

Philippine's Journey – Lesson 4 Timeline

May 25, 1818: In the Gulf of Mexico, the Rebecca reaches the place where the Mississippi's waters flow into the Gulf. The Pilot from New Orleans boards the ship to guide it through the difficult channel.

May 28, 1818: The ship is so close to land now that mosquitoes attack the passengers.

May 29, 1818: The nuns renew their vows on the Feast of the Sacred Heart. That evening they disembark. Philippine kneels to kiss the ground and tells the others, "You do it too. No one is looking!"

May 30, 1818: The Ursuline nuns welcome the RSCJ cordially. They will be their guests for six weeks.

June 5, 1818: Mother Duchesne is diagnosed with scurvy as a result of the voyage and is embarrassed to be an additional burden to her hostesses.

June 10, 1818: The Ursuline superior gives Philippine 500 francs to help defray the cost of the riverboat trip to St. Louis.

June 12, 1818: Philippine is concerned that she has not yet heard from Bishop DuBourg (who must know that she is now in America).

June 23, 1818: Bishop DuBourg writes to Mother Duchesne: "You say you have come seeking the Cross. Well, you have taken exactly the right road to find it." The letter is received after the nuns arrive in St. Louis.

June 24, 1818: The nuns receive their first letters from France. They are overjoyed and take them to the chapel, placing them at the foot of the altar before reading them.

June 26, 1818: The Ursuline nuns try to coax the RSCJ to remain in New Orleans, but they are faithful to their promise to the Bishop.