

October Signpost

for the

GOOD RED ROAD



St. Tekakwitha

Opening prayer:

God of all nations and peoples. You have filled Your Creation with

Your mighty presence. Through Your handiwork You speak to our heard words that satisfy our every desire.

You called Your servant the Mohawk maiden Saint Kateri Tekakwitha to embrace the Gospel of your Son Jesus Christ to do Your will and to serve others with the gifts You gave her.

May she who held tight to the cross of Your Son through her short life marred by sickness suffering and persecution, be our intercessor during our own trials. May her embrace of the Catholic faith and her openness to sharing Jesus with others inspire us to be new evangelizers to all cultures and peoples. Amen

Fall

West

Blue

Sin/ Self Centeredness/ greed/
Covertness

Fruits of the Holy Spirit /Charity (or
Love)/ Kindness/ Chasity



Who do we need to bring in the circle?


Who do we need to pray for:

Family members who are sick.

family members who have died.

Struggles that we are facing.

Let us bring our joys and sufferings Into this circle.



International Conference on Catholic Indigenous ICCI

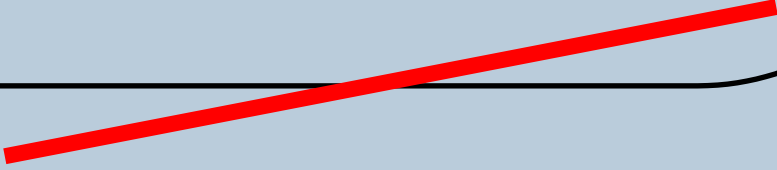
During the week of September 18 to September 22, 2023, the USCCB Subcommittee on Native American Affairs is hosting an International Conference of Catholic Indigenous. The Catholic Conferences from Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and with the United States will come together to dialogue, learn from, support and encourage Catholic Indigenous ministry. The Catholic Conference of Canada, Australia and New Zealand have been invited because of their common shared history of the Catholic church and their Indigenous communities. The meeting and events will be held in Washington D.C.

This Conference will be a historic opportunity for the four episcopal conferences to take advantage of common wisdom in ministering to their Indigenous populations. Bishops from these four conferences that work with Catholic Indigenous communities, support staff and their national Catholic Indigenous organizations will exchange of ideas, information about programs, and resources for the enhancement of Catholic Indigenous ministry during the first part of the Conference. The second part of the Conference will be devoted to a frank exchange between bishops from the four conferences and the Catholic Indigenous leaders. This first of its kind direct international dialogue between Bishops and Catholic Indigenous is designed to build trust and understanding and also to develop the future direction of Indigenous ministry.

The topics that will be discussed will be evangelization and education, reconciliation and healing, inculturation and social concerns such as poverty, racism and the environment. Many of the invited conference have developed programs to address these issues. One of the purposes of coming together is to learn from each other. They will explore the best ways to enhance and grow Catholic Indigenous ministry from their knowledge and experiences.

The other important aspect of this gathering is to develop relationships across borders and oceans. These relationships, not only with the bishops, but especially with Catholic Indigenous leaders will enhance solidarity within the global Catholic Indigenous ministries and help empower Indigenous ministry within the Church.

The concern from Pope Francis during his Canadian visit has underscored the need to listen to Catholic Indigenous communities and their leaders. Along with the Native Pastoral Framework, *Keeping Christ Sacred Promise*, that will be voted on by the General Assembly in November, 2023, this Conference is designed to refocus the importance of Indigenous ministry within the Church.





Canada



United States



Australia



New Zealand



Native Catholic Schools II

- 1) What do you think are the obstacles for Native parents to send their children to Catholic Schools?
- 2) How are Native Catholic schools portrayed in the media? How can that image be improved?
- 3) What help can I give to a Native Catholic School that is doing a good job?
- 4) Where can I find out more information about Native Catholic schools?
- 5) What are the challenges facing Native education in general?
- 6) What was I taught about Natives in my own Primary and Secondary school?
- 7) Why are Catholic schools important?
- 8) What do you think is the future of Catholic Native schools?

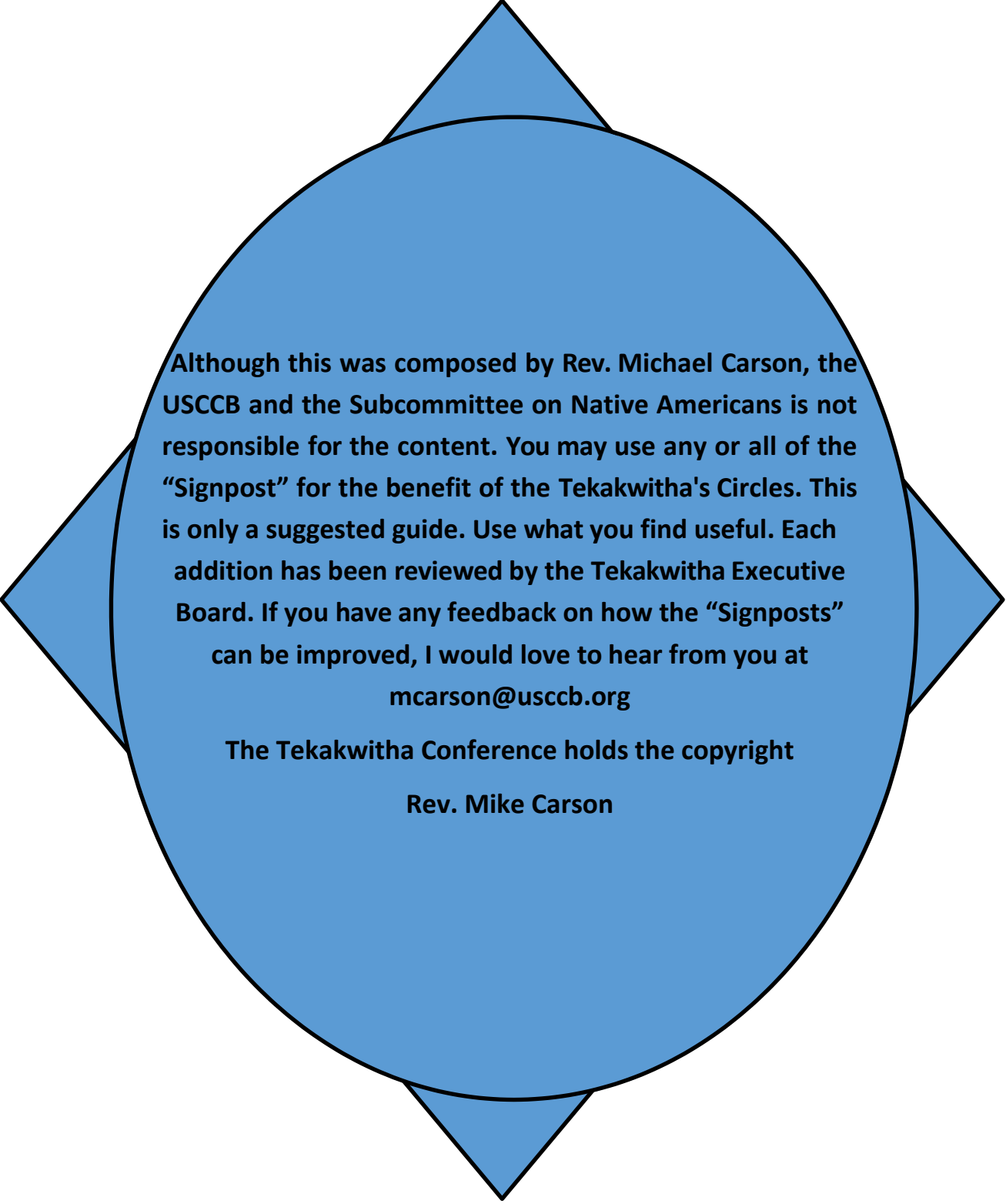


Closing prayer from the Black and Indian Mission Office:

God of all nations and peoples. You have filled your creation with Your mighty presence. Through Your handiwork You speak to our hearts words that satisfy our every desire.

You called Your servant, the Mohawk maiden Saint Kateri Tekakwitha to embrace the Gospel of your Son Jesus Christ, to do Your will and to serve others with the gifts You gave her.

May she who held tight to the cross of Your Son throughout her short life marked by sickness, suffering, and persecution, be our intercessor during our own trials. May her embrace of the Catholic faith and her openness to sharing Jesus with others inspire us to be new evangelizers to all cultures and peoples. May she who sought our Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament lead up to similar reverences for the Eucharist so that, like Saint Kateri, our last words may be, "Jesus, I love You." Amen.



Although this was composed by Rev. Michael Carson, the USCCB and the Subcommittee on Native Americans is not responsible for the content. You may use any or all of the “Signpost” for the benefit of the Tekakwitha's Circles. This is only a suggested guide. Use what you find useful. Each addition has been reviewed by the Tekakwitha Executive Board. If you have any feedback on how the “Signposts” can be improved, I would love to hear from you at mcarson@usccb.org

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Rev. Mike Carson