

Saint Kateri Tekakwitha National Shrine and Historic Site

Prayer Letter



January 2021

My dear Friends of Saint Kateri,

There seem to be experts in our society today everywhere we turn. Experts in finance, politics, nutrition, exercise, medicine, the weather, the environment, family life. The list seems to be endless. I respect their opinions but sometimes do not agree with their interpretations of fact. We all come from different backgrounds, with different educational and life experiences. We tend to forget that we are unique in ourselves.

God has never forgotten how unique we are. That is why He desires us to be with Him in heaven for all eternity. God uses our personal uniqueness as a path for us to find Him.

A new year offers new choices and new directions in our personal lives. We have just experienced the personal choice of Christmas given to all from God the Father: a unique birth in a cold stable, visited by shepherds and the magi. A unique birth that has changed history in so many ways, especially in a personal way of God's relationship with us, His special creation.

With all that has happened this past year and with all that may happen in this new year, never forget that God is the expert in our spiritual lives. God speaks directly to our hearts. Bring Him each day your joys, cares, fears, confusion, anxiety, and worry, and ask for His guidance. Imitate the saint that you are named after.

In a very beautiful way, Saint Kateri stands out as an expert to imitate. She, partially blinded by smallpox for 20 years, never lost sight of God's will for her. She looked beyond the scars on her face and saw the dignity that God desires all of us to see. Imitate her as she brought God each day her joy, worry, and fears, and asked for His guidance. Saint Kateri saw the importance of her Mohawk traditions. She listened to the experts in her tribal family. But she also did seek and she did humanly understand the companionship that God offered her and each of us.

Let us continue to seek answers from the experts in this new year. I pray that we all remain safe from this virus. I also pray each day that the expert Saint Kateri will lead me and you to a greater understanding of God's will for us and that we not be afraid to embrace His will.

-Fr. Tim Lyons, OFM Conv., Chaplain and Director



Dear Friars, please include the following intentions in your daily prayers:

- | | |
|----------|----------|
| 1. _____ | 4. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 5. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 6. _____ |

Please return prayer intentions and donations to:

Saint Kateri Shrine, PO Box 627, Fonda, NY 12068-0627 • 518-853-3646
nationalkaterishrine@gmail.com • www.katerishrine.com • Follow us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram

January 2021

