



Saint Kateri Tekakwitha National Shrine and Historic Site

Prayer Letter

September 2020

My dear Friends of Saint Kateri,

The month of September is traditionally known as the beginning of the harvest season. September 1st is recognized as the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, a reminder to all of us that we are stewards of God's creation. God as Creator works with us not only in our own personal lives but also in our living planet Earth.

Nourishment is given to us both physically and spiritually. Both types of nourishment come originally from God. As He is Creator and Savior, both types of His nourishment are sacred.

How unique that Saint Kateri and her fellow Mohawks recognized that all came from the "Great Creator Spirit." As humans, they recognized that there was a Being or a Spirit that was greater than themselves. They recognized that they were part of a plan of this Creator Spirit. Because of this realization, the Earth became sacred and their family members became sacred, as well.

In society today, we have lost that sense of the sacred. We have lost the true understanding that the Earth we live on and that provides for us is sacred. The creation story in the book of Genesis tells us that after each day of creating, God saw what He had made and saw that "it was good."

As we enjoy the food that is given to us during this time of harvest, let us begin to see once again how sacred our earth is. Let us also recognize how sacred our lives are. By seeing the sacredness that is all around us, we will recognize that sacredness that is God, our "Great Creator Spirit." How unique that our God goes one step further and nourishes us with His own Self. Simple food of bread and wine from the harvest is transformed into the sacred body and blood of Our Lord Jesus.

During September this year, let us be aware of the sacredness that is all around us: the sacredness of ourselves and of others, as well. And most especially, the sacredness of our Living God who created our Earth and ourselves and saw that "it IS good."

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



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

- | | |
|----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 6. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 7. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 8. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 9. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 10. _____ |

Please return prayer intentions and donations to:

Saint Kateri Shrine, PO Box 627, Fonda, NY 12068-0627 • 518-853-3646

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