

Dear Parents and Teachers:

Saints and Me! is a series of children's books about saints. Six books make up the first set: *Saints of North America*. In this set, each book tells a thought-provoking story about a heavenly hero.

Saints of North America includes the heroic lives of six saints from the United States, Canada, and Mexico. Saints Kateri Tekakwitha and Elizabeth Ann Seton were both born in the United States. Saint Juan Diego was born in Mexico, and Saint André Bessette was from Canada. European missionaries also came to North America to spread the Catholic faith, making it their home while they worked with people in the New World. Saints Rose Philippine Duchesne and Damien de Veuster were missionary saints.

Through the centuries, saints have always been dear to Catholics, but *why*? In most instances, ordinary people were and are transformed by the life of Jesus and therefore model Christ's life for us. It is our Lord who makes ordinary people extraordinary. As your children come to know the saints, it is our hope that they will come to understand and identify that they, too, are *called to be saints*.

Which saint wanted to work with Native Americans? Who wanted to work with the sick people on the island of Molokai, Hawaii? To which saint did the Virgin Mary appear? Who loved Saint Joseph? Which saint started the first American religious community of women? Do you know which saint is the patron of nature? Find the answers in the *Saints of North America, Saints and Me!* set and help your child identify with the lives of the saints.

Introduce your children or students to the *Saints and Me!* series as they:

- READ** about the lives of the saints and are inspired by their stories.
- PRAY** to the saints for their intercession.
- CELEBRATE** the saints and relate to their lives.

saints of north America



Kateri Tekakwitha



Juan Diego



Rose Philippine
Duchesne



Damien of Molokai



Elizabeth Ann Seton



André Bessette





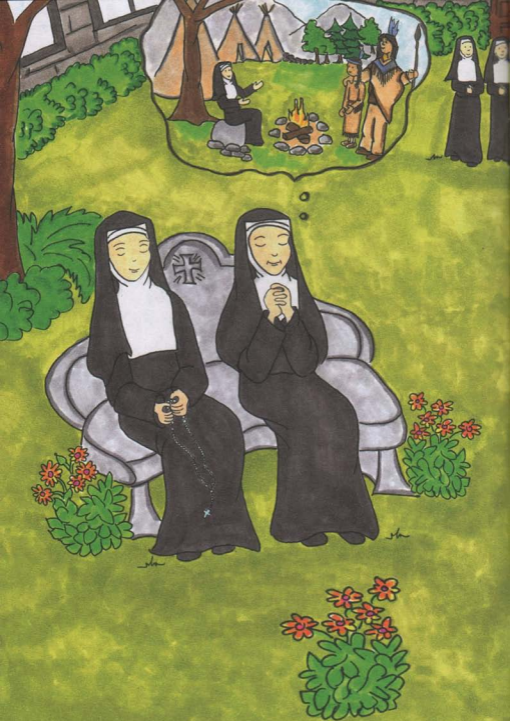
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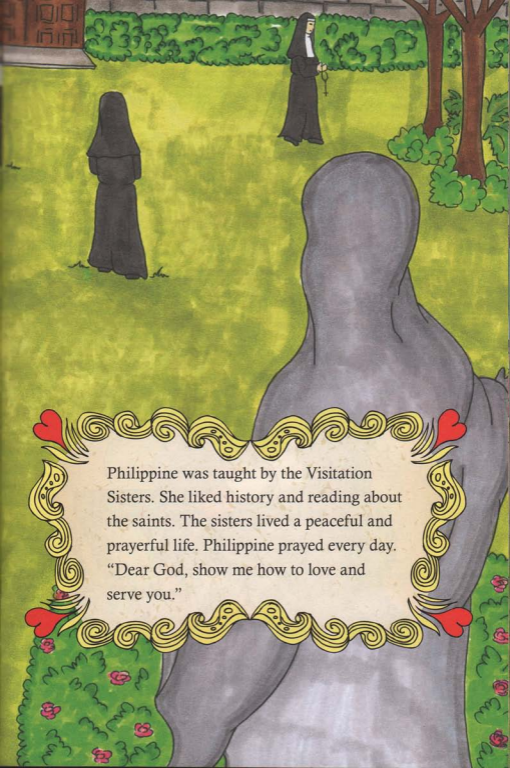


Rose Philippine was a little girl with a big dream. She wanted to be a missionary in America. And she wanted to work with Native Americans.

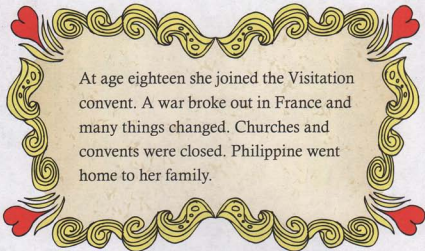
Philippine was born in Grenoble, France, in 1769. The Duchesne family enjoyed the good things in life. Her mother taught her to care about others. "We should help other people," she told her daughter.







Philippine was taught by the Visitation Sisters. She liked history and reading about the saints. The sisters lived a peaceful and prayerful life. Philippine prayed every day. "Dear God, show me how to love and serve you."



At age eighteen she joined the Visitation convent. A war broke out in France and many things changed. Churches and convents were closed. Philippine went home to her family.



