance brought about, I am sure, through her intercession, for me and my family. My youngest daughter was seriously ill just before and through the recent holidays. Seeing her lying there in bed, day after day, running a rather high, persistent fever, my wife and I were gravely concerned about her. After about a week of this illness we decided to pin a reliquary of Kateri on her clothing and prayed for divine aid for her. Within a day or so Kathy started to display a rapid improvement; the fever left her, and she was able to return to school. We also received the wonderful news that x-rays taken of her chest, blood counts, and other tests were all found to be negative."

"Several years ago my wife had a rather large tumor on her knee, which caused her much pain and did not respond to medical treatment. She made novenas to Kateri and placed the relic to the afflicted joint each morning and night. Miraculously the condition cleared up and she has never been bothered with it since."

"Also several years ago, my son's hands became covered with warts, which were both unsightly and painful. We applied the relic and prayed to Kateri for divine aid. This condition too cleared up."—Philadelphia, Pa.

"Please forgive me for being tardy in acknowledging your letter and prayers for recovery of my brother who is hospitalized because of cancer, and who until recently was away from the Sacraments many years. I am happy to report that the relic came and we made the novena. I am sure Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha interceded for him. He seems to be in little pain now and though the diagnosis remains the same, he is better. The happiest part is that he made his Confession and has since received Holy Communion several times." — Tulsa, Okla.

"In October of last year I had a very serious operation. I felt I would never be able to work again. I made a novena to little Kateri, promising the enclosed donation if I was able to work in three months. I was able to go back in two months, so am keeping my promise to her, hoping she will soon be canonized." — Lawrence, Mass.

"My four year old grandson had impaired hearing and was unable to say anything other than mama and about four other words. For two years I tried to get my daughter to take him to a specialist and she would not. Since I started to pray to Tekakwitha the child was taken to a specialist. His tonsils and adenoids were removed, his tongue clipped and the tubes from his nose to ears opened (they were grown together). He can now repeat after you practically anything you tell him and his hearing is greatly improved. To me it is a miracle and I am most grateful to Tekakwitha for her help."

— Ponchatoula, La.

"My uncle underwent emergency surgery and his condition was very serious. He applied Kateri's relic and made the novena, and he is now at home and improving steadily. Enclosed is a small offering in thanksgiving."

— Malverne, N.Y.

"Several years ago I had a large growth removed from my arm near the shoulder. Recently another one had grown in the same place and quite large. I had it removed and the doctor advised having it analyzed. I was afraid it might be malignant so I made a novena to Tekakwitha and thanks to her and Our Blessed Mother the report came back negative." — Lancaster, Pa.

"I promised this offering if Venerable Kateri would cure my granddaughter, born with a hole in her heart. Today she is twenty-one months old and the doctor reports that while the hole is still present, the pressure or loud murmur has stopped. A semi-annual check-up is all that is necessary. No other physical function has been affected. This report makes me say, 'thank you Kateri'." — Chicago, Ill.

"It is with great pleasure and thankfulness that I have the opportunity to tell you of the blessings I received through Kateri. My husband and I are elderly and our children live many miles away. We have a wonderful pet, a puppy that came to our door two years ago. We love him dearly and twice in the past year he wandered away — once for a full week. I feel certain we found him only with the help of Kateri, especially the last time when after searching a long time, he appeared out of nowhere. We are not of the Catholic faith, but have great respect for it, and hope to always enjoy the help of dear Kateri." — Columbus, Ohio.

# Thanksgivings

"Venerable Kateri saw to it that our home was sold. We had it on the market for five years and never had a prospect. I asked Kateri to help and in two or three days we received a letter through the mail from the man who finally bought it."

"My aunt had an apartment which had stood empty for over a year. (She is a non-Catholic and quite prejudiced.) The opportunity presented itself and I suggested I ask little Kateri to help. The apartment was rented within a week." — Ft. Wayne, Ind.

"Enclosed offering is to help further the Cause of Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha. The numbness in my hand for which I asked her help, is gone. Always grateful."

— Syracuse, N.Y.

"The Lily of the Mohawks recently obtained for me a choice job after being out of work for fourteen months. She has yet to fail me in any favor that I have asked through her intercession. The enclosed offering is in thanksgiving." — Adams, Mass.

"Enclosed is an offering for the Cause of Catherine Tekakwitha. She is good to intercede for me. I was in the hospital for observation and she helped me."

— West Harford, Conn.

"My nephew has done much to promote Kateri's devotion among his friends. Ever since his accident in 1955 he feels she is responsible for his being here today."

— Bellevue, Ky.

"This little offering is made in gratitude for the intercession of Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha, which resulted in recovery from illness." — Buffalo, N.Y.

## ADDITIONAL FAVORS

Cures .....	8	Safe Trip .....	1
Employment .....	4	Spiritual & Temporal .....	1
Financial Aid .....	7	Successful Operation .....	3
Relief in Distress .....	4	Not Specified .....	63
Safe Delivery .....	1		

## PETITIONS

Cures .....	41	Relief in Distress .....	16
Apartments .....	5	Safe Delivery .....	4
Conversions .....	4	Safe Trip .....	1
Employment .....	12	Sale of Property .....	2
Exams .....	7	Spiritual & Temporal .....	4
Financial Aid .....	6		
Happy Marriage .....	1	Not Specified .....	40

## Obituary

Most Rev. Joseph P. Donahue, D.D., New York, N.Y.  
 Most Rev. M. Macrionitis, S.J., D.D., Athens, Greece  
 Most Rev. W. T. Mulloy, D.D., Covington, Ky.  
 Rt. Rev. Msgr. A. J. F. Quinn, New York, N.Y.  
 Rev. John P. Delaney, S.J., Baltimore, Md.  
 Rev. Francis P. Donnelly, S.J., Poughkeepsie, N.Y.  
 Rev. Joseph P. Donovan, C.M., St. Louis, Mo.  
 Rev. F. J. Crewen, S.J., Shrub Oak, N.Y.  
 Rev. Thomas L. Matthews, S.J., New York, N.Y.  
 Rev. Samuel K. Wilson, S.J., W. Baden Springs, Ind.  
 Bro. William R. Stearns, S.J., New York, N.Y.  
 Mrs. Rita E. Cefalu, Amite, La.  
 Mrs. Mary L. Doherty, Malden, Mass.  
 Miss Alice B. McGovern, Chicago, Ill.  
 Mr. Michael Rose, New Orleans, La.  
 Mr. John C. Weadock, New York, N.Y.

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- I—Sketch and prayers.  
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 5¢ for 2; 25¢ a dozen.

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- By Wynne, 32 pages, illustrated, 20¢.  
 By Coffey, 32 pages, 10¢.

### AMERICA'S MARTYRS

- A pamphlet by Fr. Coffey, 10¢.

### MEDAL

- Image and title "Lily of the Mohawks,"  
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### PICTURES

- Small—lithograph, color, sketch and prayer ..... 10¢.  
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 Large—lithograph in color, 12½ x 8½ inches,  
 mounted so as to need no frame; for class  
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Bookmarks, 20¢ a dozen

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## TEKAKWITHA LEAGUE

30 WEST 16TH STREET, NEW YORK 11, N.Y.

REV. THOMAS J. COFFEY, S.J., *V. Postulator for Her Canonization*