



The story of St. Rose Philippine Duchesne



Rose Philippine Duchesne was a little girl who grew up in Grenoble, France.

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She was born in 1769.

Everyone who knew her thought she was very kind.

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She loved to help people.



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when she was a young girl at her convent school she always wanted to become a nun and dreamed about it. when her father heard about this he was angry and removed her from the school.

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Sainte - Marie



A few years later, Philippine went on a visit to the convent with her aunt. 60

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Philippine wanted to stay at the convent and become a nun so she refused to leave.

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She asked her aunt to tell her family that she wanted to stay.







Philippine met Madeleine Sophie Barat. They became great friends and she joined the Society of the Sacred Heart which Sophie had founded.

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Philippine went to Paris to start a convent there. During that time, and for the rest of their lives, Sophie and Philippine continued to write to one another.

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For years Philippine had wanted to open a school in America for the French people who lived there, and for the Native Americans.

Eventually, in 1818, she realised her dream and sailed to America on a ship called the Rebecca. It was dangerous and stormy and the journey took ten weeks.





She opened the first Sacred Heart school in St. Charles, Missouri.

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over the next few years Philippine and her companions opened other schools and convents.

Philippine's desire to teach the Native Americans had stayed with her. Eventually, she travelled along the Mississippi to Sugar Creek, Kansas.





when Philippine arrived she was greeted by the Potawatomi, a Native American people. They were very happy to see her. She knew that she had arrived in a special place and that her childhood dream had come true.

The children named her 'Quahkahkanumad' which means 'the woman who prays always'.

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Mount Anville Sacred Heart Education Trust 2018



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