

TEKAKWITHA NEWS

JANUARY 2012



Kateri's Last Words

“Saint Kateri”

I guess by now you all have heard the good news that Blessed Kateri will be honored by the Church as a saint. We don't know when it will happen just yet but we hope and pray it will be in this new year. The needed miracle for this to evolve was accepted and approved by the Church and now we simply await the Holy Father's word with a date for the celebration.

It will be a celebration of first magnitude here at the Shrine of Blessed Kateri. It will be a celebration of joy and thanksgiving and it is with this gratitude that we begin this newsletter for a new year.

Over the past week we have been bombarded with calls for interviews from newspapers, radio and TV. All have been asking several questions of interest and importance.



Painting of Kateri by
Father Chauchetiere

“Saint Kateri” (Con’t)

The first question is when will it all take place? When will we be able to call our Blessed Kateri, Saint Kateri? It even sounds strange just writing it but the sound is pure music to our ears. Saint Kateri indeed and soon we will be honoring her as our Saint. That will be a gift of wonder and grace.

Well, with all that in the offering we are in the process of continuing our up-grading and refreshing the Shine grounds. The Candle Chapel has been cleaned and simplified, the gift shop has been painted and we are planning on some interior renovations and new lines of gifts. We are sending out tenders for painting the main chapel and museum and we have a proposal for siding Grassmann Hall. The pavilion floor is finished and the added decoration to the altar area (stage) will be completed in the Spring when the weather is more conducive to that kind of work. We are making progress on beautifying the Shrine for visitors this year.

In the Summer, July 18-22, there will be a Kateri Conference held in Albany, NY. It is a yearly event held in different places across the USA. Providentially, it seems, it will be held here in this year of the possibility of Blessed Kateri’s canonization. The conference invites people from all over the US, Canada and other parts of the world to join in celebrating this young First Nations lover of Jesus. For our part we want to be ready to receive the attendees and offer them a visit they will remember for a long time.

Well it seems this year of Kateri Tekakwitha is off to a good start. It most certainly is off to an exciting start and with the anticipation of the designation of ultimate holiness for our young woman with a heart full of love it is all good.

I think that each of us now needs to calm down, pause a moment and give thanks for the faith and wonder entrusted to who we are in this relationship with Blessed Kateri. We need to allow the happiness to settle in and be a source of goodness and expectation to others who want to know Jesus through who we are.

As the news continues to excite and fill us with wonder we will continue to pray for the announcement and prepare for the celebration for Saint Kateri. More news will follow in subsequent writings and I ask all of you to keep updated with your local news outlets. Keep us in mind and as we juggle our limited budget, pray that we are able to do what we feel is needed for the upcoming preparations. Stay with us in prayer and spirit and have a great and holy new year.

Friar Mark Steed



National Kateri Shrine

PO Box 627

3636 State Highway 5

Fonda, NY 12068-0627

Tele: 518.853.3646

Email: office@katerishrine.com

Web: www.katerishrine.com