

2012 is a new History unfolding as a Tekakwitha Conference and in the faith life of our Indigenous Catholic people.

- We are returning to the roots of Kateri Tekakwitha: “Walking in Her Footsteps in Kateri Country”
- We will have a preview of celebrating the long-awaited canonization of our ‘first indigenous saint’ during this annual event.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR ALL 73rd Annual Tekakwitha Conference Participants

**SELF-CONTAINED CONFERENCE SITE: Airport Holiday Inn on 205 Wolf Road (5 minutes from Airport)
Accommodations, Meals, Workshop/Breakout Rooms, General Assembly**

Registration and Information: Wednesday in Phoenix Ballroom (1st Floor)
Thursday and Friday in Holiday Inn Hotel Lobby

Breakfast on your own each day

Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha Shrine: Stonehenge Ballroom (2nd Floor)

Sunrise Services: 5:30 AM Thursday and Friday

All Meals: Wednesday Evening Dinner; Thursday and Friday Lunches and Dinners will be served.

ATRIUM for Adults and Indoor Poolside Area for youth

***At Mealtime:** Those who purchased meals – find a place at the table, place your color coded meal ticket on table where you are seated. The waiter/waitress will pick up your meal ticket when they serve you.

Special Meal Requests: you will have very bright colored meal tickets to hand to the server at your table – please write your name on your meal tickets

Refreshments: Mid-morning and Mid-afternoon Breaks (Mezzanine Level)

Holiday Inn Hotel Parking: No Fee

Grand Entry: Thursday Morning- please wear your regalia, bring your Kateri Circle/Parish Banners for the Grand Entry in the Stonehenge Ballroom (2nd Floor)

Vendors: Corridor outside Phoenix Ballroom (1st Floor)

CELL PHONES: Please turn off during all general assemblies, liturgies, workshops

HOSPITAL: Albany Medical Center, 43 New Scotland Avenue, Albany, NY 12208-3478

PHARMACY: CVS/Pharmacy, 465 Sand Creek Road, Colonie, NY 12205

TRANSPORTATION: Airlines, Amtrak, Greyhound

***Reminder:** Please provide your travel arrangements to this office if you want complimentary Transportation if you have not already given them to the office

Saturday: All Day Pilgrimage to Kateri’s Homeland - Fonda in the AM and Auriesville in the PM.

*Complimentary Transportation for all 2012 Conference Participants, the buses will Pick-up from **The Holiday Inn, Best Western, Red Roof and Hampton Inn Hotels ONLY** and will drop off at these four hotels on Saturday evening.

** Complimentary Lunch at Fonda and Dinner at Auriesville on Saturday will be provided by the 2012 Planning Committee .

***Please NO PETS during Conference Days – only Service Dogs are allowed at the Airport Holiday Inn**

OPTIONAL PLANS for Blessed Kateri’s Shrine in Canada either Before or After the Annual Tekakwitha Conference

For those interested, it would be an excellent opportunity to plan a personal pilgrimage to Kahnawake, Quebec Canada while you are in the East. You would be able to pray before the tomb of Kateri Tekakwitha at the Kateri Shrine in the St. Francis Xavier Mohawk Parish Church in Kahnawake, Quebec . It would be about a five (5) hour drive one way into Canada directly North on Route 87 on Wolf Road from each of the four hotels. Whether traveling by land or air a **PASSPORT is needed** for all travelers to enter Canada and to re-enter the United States.

MAP HERE

73rd ANNUAL TEKAKWITHA CONFERENCE

THEME: Walking in Her Footsteps in Kateri Country

2012 Adult AGENDA

***The three Youth Age Groups will have their own scheduled activities during some Adult General Sessions and Breakouts**

Wednesday, July 18

8:00 AM – 9:00 PM Registration: Holiday Inn Phoenix Ballroom – 1st Floor

5:30 PM Dinner: Atrium (Adults) and Indoor Poolside (Youth)

7:00 PM Opening and Welcome Ceremony: Stonehenge Ballroom

Emcees: Irving Papineau (Mohawk), Board Members Pierre Solet (*Houma Choctaw*) and Rufina Toledo (*Jemez*)

Blessing of Conference Space and Participants

Opening prayer in the Four Directions

Welcome: Sister Kateri Mitchell, SSA Tekakwitha Conference Executive Director
Most Reverend Ronald Herzog, Bishop of Alexandria, Louisiana, member of the USCCB Sub-committee on Cultural Diversity
Very Reverend Michael Farano, Vicar General for the Diocese of Albany, New York
Chief Randy Hart St. Regis Mohawk Tribe (NYS side) Chief Mohawk Council of Akwesasne (Ontario and Quebec side)
Tekakwitha Conference Board Chair, Pierre Solet (Houma Choctaw)
Airport Holiday Inn Representative
Albany Visitors Bureau Representative
2012 Region 1 Co-Chairs: Theresa Steele, Caroline Peters, Bernice Lazore

Cultural Presentation: Hotinonhson:ni Youth Group

Announcements

Closing Prayer

Thursday, July 19

5:30 AM Sunrise Service: Joseph Enos (Toho'no'Od'ham) and Deacon Sidney Martin (Acoma)

8:00 AM – 9:00 PM Registration in Holiday Inn Lobby

8:30 AM General Assembly in Stonehenge Ballroom (2nd Floor)

Emcees: Irving Papineau (Mohawk) and Board Members: *Pierre Solet (HoumaChoctaw)*
Rufina Toledo (Jemez)

Opening Prayer: Native Religious and Clergy

Announcements: Irving Papineau - Order for Grand Entry

Grand Entry Facilitators: Harold Caldwell and Darrell Caldwell (Mohawk) assisted by
Board Member Ronald Tso (Navajo)

Emcees: Irving Papineau (Mohawk) and Board Members:
Pierre Solet (HoumaChoctaw) and Rufina Toledo (Jemez)

All remain seated until your State, Circle or Parish is called

9:30 AM Keynote Speaker: Reverend Jim Nesbitt (Assiniboine/Metis), Topic: The Gift of Kateri

10:15 AM Refreshment Break

10:30 -11:45 AM: Adult Workshops

12:00 PM LUNCH: Atrium (Adults) and Indoor Poolside (Youth)

1:15 – 2:30 PM: Adult Workshops

2:30 PM: Refreshment Break

2:45 – 3:45 PM: Tekakwitha Conference Board of Directors Addresses the General Assembly:
Stonehenge Ballroom

4:00 PM LITURGY: Main Celebrant – Most Reverend Terry LaValley, Bishop of Ogdensburg, New York
Youth involved in liturgical roles (Stonehenge Ballroom)

5:30 PM DINNER: Atrium (Adults) and Indoor Poolside (Youth)

7:00 PM Reconciliation and Healing Service: Brother John Hascall, OFM, Cap (Ojibway) and Deacon
Ronald Boyer (Ojibwa), Music Ministry by Marcus Briggs-Cloud and Vince
Redhouse (Stonehenge Ballroom)

Friday, July 20

5:30 AM Sunrise Service: Bernice Lazore (Mohawk)

8:00 AM– 5:00 PM Registration and Information: Hotel Lobby

8:30 AM General Assembly: Emcees: Irving Papineau (Mohawk) and Board of Directors.
Pierre Solet (Houma/Choctaw) and Rufina Toledo (Jemez)

Announcements

Opening Prayer: Saint Regis Parish Youth

9:00 AM Keynote Speaker: Deacon Ronald Boyer (Ojibwa) Topic: Kateri's Influence in our Lives

9:45 – 10:15 AM: Refreshment Break

10:30 AM LITURGY : Celebration of Feast of Kateri Tekakwitha -Main Celebrant –Archbishop Charles Chaput, OFM, Cap, Prairie Band Potawatomi, Archbishop of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

12:00 Noon LUNCH (Atrium – Adults) and Indoor Poolside (Youth)

1:30 – 2:30 PM Workshops

2:30 - 2:45 PM Refreshment Break

2:45 – 4:00 PM Workshops

4: 15 -5:15 PM Kateri Tekakwitha Regional Groups

5:30 PM DINNER: Atrium (Adults) and Indoor Poolside (Youth)

7:00 PM Sunset Closing Prayer led by Brother John Hascall, OFM,Cap (Ojibway)

Announcements and Information for tomorrow's Pilgrimage

Saturday, July 21 Pilgrimage to Fonda and Auriesville Homeland of Kateri (Catherine) Tekakwitha

8:30 AM Buses begin to load from each hotel (about a 1 hour trip)

9:30 AM Arrival in Fonda: National Kateri Shrine operated by Franciscan Friars
Place where Kateri Tekakwitha was baptized and received the name
Catherine (Kateri in Mohawk)

9:45 AM Welcome: Shrine Director - Father Mark Steed, OFM

Opening Prayer:

Cultural Presentation: Hotinonhson:ni Youth Group

Walking and reflecting on holy ground where Kateri walked (in Groups)

12:00 PM Lunch

Entertainment

Buses reload for the 5 mile Pilgrimage to Auriesville

Arrival in Auriesville – Shrine of the North American Martyrs of Our Lady of
Martyrs operated by Jesuits of New York Province

Welcome: Shrine Director - Father George Belgarde, SJ in Shrine Coliseum

Opening Prayer
Presentation on Kateri Tekakwitha
Walk/pray on holy ground

3:30 PM **Preparation** for the closing liturgy in the coliseum

4:00 PM **Anticipated Sunday Liturgy:** Main Celebrant – Most Reverend Robert
Cunningham, Bishop of Syracuse, New York in coliseum
Transfer of the Traveling Statue by the 2012 Planning Committee to the Ysleta del Sur
of El Paso, Texas and Region 4 hosts for the 74th Tekakwitha Conference
July 17-21, 2013

6:00 PM **Dinner**
Entertainment
Iroquois Social

8:00 PM **Board Buses** for Albany Hotels

Sunday July 22 ***No Activities Scheduled. Travel Day.***
A blessed and safe journey home, Kateri Tekakwitha , Pray for Us.

Future Annual Tekakwitha Conferences

2013: July 17-21 **74th Annual** see you next year in El Paso, Texas

2014: July 23-27 **75th Anniversary** Fargo, North Dakota

2015: July 22-26 **76th Annual** Alexandria, Louisiana

2016: July 20-24 **77th Annual** San Mateo County, California

2017: July 19-23 **78th Annual** Wichita, Kansas