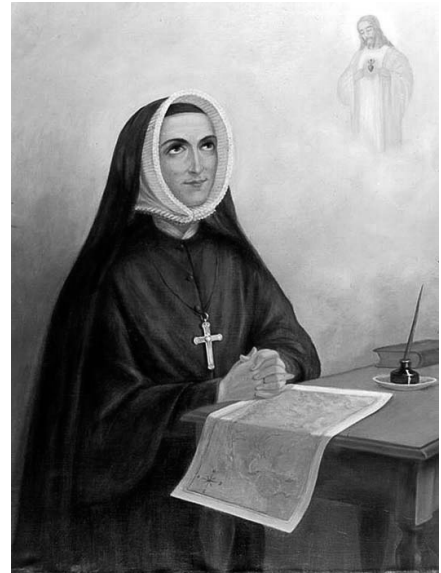


**Saint Rose Philippine Duchesne**

**Directions:** Read the biography and answer the questions.

Saint Rose Philippine Duchesne was born into a prominent French family in 1769. Her parents sent her to be educated in a monastery run by Visitandine nuns but withdrew her from school when they discovered her growing interest in entering the religious life. Despite their wishes, she entered the monastery to become a nun. Only a few years later, however, in the aftermath of the French Revolution, the Catholic Church and its monasteries were forced to close. She returned to her family's home and attempted with limited success to reestablish the monastery after the revolution was over. As the new Mother Superior of the Visitandines she merged with another growing religious order, the Society of the Sacred Heart. She soon felt called to leave France and become a missionary in America. Along with four other sisters of the society, Duchesne traveled to the American frontier under difficult living conditions to found schools in Missouri and live and pray among the Potawatomi Indian tribe in Kansas. Among the Native Americans she was nicknamed *Quahkahkanumad*, which means "Woman Who Prays Always." As her health deteriorated, she returned to St. Charles, Missouri, to live a quiet life of prayer until her death in 1852.



1. Describe how Saint Rose's life as a child differed from her life as an adult.

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2. Who in your life deserves the name "Woman (or Man) Who Prays Always"? Why?

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3. The Catholic Church experienced opposition during Saint Rose's lifetime. What are the greatest sources of opposition to the Church and Christianity today?

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