Saint Kateri Tekakwitha
NATIONAL SHRINE & HISTORIC SITE

# Fall-Winter 2026 Calendar of Events

** NEW FOR AUGUST**

Aug. 22

## Bishop Mark O'Connell's Peace Walk

Bishop Mark will lead prayers and a walk for peace from the Our Lady of Martyrs Shrine in Auriesville to the Saint Kateri Shrine in Fonda. More information is available from the Diocese of Albany, rcda.org.

Aug. 23 10:30 AM & 1 PM

## Mass and Prayer Service for Those Who Feel Exiled from the Church

Saint Kateri Tekakwitha is the patroness of people in exile, and visitors to her home here at the Shrine include those who feel exiled from the Catholic Church. **Bishop Mark O'Connell feels called to respond to that patronage.** Join us as Bishop Mark celebrates Mass in support of those who feel alienated from the Church. In the afternoon, he will lead a prayer service for those who feel exiled. If you or someone you love relates to this feeling, we invite you join us for this special time of prayer and community.

Sept. 26 4:30 PM

## Weekend of Prayer for Suicide Awareness and Prevention

September is dedicated to Suicide Awareness and Prevention, and resources will be available on site all month with more information on this topic. There will also be a presentation midmonth by the Mental Health Association. Details to come.

Sept. 27 10:30 AM

Services the last weekend of the month will be healing Masses with the relics of Saint Kateri and Saint Francis of Assisi.

Sept. 30 6 PM

## Orange Shirt Day Prayer Service

Orange Shirt Day acknowledges the damage done by the Indian Residential Schools, many of which were run by religious organizations, including the Catholic Church. Join us for this prayer service focused on reconciliation and healing.

Oct. 3

## Celebration of Saint Francis of Assisi

The Saint Kateri Tekakwitha National Shrine is grateful to be under the stewardship of the Franciscan Friars Conventual, Our Lady of the Angels Province, with Fr. John Ruffo, OFM Conv., as our chaplain. Masses this weekend celebrate the Feast Day of Saint Francis, including blessing with the relic of Saint Francis.

Oct. 4

A Transitus Service, commemorating the death of Saint Francis, will be held on Saturday evening. Details to come.

The Blessing of the Animals will follow Sunday Mass.

## Indigenous Peoples Weekend

Oct. 10 2 PM

Jon M. Sweeney lecture and book signing: "Nicholas Black Elk and Francis of Assisi"
Jon will join us to present a compelling portrait of Francis of Assisi with a vision that's essential for today and shows up in the witness of Nicholas Black Elk. Book signing to follow.

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**SUMMER SEASON: May 1 to November 1, 2026**

Saturday Vigil Mass at 4:30 PM  Sunday Mass at 10:30 AM

Hiking trails open dawn to dusk, Candle Chapel open 24/7

Please check our website and social media for gift shop, museum, and office hours

**WINTER SEASON: November 2, 2026, to April 30, 2027**

Candle Chapel, outdoor sanctuary, Caughnawaga Village Site, Kateri Spring, and hiking trails are open dawn to dusk, weather permitting

Saint Kateri Tekakwitha National Shrine & Historic Site
PO Box 627, Fonda, NY 12068-0627 • 518-853-3646 • info@katerishrine.org • www.katerishrine.org

July 31, 2026

## Indigenous Peoples Weekend (Cont.)

**Oct. 10 4:30 PM**

Mass with Traditional Purification Rite and blessing with the relic of Saint Kateri.

**Sunday Mass celebrated by the Most Rev. Mark O'Connell, Bishop of Albany**

**Oct. 11 10:30 AM**

Mass music by the Akwesasne Mohawk choir both days.

Solemn offering and burning of prayer petitions following Sunday Mass.

**Oct. 11 1 PM**

Nathan M. Turowsky lecture: "The Waters of Creation: Baptism and Haudenosaunee Cosmology"

As we celebrate this year's 350th anniversary of Saint Kateri's baptism on these grounds, join our archives assistant for a presentation on the overlap between Saint Kateri's religious beliefs and her cultural traditions.

## Last Regular Masses of the Season

**Oct. 31 & Nov. 1**

Join us for the Solemnity of All Saints as we close out our regular Masses for the 2026 season.

The winner for our art sweepstakes will be drawn after Sunday Mass — there's still time to get your tickets in person or on our website!

**Nov. 7 4:30 PM**

## Mass of Remembrance

Join us for a special Mass in honor of all those loved ones who have entered Christ's embrace.

**Dec. 5 4 PM**

## Candles and Carols

Celebrate the coming of Christ with our Greccio-inspired candlelight service. This observance includes a procession to the hillside crucifix, Christmas hymns, and Franciscan readings. Warm up afterward with cider and hot chocolate in Grassmann Hall — and bring a dessert to share!

**Dec. 3-6 12-4 PM**

## Gift Shop Christmas Hours

Come see the meaningful items we have in store for you and your loved ones! This is also a great way to support our ministry during the winter months.

**Jan. 2027**

## Christian Unity Prayer Service

Join us for a special service in honor of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Check our website and social media accounts for details closer to the date.

***Please check our website to confirm events and details and to discover new activities***

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**REMEMBER!**

**You are welcome on our grounds for walking, hiking, snowshoeing, and cross country skiing all year.**

**The Candle Chapel is available for prayer 24/7**

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