



JULY 12, 2020

## SAINT KATERI TEKAKWITHA, PRAY FOR US



On July 14th we celebrate the feast day of St. Kateri Tekakwitha the first Native North American saint. Let us learn from her life of humility and appreciate the wonder of the miraculous transformation that took place on her deathbed, where witnesses became stunned by her radiant beauty.

St. Kateri Tekakwitha was an Algonquin-Mohawk born in 1656 in Auriesville (formerly Ossernenon), New York. Her father was a Mohawk chief and her mother, Togakouita, a Catholic Algonquin woman. At the age of four, St. Kateri was orphaned. The family all contracted smallpox, she was the only one who survived. She was scarred all over her face and lost some of her vision.

Her paternal aunt took her in and raised her in the Mohawk village of Caughnawaga, which means At the Wild Water. The site in Fonda, New York, where she spent most of her life was excavated around 1957 by volunteers and Conventual Franciscans and volunteers. The first shrine to her was erected near the grounds in 1980 ([WWW.KATERISHRINE.COM](http://WWW.KATERISHRINE.COM)).

Kateri's deep scars on her face left her embarrassed and relentlessly teased, so she often veiled her face. She was named Tekakwitha which in Mohawk means, "bumps into things," because of her poor vision. As a young girl and teen, she adamantly refused marriage, which was unthinkable. She wanted to dedicate herself to the faith of her mother.

Although her relatives did not approve, they allowed her as a teenager to study the Catholic religion with Jesuit missionaries. By the age of 20 she was baptized Catholic. The family shunned her, so she left her village to live in a Catholic mission 200 miles away near Montreal, Canada.

She spent her life as a loving and nurturing missionary. She loved teaching children prayers and telling them stories about the life of Jesus. She was very empathetic - nursing the sick, collecting items for the needy, and caring for the elderly. She wanted to become a religious sister but was denied.

She became known for extreme fasting and penance. Some friars believe this attributed to the rapid decline of her health.

St. Kateri Tekakwitha died during Holy Week in 1680. She was nearly 24. Witnesses recorded her last words were, "Jesos Konoronkwa," which means, "Jesus, I love you." On her death bed her emaciated and severely scarred face became full and smooth as a beautiful healthy child. In addition, a smile came upon her lips.

St. Kateri was beatified in 1980 and canonized in 2012 by Pope Benedict.

This is an abbreviated version of St. Kateri's story. There is so much more to learn about her life, trials, mission, and devotion to the Blessed Mother and Jesus. Learn more about her through various Catholic resources like Ignatius Press, Franciscan media, Sadlier, and your favorite Catholic resources in print and online.

St. Kateri Tekakwitha, pray for us.

## LITANY OF SAINT KATERI TEKAKWITHA

*Lord, have mercy on us.*

*Christ, have mercy on us.*

*Lord, have mercy on us.*

*Christ, hear us.*

*Christ, graciously hear us.*

*God the Father of Heaven, have mercy on us.*

*God the Son, Redeemer of the World, have mercy on us.*

*God the Holy Ghost, have mercy on us.*

*Holy Trinity, one God, have mercy on us.*

*Kateri, lily of purity, pray for us.*

*Kateri, consoler of the heart of Jesus, pray for us.*

*Kateri, bright light for all Indians, pray for us.*

*Kateri, courage of the afflicted, pray for us.*

*Kateri, lover of the cross of Jesus, pray for us.*

*Kateri, flower of fortitude for the persecuted, pray for us.*

*Kateri, unshakeable in temptations, pray for us.*

*Kateri, full of patience in suffering, pray for us.*

*Kateri, keeper of your virginity in persecutions, pray for us.*

*Kateri, leader of many Indians to the true faith through  
your love of Mary, pray for us.*

*Kateri, who loved Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, pray for  
us.*

*Kateri, lover of penance, pray for us.*

*Kateri, who traveled many miles to learn the faith, pray  
for us.*

*Kateri, steadfast in all prayer, pray for us.*

*Kateri, who loved to pray the rosary for all people, pray  
for us.*

*Kateri, example to your people in all virtues, pray for us.*

*Kateri, humble servant to the sick, pray for us.*

*Kateri, who by your love of humility gave joy to the angels,  
pray for us.*

*Kateri, your holy death gave strength to all Indians to love  
Jesus and Mary, pray for us.*

*Kateri, whose scarred face in life became beautiful after  
death, pray for us.*

*Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, spare  
us, O Lord.*

*Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,  
graciously hear us, O Lord.*

*Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, have  
mercy on us.*

*Let us pray*

*O Jesus, who gave Kateri to the Indians as an example  
of purity, teach all men to love purity and to console  
your immaculate Mother Mary through the lily, Kateri  
Tekakwitha, and your Holy Cross. Amen.*

*Kateri Tekakwitha, pray for us.*

## THE CATHOLIC SPIRIT MOVES TO PUBLISH MONTHLY PRINT, WEEKLY ELECTRONIC ISSUES

By: Colleen Rowan

With the ultimate goal of enhancing communication while operating within a new budget to help cut costs, The Catholic Spirit announces the move from printing twice a month to once a month and the addition of a weekly electronic issue for those who subscribe.

All print publishing dates will be on the first Friday of each month. The Catholic Spirit monthly print version will continue to be delivered free of charge to

all Catholic households in West Virginia.

The new electronic edition of The Catholic Spirit was made available last month to also help cut the cost of printing, and will now be sent every Friday morning. Many have signed up, and say they prefer this new version. Anyone can sign up for the e-list by sending an e-mail to [CROWAN@DWC.ORG](mailto:CROWAN@DWC.ORG) with "The Catholic Spirit e-list" in the subject line, noting that they would like to be removed from the print mailing list. Those who sign up are asked

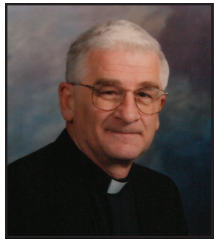
to please provide the name and address to be removed and the e-mail to send the e-version of the newspaper.

By joining the e-mail distribution list, readers will receive the weekly e-version as well as the electronic version of the monthly print edition of The Catholic Spirit.

The electronic version of every issue of The Catholic Spirit is available under "Downloadable Spirit" at [THECATHOLICSPIRITWV.ORG](http://THECATHOLICSPIRITWV.ORG).

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## REV. JAMES R. LACROSSE, S.M. MAY 19, 1939 - JULY 7, 2020



Father James R. "Jim" LaCrosse, S.M., 81, passed away in the early hours of July 7, 2020 at the Continuous Care Center of Wheeling Hospital.

He was born in Toledo, OH, to James F. LaCrosse and Ella Davis LaCrosse on May 19, 1939.

After finishing his elementary education at St. Vincent DePaul, Toledo, OH, Jim decided to pursue a vocation to the holy priesthood. He entered St. Mary's Manor Minor Seminary in Pennel, PA, in 1954, planning to be a missionary priest of the Society of Mary (Marists), and serving in the South Pacific.

Jim professed his first vows as a Marist religious on September 8, 1961 and then went to complete his studies in philosophy and theology at Marist College, Washington, D.C. Jim was ordained to the sacred priesthood in the chapel of Trinity College, Washington, D.C. on February 2, 1967 by Bishop Thomas J. Wade, S.M. Three years later he earned a Master's Degree in History from The Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C.

He served briefly as a parish priest, then as vocation director for the Marists but he found his true love in ministry to young people as teacher, counselor, mentor, and coach. His teaching assignments included St. Peter Chanel High School, Bedford, OH, Immaculata Seminary, Lafayette, LA, and St. Mary's Manor, Pennel, PA. These assignments lasted until 1993 when he was asked to change ministries to be pastor of St. Vincent DePaul Parish, Wheeling, WV, where he spent the next 27 years finding a home in West Virginia, 15 years at St. Vincent de Paul Church, 8 years at Mater Dolorosa Parish, Paden City, and finally retirement.

During his time in Wheeling he found time outside his pastoral

duties at St. Vincent's to spend many hours serving the students and staff at Wheeling Central Catholic High School as chaplain, mentor, and coach to several of their teams and became a beloved part of the school community. Father Jim became a popular celebrant to many weddings of his former students. Friends of Father Jim could find their friendship severely compromised if any one dared to say a negative word about his favorite teams: The Cleveland Browns, The Cleveland Indians, Notre Dame, or Ohio State University.

Father LaCrosse never made it to be a foreign missionary, his youthful dream, but his enthusiasm for sharing his Catholic faith and his love of people certainly made his life truly missionary.

He is survived by two sisters, Mrs. Alice "Sue" Minsel, of Defiance, OH, and Mrs. Lois Smith, of Toledo, OH; one brother, Thomas LaCrosse of FL; and his brothers in the Society of Mary.

Visitation will be Friday, July 10, 2020 from 2-4 & 6-8 pm at St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church, 2244 Marshall Avenue, Wheeling. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated Saturday, July 11, 2020 at 10 am at St. Vincent DePaul Church with the Very Rev. Paul Frechette, S.M., Provincial Superior of the Society of Mary, U.S.A to preside and preach. Seating is limited for the Mass of Christian Burial. Masks are required for those attending the visitation and Mass. If you are unable to attend Father Jim's Mass you can view the live-streamed services remotely by [CLICKING HERE](#).

Interment will follow in Mount Calvary Cemetery, 1685 National Road, Wheeling, WV.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Fr. LaCrosse's memory are requested to: Marist Community Support Fund, Marist Center, 4408 8th St., N.E., Washington, D.C. 20017. All gifts are greatly appreciated.

## MASS READINGS FOR THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### First Reading ISAIAH 55:10-11

Thus says the LORD:

Just as from the heavens the rain and snow come down and do not return there till they have watered the earth, making it fertile and fruitful, giving seed to the one who sows and bread to the one who eats, so shall my word be that goes forth from my mouth; my word shall not return to me void, but shall do my will, achieving the end for which I sent it.

### Responsorial PSALM 65:10-14

**R. (Lk 8:8) The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.**

You have visited the land and watered it; greatly have you enriched it. God's watercourses are filled; you have prepared the grain.

**R. The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.**

Thus have you prepared the land: drenching its furrows, breaking up its clods, Softening it with showers, blessing its yield.

**R. The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.**

You have crowned the year with your bounty, and your paths overflow with a rich harvest; The untilled meadows overflow with it, and rejoicing clothes the hills.

**R. The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.**

The fields are garmented with flocks and the valleys blanketed with grain. They shout and sing for joy.

**R. The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.**

### Second Reading ROMANS 8:18-23

Brothers and sisters:

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are as nothing compared with the glory to be revealed for us. For creation awaits with eager expectation the revelation of the children of God; for creation was made subject to futility, not of its own accord but because of the one who subjected it, in hope that creation itself would be set free from slavery to corruption and share in the glorious freedom of the children of God. We know that all creation is groaning in labor pains even until now; and not only that, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, we also groan within ourselves as we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies.

**Alleluia**

**R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower. All who come to him will have life forever.

**R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

### Gospel MATTHEW 13:1-23 (OR 13:1-9)

On that day, Jesus went out of the house and sat down by the sea. Such large crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat down, and the whole crowd stood along the shore. And he spoke to them at length in parables, saying: "A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seed fell on the path, and birds came and ate it up. Some fell on rocky ground, where it had little soil. It sprang up at once because the soil was not deep, and when the sun rose it was scorched, and it withered for lack of roots. Some seed fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked it. But some seed fell on rich soil, and produced fruit, a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold. Whoever has ears ought to hear."

The disciples approached him and said, "Why do you speak to them in parables?" He said to them in reply, "Because knowledge of the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven has been granted to you, but to them it has not been granted. To anyone who has, more will be given and he will grow rich; from anyone who has not, even what he has will be taken away.

This is why I speak to them in parables, because they look but do not see and hear but do not listen or understand. Isaiah's prophecy is fulfilled in them, which says: You shall indeed hear but not understand, you shall indeed look but never see. Gross is the heart of this people, they will hardly hear with their ears, they have closed their eyes, lest they see with their eyes and hear with their ears and understand with their hearts and be converted, and I heal them. "But blessed are your eyes, because they see, and your ears, because they hear. Amen, I say to you, many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see but did not see it, and to hear what you hear but did not hear it.

"Hear then the parable of the sower. The seed sown on the path is the one who hears the word of the kingdom without understanding it, and the evil one comes and steals away what was sown in his heart. The seed sown on rocky ground is the one who hears the word and receives it at once with joy. But he has no root and lasts only for a time. When some tribulation or persecution comes because of the word, he immediately falls away. The seed sown among thorns is the one who hears the word, but then worldly anxiety and the lure of riches choke the word and it bears no fruit. But the

**Continue...**



seed sown on rich soil is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold.”

or

On that day, Jesus went out of the house and sat down by the sea. Such large crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat down, and the whole crowd stood along the shore. And he spoke to them at length in parables, saying: “A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seed fell on the path, and birds came and ate it up. Some fell on rocky ground, where it had little soil. It sprang up at once because the soil was not deep, and when the sun rose it was scorched, and it withered for lack of roots. Some seed fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked it. But some seed fell on rich soil and produced fruit, a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold.

Whoever has ears ought to hear.”

## PRAYER INTENTIONS

For Church leaders, especially Pope Francis and Bishop Brennan, may they be empowered by the Spirit to speak the Gospel boldly to a world broken on many levels, we pray . . .

For national, state, and local elected officials, may they be given wisdom to enact policies that protect the human dignity and the welfare of all citizens, we pray . . .

For the homeless, poor, sick and elderly, may they find relief from the extremely hot weather which could be harmful to their health, we pray . . .

For those whose lives are affected by the COVID-19 that they may find comfort and hope that a successful vaccine may be found, we pray . . .

For the repose of the soul of Father Jim LaCrosse, SM who passed away after serving the Diocese for many years, and comfort all those who mourn his loss, we pray . . .

*Lord hear our prayer*

## KEEP FAITH ALIVE AND WELL AT HOME

It is our pleasure each week with in the FaithInWV e-bulletin to highlight feast days of saints, special holy days, and other topics that strengthen our Catholic identity.

To help at home and especially for your children or grandchildren check out Catholic Inspired at [CATHOLICSINSPIRED.SITE](http://CATHOLICSINSPIRED.SITE).



This online resource provides free coloring sheets and activities for kids surrounding saints' feast days, Mary, Jesus, Lent, Holy Week - you name it! Watch a YouTube video on creating a braided Palm Branch; download bead patterns of the Eucharist; and even view recipes connected to important events on the Church calendar!

## SPIRITUAL COMMUNION PRAYER

My Jesus,  
I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.  
I love You above all things,  
and I desire to receive You into my soul.  
Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally,  
come at least spiritually into my heart.  
I embrace You as if You were already there  
and unite myself wholly to You.  
Never permit me to be separated from You.  
Amen.



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*Liturgy of the Hours*

## LITURGY OF THE HOURS

**Pray the prayer for this day, this hour!**

Scan the QR code or visit the link below to view  
a PDF version of the Liturgy of the Hours.

[EBREVIARY.COM](http://EBREVIARY.COM) [LITURGY OF THE HOURS](http://LITURGY OF THE HOURS)



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## A LITTLE CATHOLIC HUMOR



A moment of tension in Vatican.  
If the bishop moves forward the  
queen can take him.



## MASS ONLINE

Saturday 6pm Masses will continue to be livestreamed from the Cathedral of St. Joseph, and will be available on our website each Sunday at [DWC.ORG](http://DWC.ORG).

Below are four options for enriching your spirit through daily Mass online.

- EWTN airs daily Mass from Our Lady of Angels Chapel, in Irondale, Alabama, at 8am, noon, and 7pm:  
[HTTPS://WWW.EWTN.COM/TV/WATCH-LIVE](https://www.ewtn.com/tv/watch-live)
- St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York has daily Mass live streamed at 7am: [HTTPS://SAINTPATRICKSCATHEDRAL.ORG/LIVE](https://saintpatrickscathedral.org/live)
- Catholic TV also streams its daily Mass: [HTTP://CATHOLICTV.ORG/MASSES/CATHOLICTV-MASS](http://catholicTV.org/masses/catholicTV-mass)
- Daily Mass Online at Notre Dame' Basilica of the Sacred Heart is live at 11:30 am Monday-Friday:  
[HTTPS://CAMPUSMINISTRY.ND.EDU/MASS-WORSHIP/BASILICA-OF-THE-SACRED-HEART/WATCH-MASS/SPECIAL-MASSSES/](https://campusministry.nd.edu/mass-worship/basilica-of-the-sacred-heart/watch-mass/special-masses/)