

## Novena in Honor of Saint Kateri Tekakwitha



Image of St. Kateri used with permission of Fr. John Cavanaugh, Diocese of Fargo, N.D.

# **Novena in Honor of Saint Kateri Tekakwitha**

*A forward from the Benedictine Community of*

*St. Gregory's Abbey; 1900 West Macarthur St.;*

*Shawnee, OK 74804-2403*

[www.monksok.org](http://www.monksok.org)



***“A novena is a series of prayers offered over the course of nine days to foster our devotion to God and entrust special intentions to the intercession of the saints and the mercy of God.***

***This novena is in honor of St. Kateri Tekakwitha, the first Native American declared to be a saint by the Catholic Church. It focuses our prayers on nine of the heroic virtues embodied by St. Kateri Tekakwitha during her short but faith-filled and fruitful life. It can be prayed at any time of the year, but is especially appropriate during the days leading up to her annual feast day, celebrated on July 14 in the United States.***

***The founders of our Benedictine community first arrived in Indian Territory in 1875, establishing Sacred Heart Abbey in 1877, renamed St. Gregory's Abbey in 1929. The pioneer monks benefitted from the generosity of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation and other Native American peoples who had been resettled in the Territory. We are grateful for the prayers, good will and support of Native American Peoples throughout our history. We hope that this novena in honor of St. Kateri Tekakwitha will honor also all Native American People.”***

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*The Catholic Diocese of Sioux Falls is grateful to Abbot Lawrence Stasyszen, O.S.B. and the monks of St. Gregory's Abbey for the use of their prayerful work here in South Dakota. May we remember this community of faith and witness of the Lord in our daily prayers.*

## **Novena in Honor of Saint Kateri Tekakwitha**

**Day 1**

**Love of Jesus**

**In the name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

**St. Kateri, the seeds of faith planted in your heart by your mother began to blossom when you heard faithful missionaries preach in the name of Jesus. From the moment you heard the name of Jesus, you grew in your love of him. Your one desire was to know and serve him as you accepted baptism, received the Body and Blood of Jesus in the Eucharist, and served others in his name.**

**Indeed, the last words you spoke before you passed from this life were:**

**“Jesus, I love you.”**

**Through your example and intercession, help me to grow in my love of Jesus so that I can devote my life to Him more fully and love others in his holy name.**

**St. Kateri Tekakwitha, Lily of the Mohawks, Servant of Jesus Christ and devoted Daughter of the Church, I seek your intercession in my present need:**

**“To have the strength and courage to say “I love you” to those who with their outward actions and even at times with their words, that say they do not love me, or my relatives simply because of my heritage. During these times of unlove, help me to remember and imitate our Lord’s words given from the cross, “Father forgive them for they do not know what they do.””**

**I ask this in the name of Jesus, the Lord. Amen.**

*(Day 1 intercession composed by Deacon Chet Cordell, Marvin, SD)*

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth  
as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those  
who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil. Amen.**

**Hail Mary, full of Grace.**

**The Lord is with thee.**

**Blessed art thou among women,  
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.**

**Holy Mary, Mother of God,  
pray for us sinners now,  
and at the hour of our death. Amen**

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning  
is now, and ever shall be, world without end.  
Amen.**

**St. Kateri, pray for us!**

**In the name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

**Day 2**  
**Love of the Cross**

**In the name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

**St. Kateri, in your life you demonstrated  
great devotion to the Love of the Cross.  
Not only did you seek to place the image  
of the cross before your eyes at all times,  
you also embraced the many crosses that  
you encountered in life:  
persecution for your faith,  
pain of physical illness,  
loss of loved ones,  
and the practice of self-mortification.**

**Through your example and intercession,  
help me to love the holy cross of Jesus,  
and to bear patiently with suffering and pain in my life.**

**St. Kateri Tekakwitha, Lily of the Mohawks, Servant of Jesus Christ and devoted Daughter of the Church, I seek your intercession in my present need:**

**“To embrace the cross as St. Kateri did in her life; to appreciate fully the courageous aspect of an apostolic life if I am going to follow in the footsteps of Jesus; and when I experience difficulty, contradiction, or even persecution, that I will never take on the identity of a victim. Help me to know and understand St. Kateri, that true healing takes place at the foot of the cross.”**

**I ask this in the name of Jesus, the Lord. Amen.**

*(Day 2 intercession composed by Sr. Miriam Shindelar, O.S.B.S., Marty, SD)*

**Our Father.....**

**Hail Mary.....**

**Glory be.....**

**St Kateri, pray for us!**

**In the name of the Father.....**

## **Day 3**

### **Love of the Eucharist**

**In the name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

**St. Kateri, you found great strength and joy  
in the celebration of the Mass,  
in extended prayer before the Blessed Sacrament  
and in the frequent reception of Holy Communion.**

**Through your example and intercession,  
help me to grow in my love for the Holy Mass,  
in my reverence for the Blessed Sacrament  
and in my desire to receive our Lord Jesus  
in Holy Communion.**



**St. Kateri Tekakwitha, Lily of the Mohawks, Servant of Jesus Christ and devoted Daughter of the Church, I seek your intercession in my present need:**

**“St. Kateri, the incarnation reminds me how much God loved humanity by suffering and dying on the Cross and the total giving of himself in the Eucharist. Intercede for me that I may grow daily in my appreciation of this great gift. Help also those who experience oppression and injustice that they might be drawn into the Eucharistic community of the Church.”**

**I ask this in the name of Jesus, the Lord. Amen.**

*(Day 3 intercession composed by Sr. Inez Jetty, O.S.B.S., Marty, SD)*

**Our Father.....**

**Hail Mary.....**

**Glory be.....**

**St Kateri, pray for us!**

**In the name of the Father.....**

**Day 4**  
**Love of Humility**

**In the name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

**St. Kateri, in imitation of Jesus  
and of His Blessed Mother, Mary,  
you embrace the way of true humility.  
You never sought preeminence for yourself,  
but rather submitted yourself wholeheartedly  
to Jesus, to the guidance of your spiritual directors,  
and to the good of others.**

**Through your example and intercession,  
Help me to grow in the virtue of humility,  
Accepting my dignity as a beloved child of God  
And the will of God in my life.**

**St. Kateri Tekakwitha, Lily of the Mohawks, Servant of Jesus Christ  
and devoted Daughter of the Church, I seek your intercession in my  
present need:**

**“St. Kateri, help me to remember God’s extravagant mercy to me. I am so frail in  
my faith and quick on judgment of myself and others. Help me to recall my sins  
and faults only to remember God’s mercy on my life. Through these memories. Help me to be  
humble and merciful to others around me.”**

**I ask this in the name of Jesus, the Lord. Amen.**

*(Day 4 intercession composed by Sr. Pat Mylott, O.S.B.S., Marty, SD)*

**Our Father.....**

**Hail Mary.....**

**Glory be.....**

**St Kateri, pray for us!**

**In the name of the Father.....**

**Day 5**  
**Love of Chastity**

**In the name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

**St. Kateri, in your love for Jesus,  
and in the imitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary,  
you embraced the virtue of chastity and consecrated  
yourself in perpetual virginity for your Divine Spouse.  
Even when pressured by others to abandon this path of love,  
you held firm in your resolve with the grace of God.**

**Through your example and intercession, help me to grow  
in perfect chastity in a way appropriate to my state in life,  
so that I also can love the Lord above all things  
and give a positive example to others.**

**St. Kateri Tekakwitha, Lily of the Mohawks, Servant of Jesus Christ and devoted Daughter of the Church, I seek your intercession in my present need:**

**“As one who lost your mother at an early age, intercede for us as we encounter the challenges in today’s culture that undermine Christian values of family, respect for life, and marriage. Help us to follow your example of prayer and sacrifice, to strengthen our resolve to draw closer to Jesus each day and to remain steadfast to the virtue of chastity in our lives.”**

**I ask this in the name of Jesus, the Lord. Amen.**

*(Day 5 intercession composed by Sr. Joan Vittengl, O.S.B.S., Marty, SD)*

**Our Father.....**

**Hail Mary.....**

**Glory be.....**

**St Kateri, pray for us!**

**In the name of the Father.....**

**Day 6**  
**Love of Charity**

**In the name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

**St. Kateri, in your love for Jesus you embodied  
a commitment to true charity and love for all.  
In doing so you cared for those who were ill and elderly,  
you reached out to those who were lonely,  
and you prayed always for the good of others.  
Even when others mistreated and abused you,  
you extended to them the love of Jesus.**

**Through your example and intercession,  
help me to grow in the virtue of charity  
that I may do what I can to assist others  
and that I will grow in love especially  
for those who reject me and treat me with contempt.**

**St. Kateri Tekakwitha, Lily of the Mohawks, Servant of Jesus Christ and devoted Daughter of the Church, I seek your intercession in my present need:**

**“To have the strength and courage of Kateri especially in times of rejection, mistreatment, discrimination, and other signs of unlove. Help us to love like Jesus did.”**

*(Day 6 intercession composed Sr. Charles Palm, O.S.B., Fort Thompson, SD)*

**I ask this in the name of Jesus, the Lord. Amen.**

**Our Father.....**

**Hail Mary.....**

**Glory be.....**

**St Kateri, pray for us!**

**In the name of the Father.....**

**Day 7**  
**Love of the Church**

**In the name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

**St. Kateri, in your love for Jesus  
you showed others the beauty of the Church,  
the true Bride of Christ.  
You were eager to learn the faith of the Church,  
you prayed for ministers of the Church,  
you sought guidance and counsel from the Church,  
and you longed to share with others  
the joy that you experienced in the Church.**

**Through your example and intercession,  
help me to grow in my love for the Church  
and to discern my own vocation to holiness  
in the life of the Church.**

**St. Kateri Tekakwitha, Lily of the Mohawks, Servant of Jesus Christ  
and devoted Daughter of the Church, I seek your intercession in my  
present need:**



**“St. Kateri, in spite of difficulty that you faced during your life,  
you showed true love of Jesus when you answered the call that  
He had given to His followers when He told them to love one another.**

**Actions speak louder than words.**

**As a weak human being I now ask you to intercede with Jesus on my  
behalf each night as I fall asleep. --Lord Jesus, as night falls and events  
of the day linger in my mind, please help me to shake free of regrets  
and resentments that may still cling to me, so that I can let go of the day  
and get the relaxation and refreshment that my mind and body need.  
Placing all of my trust, hopes, and dreams in your hands,  
I pray that you will grant me a new tomorrow secure in your love for me  
and for everyone that I love.**

**St. Kateri, pray for me.”**

**I ask this in the name of Jesus, the Lord. Amen.**

*(Day 7 intercession composed by Deacon Alfred (Bud) and Frances Jetty, Chamberlain, SD)*

**Our Father.....**

**Hail Mary.....**

**Glory be.....**

**St Kateri, pray for us!**

**In the name of the Father.....**

**Day 8**  
**Love of Creation**

**In the name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

**St. Kateri, during your life  
you rejoiced in the beauty of God's creation.  
Taught by the heritage of your Nation  
to treasure the countless gifts of the earth and sky,  
the harmony of the changing seasons,  
and the precious life that rises within and around us,  
you found inspiration, solace and peace  
in these great gifts of God's love.  
You are now the patroness of our environment and ecology.**

**Through your example and intercession, help me to rejoice  
in the natural beauty of the world in which I live  
and to be grateful for its bounty, that I also will be a  
good steward of the wondrous creation that God  
has entrusted to our care for the benefit of all  
in this generation and in the generations to come.**

**St. Kateri Tekakwitha, Lily of the Mohawks, Servant of Jesus Christ  
and devoted Daughter of the Church, I seek your intercession in my  
present need:**

**“ To respect God’s creation by respecting and conserving the natural resources He has  
provided to us by being good stewards for the people yet to come into the world, so that they  
too can enjoy the beauty and serenity of the love He has for the whole human race.”**

*(Day 8 intercession composed by Deacon Steve McLaughlin, Fort Thompson, SD)*

**I ask this in the name of Jesus, the Lord. Amen.**

**Our Father.....**

**Hail Mary.....**

**Glory be.....**

**St Kateri, pray for us!**

**In the name of the Father.....**

**Day 9**

**Love of Heaven**

**In the name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

**St. Kateri, true bride of Christ  
and daughter of the Church,  
you now enjoy the vision of God  
with all the saints in the kingdom of heaven.**

**Look kindly upon me now.**

**Through your example and heavenly intercession,  
help me to long for the fullness of life and joy  
in heaven that I may, with God's grace,  
grow in holiness of life.**

**Like you, help me to know Jesus,  
to love the Church,  
to be devoted to prayer,  
to receive the Eucharist with joy,  
to rejoice in creation and to be of service of others.**

**St. Kateri Tekakwitha, Lily of the Mohawks, Servant of Jesus Christ and devoted Daughter of the Church, I seek your intercession in my present need:**

**“That in my spiritual journey I always remember to serve others; to give unconditional love to those who are forgotten and are in the shadows, and in most need of my prayers.**

**But mostly, give me the wisdom and strength to touch someone with love today and every day;**

**That I pray often so that my young spirit may seek God’s ageless divine spirit in heaven along with you Saint Kateri, and all the saints.”**

**I ask this in the name of Jesus, the Lord. Amen.**

*(Day 9 intercession composed by Colleen Cordell, Marvin, SD)*

**Our Father.....**

**Hail Mary.....**

**Glory be.....**

**St Kateri, pray for us!**

**In the name of the Father.....**

**Concluding Prayer. (May be recited at the end of each day of the Novena)**

**Taken from the Roman Missal:**

**Lord God,  
You called the virgin Saint Kateri Tekakwitha,  
to shine among the American Indian people  
as an example of innocence of life.  
Through her intercession,  
may all peoples of every tribe, tongue and nation,  
having been gathered into Your Church,  
proclaim your greatness in one song of praise.  
We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ,  
Your Son, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, forever and ever. Amen.**

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