

*This Book  
Belongs to*

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Blessed  
**Kateri  
Tekakwitha**

“The  
Lily  
of the  
Mohawks”

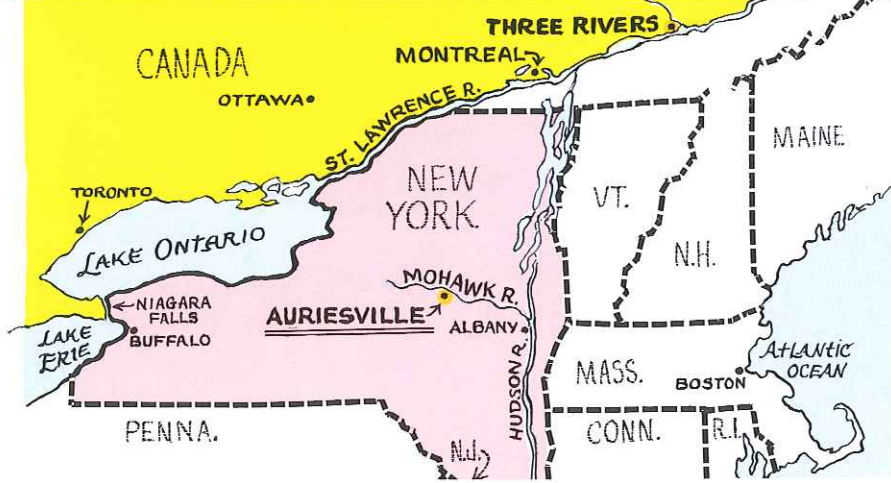
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## A Girl from New York State

**K**ATERI Tekakwitha was born in 1656, a mile from the town of Auriesville, New York. This was ten years after the brave Jesuit Isaac Jogues was put to death nearby.

As a girl, she watched friendly traders and the Blackrobes, priests of New France, enter and leave the fort. The fort was known as Caughnawaga, meaning “at the rapids,” because the Mohawk River runs swiftly as it passes this spot.

The Iroquois were enemies of the Huron and Algonquin tribes, as well as of the French. Kateri’s mother Kahenta (Flower of the Prairie) was an Algonquin. Her mother had been brought up and baptized at an Indian village near the French colony of Three Rivers in Canada.

## Kateri’s Mother— A Christian from Canada

**O**N one of the Mohawk raids into Canada, Kateri’s mother was taken through the woods and across the lakes to the shore of the Mohawk River in northeastern New York.

There Kateri came to learn about the famous “longhouses” of the Mohawks. These were made from the bark of birch trees.





## Kateri's Father— A Mohawk Chief

**K**ATERI'S mother was saved from the torture and the fire by a fierce pagan Mohawk warrior, Kenneronkwa (which means "Beloved"). She became his wife.



Like all the Mohawks, he was very tall, with fine lips, dark complexion, and straight black hair.

He was also a great hunter and warrior, skilled in using a rifle and a bow and arrow, and in riding a canoe.

## Birth of Kateri

**T**HE young couple was soon blessed with a son and a daughter. The girl came later to be called Kateri Tekakwitha.

Some think the name Kateri means "Eye of the Sun."

The family lived in an Iroquois longhouse at Gandawague, a little village of the Mohawks.

