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## *Mission to the New World*

Saint Madeleine Sophie Barat blesses Saint Rose Philippine Duchesne  
on the eve of her missionary journey, 1818

# Bicentennial Prayer

**S**pirit of the living God,  
you first breathed over the waters of creation,  
and one day you breathed a passion  
into the heart of Philippine Duchesne.  
You called her to cross the waters to a New World,  
to bring the message of your compassion and love  
to a land and peoples already dear to your heart.

Not knowing the language of the land,  
she spoke the language of the heart –  
of love and prayer,  
of attention and openness,  
of steadfast purpose and living faith.  
As the Sacred Heart family around the world,  
we are the harvest of the seeds she sowed.

Bless, now, our ever-new world,  
with Philippine's spirit of great-hearted courage.  
Fill us with her desire to cross frontiers,  
especially those furthest from the touch of hope.  
Renew the whole Church in its missionary spirit  
and give us Philippine's zeal  
to spread your compassion and love to the ends of the earth.

We ask all this in your name, triune God,  
whose love knows no borders or boundaries,  
and who sends us to make known that love in the heart of the world  
now and forever. Amen.



**Society of the Sacred Heart**  
United States – Canada

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