

PEOPLE OF SIGNIFICANCE

A STORY OF PURITY

Born in America in 1656 to the chief of the Mohawk clan, her mother had been taken captive and given to the chief as a wife. Both her parents died when she was four from smallpox, she was also disfigured and partly blinded by the disease. She was adopted by her uncle who became the new chief. Jesuit missionaries were active in the area and at around 19 she was eventually baptised.

Her uncle did not approve of her conversion and she was treated harshly as a result; however, her faith grew and grew. She fled to a village near Montreal where she was able to live her Christian life of prayer and penance. She continued to refuse to be married and wanted to lead a life of purity at one with Christ.

She died in 1680, during holy week, at the age of 24. After her death her face was transformed, any scars vanished and her face became beautiful and radiant.

What's your significant story?

"I will willingly abandon this miserable body to hunger and suffering, provided that my soul may have its ordinary nourishment."

PRAYER

Almighty God, helps us to make our lives at one with you, bring us to a unique encounter with your son and guide us into your loving arms. Let us live for your glory, that all we may do and say be to glorify you. Through the intercession of courageous St Kateri Tekakwitha fix our eyes on Christ and on the eternal salvation that awaits us all. Amen



ST KATERI TEKAKWITHA