



St. Kateri: The First Native American to Become a Saint

Known as the “Lily of the Mohawks”, Kateri Tekakwitha was born in 1656 in Ossernenon which is today Auriesville, New York, to a Catholic Algonquin mother and a Mohawk Chief. When she was four years old, her parents and brother died of smallpox. Kateri was also affected by the disease, which left her almost blind and badly scarred her face. She was taken in by her aunts and uncle who were strongly opposed to Christianity.

When she was 10 years old her village moved to Caughnawaga (today Fonda, New York). In 1667, the village was visited by the Jesuit missionaries Fathers Fremin, Bruyas and Pierron. From them, she received her first knowledge of Christianity. When Kateri turned 18, Father Jacques de Lamberville arrived to take charge of the mission in her village. Despite his misgivings, her uncle allowed her to be baptized as long as she remained in the village. Following her Baptism, Kateri lived a pious and faith-filled life, spending hours in prayer and fashioning crosses out of twigs. She also refused to marry, believing that she was married to God and that no man could take God’s place in her heart. Her beliefs were met with ridicule, hostility and threats. Thus, two years after her Baptism, she fled to St. Francis Xavier Mission, a Christian Mohawk village in Kahnawake, Quebec.

There, she received her first Communion on Christmas Day, 1677. She also made a vow of perpetual virginity on the Feast of the Annunciation in 1679. In Kahnawake, Kateri was known for her faith and holiness. She taught prayers to children, cared for the elderly and the sick, and would often attend Mass at sunrise and sunset.

Kateri’s health deteriorated in the last years of her life. She died of tuberculosis on April 17, 1680, shortly before her 24th birthday, and was buried at St. Francis Xavier Mission. Her final words were: “Jesos Konoronkwa” (“Jesus, I love you”). Witnesses report that within minutes of her death, the smallpox scars vanished from her face, which then radiated with beauty.

Since Kateri’s death many miracles have been performed through her intercession, with the sick being cured and many prayers being answered. Kateri was declared Venerable by Pope Pius XII on January 3, 1943 and beatified by Pope John Paul II in 1980. On December 19, 2011 Pope Benedict XVI signed a decree officially acknowledging another miracle attributed to her intervention. Saint Kateri Tekakwitha was canonized by Pope Benedict XVI on October 21, 2012 in Rome. She became “the first native North American to be raised to the glory of the altars”.

Today, there are a number of shrines and centres dedicated to Kateri in both the United States and Canada, including the National Shrine of St. Kateri Tekakwitha at the site of her Baptism in Fonda, New York, the Kateri Centre at her burial site at the St. Francis Xavier Mission in Kahnawake, which today is in the Diocese of Saint-Jean-Longueuil, and the Shrine of Our Lady of Martyrs at her birthplace in Auriesville, New York.

www.cccb.ca

Reflection

We often like to think that our holiness is thwarted by circumstances such as the lack of time, health and solitude. Kateri Tekakwitha did not let her troubles stand in the way of holiness. It helped that she had the support of a community – a good mother, helpful priests, Christian friends. Her efforts at holiness grew with prayer, fasting, almsgiving, self-discipline and suffering for love of her brothers and sisters in union with the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

www.franciscanmedica.com

PARISH DIRECTORY

Parish Council

Donna Trasolini
trasolini@telus.net

Finance Council

Lauri Ann Fenlon
lauri.ann.fenlon@gmail.com

Parish Education Committee

Maili Wong
pec@olphbc.ca

Parish Fundraising Committee

Sandie Weitz
sweitz20@gmail.com

COORDINATORS

Altar Guild

Bridget Bird 604-228-9180

Altar Servers

Kate Carr 604-730-5640

Catholic Women’s League

Meg Knowling
MKnowling@Outlook.com

Children’s Liturgy

Kathy Mok
communications.olph@rcav.org

Craft Group

Elizabeth Hii etkmhii@gmail.com

Development & Peace

Deirdre Webster 604-736-0714

Eucharistic Ministry

Pamela Brammall 604-228-9206

Food Bank

Robyn Simul
robysimul@shaw.ca

Hospitality Ministry

Gerry Macken 604-222-1369

Knights of Columbus

Peter Dodge 604-649-1111

Liturgy of the Hours

Bridget Clark 604-228-8773

Madonna Group

Monica Cheung 604-739-8837

Ministry of the Word

Roger Poirier 604-224-0426

Music Ministry

Catherine Walsh
catherine.organist@gmail.com

Pastoral Care

Mary Thompson 604-263-6008

PREP

Elizabeth Towers 604-440-8809

Project Advance

Bertilla Watanabe 604-224-4344

RCIA

Bertilla Watanabe
bwatanabe@rcav.org

Social Justice/St. Vincent de Paul

Mark Thompson 778-891-6275

Volunteers Coordinator

Lara Garcia Carton
olphchurchvolunteers@gmail.com

Weddings

Fr. Babu Mathew 604-224-4344



MASSES & SERVICES

Saturday: 5pm
(Anticipated Mass)
Sunday: 9am, 11am & 5pm
Monday – Wednesday 8am
Thursday Mass/Novena:
8am & 7pm
Friday, Saturday, Holidays: 9am
(Fridays in July & August: 8am)
Children’s Mass: 9am 1st
Sunday of the month Oct-June
Children’s Liturgy: 11am
All Sundays except the 1st
Sunday from Sept- June
Reconciliation
Saturday: 4-4:45pm
Adoration
Saturday 9:30-10am
Library Hours
Sunday: 10-10:45am, 4:30-5pm

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday: 9am-4pm

STAFF

Pastor

Babu Mathew, CSsR

Associate Pastor

Joseph Horo, CSsR

In Residence

William Comerford, CSsR

Office Manager

Virginia Fong

Pastoral Coordinator

Bertilla Watanabe

Bookkeeper

Corinna Siy

Youth Ministry Coordinator

Theresa Barao

OLPH School Principal

Lora Clarke

Jr. Kindergarten Director

Maria Cortese

CONTACT

Email: parish.olph@rcav.org
Website: www.olphchurch.ca
Parish Office: 604-224-4344
OLPH School: 604-228-8811
Jr. Kindergarten:
jrkindergarten@olpbc.ca
OLPH Church, 2465 Crown
Street, Vancouver BC V6R3V9

July 14, 2019

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Youth in Yellowknife: Truly a Learning Experience

Dear Parishioners,

We had an excellent trip to Yellowknife. It was truly a learning experience for our youth and all who accompanied them. They learned how the Church works with indigenous communities and how the healing of those who have suffered are cared for and kept in the fold through the loving support of the community. The youth listened to the stories of the elders, and through music, prayer and reflection, shared the story of Our Lady of Perpetual Help in the prison, the Saint Kateri parish and at an evening social with the prison chaplain, Padre Jim and his wife Julia. Our youth did very well. They asked intelligent questions and delivered the prayer and music program as planned.

My sincere thanks to all of you who supported them through prayer and their fundraising efforts. May our Lady of Perpetual Help touch the hearts of the folks in Yellowknife with the message of hope our youth shared with them.

Yours in Christ,
Fr. Babu Mathew, C.Ss.R



A Deeper Sense of Connection

By Theresa Barao

The trip to Yellowknife was a humbling experience. It made me look at life in a whole new perspective. It stirred something in my heart awakening a deeper sense of connection to our Creator God through moments of alone time in the quiet, stillness, vast expanse of nature. I praised and thanked God during our daily morning mass in the teepee room at Trappers Lake where Bishop Jon Hansen hosted us and Peter Nguyen, the seminarian from Christ the King Seminary, who so kindly helped.

For the group, it wasn’t so much sticking to a rigid, fixed schedule — there was no “fixed” schedule to begin with. Right up to our arrival in Yellowknife, things were constantly changing on the itinerary. We just had to roll with it and go with the flow. The pace of life is different up in the North. Things move slower and it’s not a “go, go, go” mentality as it is here in Vancouver.

On behalf of the OLPH youth group, I would like to thank Fr. Babu for coordinating this trip with Bishop Jon and allowing us to experience everything outside of our comfort zones. To the youth who were also involved by helping us make rosary bracelets to give out as gifts to the people in Yellowknife, we thank you so much. And last but not least, to you dear parishioners of OLPH, we are thankful for all your prayers and support in making this trip a success. May God be praised.



Seek God in your need and let your hearts revive. - Psalm 69

Weekly Collection: July 6/7 - Sunday Mass Offering: \$5,453.95. Offering for the Needy: \$10. Thank you for your faith-filled generosity.

OLPH Parish Refugee Walk: D&P is asking Catholics and all people of goodwill to support refugees by cumulatively walking a minimum total of 40,075 kms – the circumference of the Earth. Please join us in a parish community Walk on Saturday July 20 starting at 9:45am. Gather/register at 9:30 am in OLPH parking lot. Walk Starts 9:45am. The 3.3km route covers West 10th Avenue, Blanca & West 8th Avenue. All are welcome, invite neighbours and friends. We need walkers, (any distance) and greeters. Please take a Share the Journey brochure in the foyer for more information. Please note, you can also log your own daily walks or runs in support of the 40,075 kilometres goal at www.dev.org/walk until Aug 15, 2019.

PREP: The Parish Religious Education Program (PREP) is for elementary school aged children who are not attending Catholic school. Please contact Elizabeth Towers at 604-440-8809 or email prep.olph@rcav.org for information.

Choir Members for 9am & 11am Masses: The OLPH choir is seeking new members: we especially need singers who can commit to the Sunday 9am and 11am Masses. Rehearsals are on Monday evening 7-8pm. Please contact Music Director Catherine Walsh for more information: catherine.organist@gmail.com.

YouthLeader: We've reduced the registration fee and extended the registration deadline for YouthLeader! We invite you to join us for YouthLeader from July 29 to August 2 at Summit Pacific College in Abbotsford. For this year only, the cost for YouthLeader is only \$300/person (as opposed to \$450/person in previous years...a savings of 33%). YouthLeader trains teens and young adults to be leaders of ministry and empowers them to take on leadership roles in their parishes, schools, and communities. Visit www.rcav.org/summer-training to review registration guidelines, download promo info, and register.

Catholic Gap Year - \$500 Bursary: Looking to strengthen your faith before going to university? Need adventure or time off from school? Trying to figure out how to live your life with purpose? Taking a Catholic Gap Year to go on mission or formation may just be what you're looking for! It's your chance to serve the world, experience the global Church, and explore God's purpose for your life. We understand that this is a big decision, but you're not alone! Visit catholicgapyear.ca to explore your options and apply for a \$500 bursary before August 2.

Taize Prayer Service: The monthly Taize Prayer Service for July has been rescheduled to Wednesday, July 17 at 7:45 p.m. - 9 p.m. at St. Augustine's Church in Vancouver. Come and experience a quiet meditative Taize Prayer service with candlelight, live music, chants, prayers, scriptures and silence. All are welcome!

An Evening with Archbishop Miller: Save the Date! The eighth annual Archbishop's Dinner will take place on Tuesday, Oct. 22, 2019, at the Hyatt Regency Vancouver. This year, in partnership with Providence Health Care and with St. Mark's College, Archbishop Miller has designated the proceeds to help foster Catholic health-care ethics in the education of health-care providers and in the support of their day-to-day practice. There will be a reception at 6 p.m. followed by dinner at 7 p.m. For more information or to reserve your table(s) please contact development@rcav.org.

Pro-Life Mass and Prayer Vigil: Join us for a peaceful, prayerful vigil for unborn children and their parents. Mass is on Saturday, August 3 at 9 a.m. at St. Luke Parish, Maple Ridge, followed by the Rosary at Eagle Ridge Hospital.

Please Pray

Luigi Sorrenti, a longtime parishioner of OLPH Parish has passed away. His funeral will be held here on Saturday July 20 at 11am. Reception to follow. Please pray for the peaceful repose of his soul.

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.
He makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul.
He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.

Stewardship Reflection

"Jesus said to him, 'Go and do likewise.'" (Luke 10:37)

This was Jesus' command at the end of the Good Samaritan story. Did you know that the Samaritans and Jews despised each other? The moral of the story is to love our neighbor. That means loving someone you may not know or someone that looks different than you or someone that you don't like. All without expecting anything in return.

Stewardship Office, Archdiocese of St. Louis



As my second trip with OLPH youth ministry, this excursion to Yellowknife certainly did not disappoint. On the contrary, I found myself having grown closer to God, not only because of our outreach mission, but also thanks to the guidance and wisdom of the people we were able to meet. I especially enjoyed visiting the healing camp where some of the elders shared their stories and experiences, inspiring me to continue my quest to become the best version of myself and acting as a role model to others. As well, a huge thank you to the seminarian, Peter, and Bishop Jon for bringing us to various beautiful locations, revealing to us the power of God as evident in nature.

– Chloe Wong

I owe the wonderful experience I had in Yellowknife to all the new people I met, and their interesting and eye-opening stories. I truly enjoyed learning about the history of the church in Yellowknife from Bishop Denis Croteau, spending time at Padre Jim Lynn's place, playing volleyball at the youth centre and talking around the campfire with our new friends, Bishop Jon and Peter. This trip taught me the importance of community and embracing our differences, and has inspired me to continue to spread my faith to others.

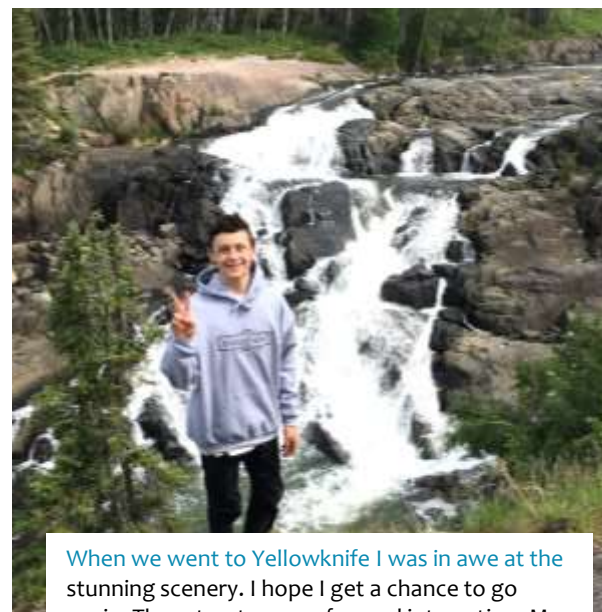
– Rosemary Vayalikunnel

I really enjoyed singing and playing guitar with the group. And much as I love music, I appreciated the moments of quiet and stillness we had. Getting away to a place like this gives you different perspectives on things in our lives. The trip to Cameron Falls was great. If only we could have spent more time there.

– Nick Varelas

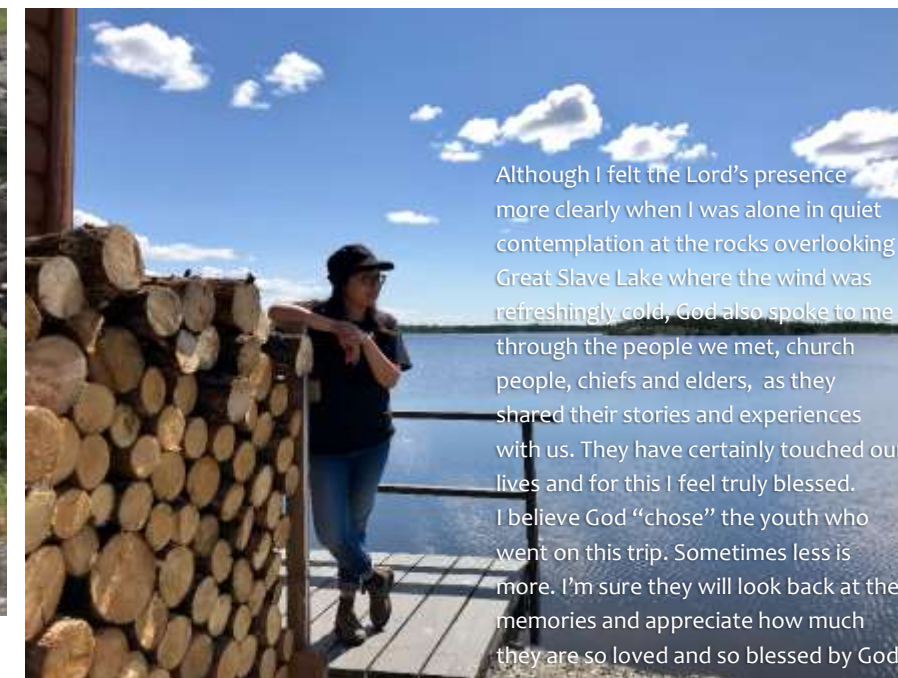


Reflections from our Youth in Yellowknife



When we went to Yellowknife I was in awe at the stunning scenery. I hope I get a chance to go again. The retreat was so fun and interesting. My favorite part was when we went to the museum!

– Elijah Gemmell



Although I felt the Lord's presence more clearly when I was alone in quiet contemplation at the rocks overlooking Great Slave Lake where the wind was refreshingly cold, God also spoke to me through the people we met, church people, chiefs and elders, as they shared their stories and experiences with us. They have certainly touched our lives and for this I feel truly blessed. I believe God "chose" the youth who went on this trip. Sometimes less is more. I'm sure they will look back at the memories and appreciate how much they are so loved and so blessed by God.



My memorable highlights on the trip to Yellowknife were all the times we spent together as a group to get to know one another better and to explore our faiths deeper. We all grew in faith and learned a lot about Yellowknife. I enjoyed spending time with one another and the bonfires really made a big impact because we got to reflect on the day and pray to God for a better tomorrow. Overall, I think this trip was amazing! So glad I got to go!

– Claudia Mok



The trip to Yellowknife this year was definitely a memorable experience for me. I really enjoyed the five days we had together and enjoyed temporarily adapting my lifestyle to living in a different environment. On the trip, I learned about many new subjects, and I also learned how to better appreciate the comforts of living in Vancouver. But the overall highlight and theme of this trip was community. Whether it be when we swatted the many mosquitoes, played volleyball with the local children or cooked amazing food, we did it all together. And we also learned the importance of community from others when we visited various towns in the Northwest Territories and realized how close everyone is. Each person that we met dedicated their time and effort to welcoming us into their communities and fully immerse us into the Yellowknife experience. I noticed that the people of Yellowknife were very friendly as well, not hesitating to tell us their stories and accommodate us. I really appreciated the warm, inviting attitude of the people we met. To me, Yellowknife is a completely different place than anywhere else. It is especially unique from Vancouver because of the quietness and serenity of nature. The number of people is significantly lower and because of that, I felt there was a sense of community where everyone got along and accepted their differences.

– Martin Vayalikunnel

