

Our Sacred Heart Story with the Potawatomi People in Kansas, 1841-79

Preparation for session:

Look up what Indigenous land you are on: <https://native-land.ca/>

Please create a space of comfort for yourself, free from interruptions for the 1.5 hours. Think of having a glass of water, a candle and objects of meaning sharing the space with you during the session.

This third session will be a zoom meeting, with a video of our guest speaker, Dr. Kelli Mosteller, and Molly Arthur, Associate and Bridget Bearss, RSCJ, technology. Maria Cimperman, RSCJ will offer an opening prayer. You will be able to ask questions in the chat at any time during the session and we still save the questions for future response.

This 90-minute session will start promptly at:

4:00 pm PT | 5:00 pm MT | 6:00 pm CT | 7:00 pm ET | 8:00 pm AT

Please Read: Pages 69-104, Events in St Mary's 1848-1860

Study:

1. How hard is it to appreciate another culture/spirituality, particularly when believing that your religion is the only way to be saved?
2. How was the education offered to the Potawatomi girls an expression of our Sacred Heart Charism or not? Why do you think some of the students would run away from our school?
3. How do you think it was to live in this time period in St Mary's, KS - the impact of white settlers traversing the Oregon Trail, the violent battles over slavery in Kansas, continuing bloody conflicts between Native American tribes and the oppressive build up to another Potawatomi removal?

Reflection:

1. What reaction did you have to the four Sacred Heart Family members' response to Jerilyn DeCoteau's presentation and the readings?
2. What feelings arose for you in reading that we received payment and inspections from the US government and high praise from visitors to the mission on its peace and harmony? Does this present a paradox for you?
3. How did you feel about the hardships that the RSCJ encountered and endured in this mission?

Dr Mosteller wanted to make available these documents for reading before March 2:

[The Seven Grandfathers and the Little Boy](#)

[Noek Teachings of the Seven Grandfathers](#)

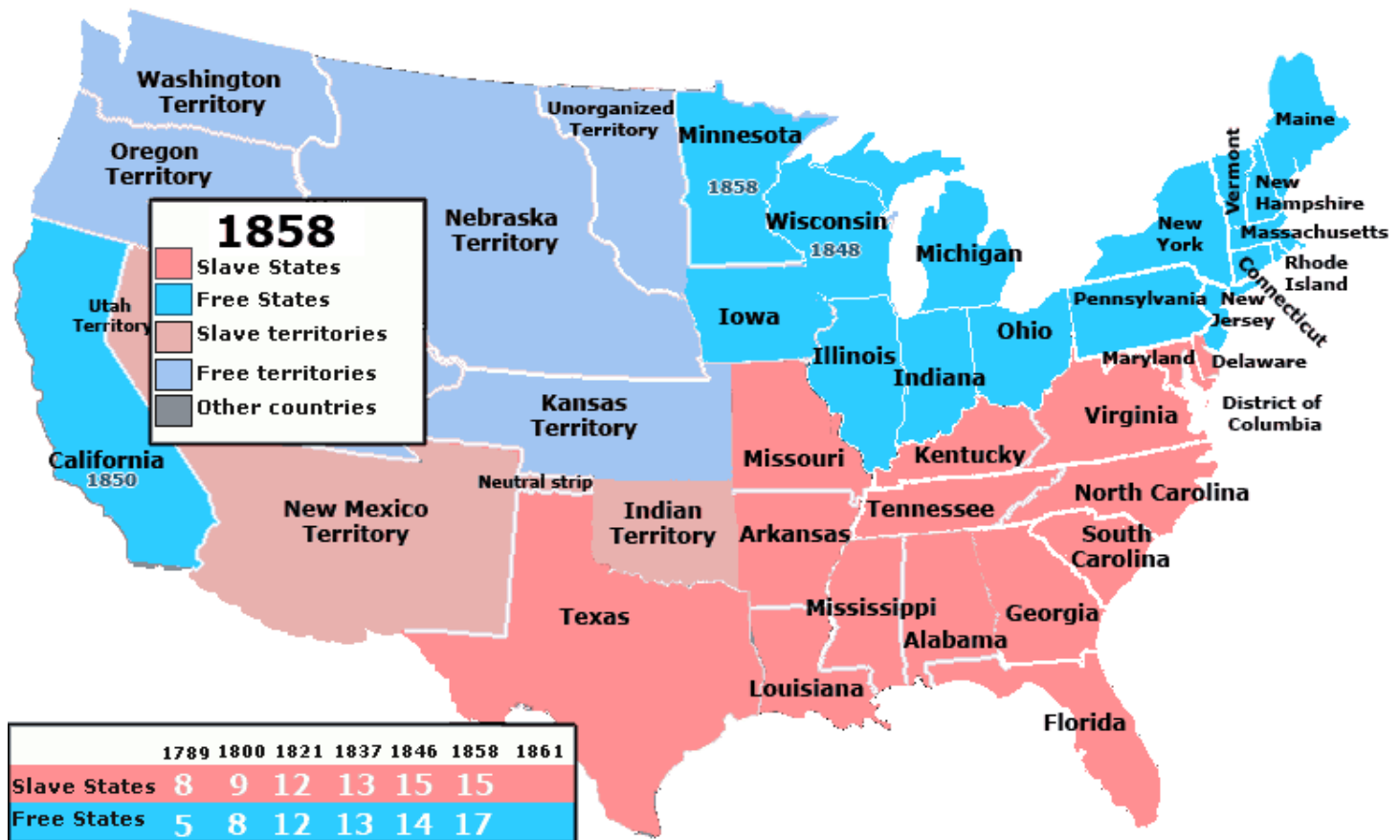
Session Resources:

[For Native Americans, Land Is More Than Just the Ground Beneath Their Feet](#) Private land ownership isn't a solution to Native American poverty by Dr. Kelli Mosteller short *article from The Atlantic, 2016.*

Place, Politics, and Property: Negotiating Allotment and Citizenship for the Citizen Potawatomi, 1861 - 1891

by Kelli Jean Mosteller, B.A; M.A. Dissertation Presented to the Faculty of the Graduate School of The University of Texas at Austin in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy The University of Texas at Austin May 2013

First Encounter Native Americans and Christians- The Pluralism Project, Harvard University- shared by Julia Arce



Timeline

- 1848 -RSCJ move school to St Mary’s Mission, KS
- 1843-1870s Oregon Trail in front of SH Potawatomi school, thru Potawatomi reservation
- 1849 Society opens school in Halifax, Canada
- 1850 and 60s US pressure Potawatomi to take allotments and citizenship in KS
- 1853 [Fort Riley](#) built 50 miles west of the mission
- 1854 [Kansas Nebraska Act](#)
- 1857 [Dred Scott v. Sandford decision](#)
- 1854-1859 [Bleeding Kansas](#), mostly south of reservation
- 1859 [John Brown’s Harper Ferry Raid](#), WV
- 1861 Society opens school in Montreal, Canada
- 1861 Treaty of 1861- allotments and US citizenship
- 1861-1865 Civil War

[West of the Mississippi](#)- Gallery 8 in the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Cultural Heritage Center- Sugar Creek and St Mary's Mission, KS- 22 minute video

<https://www.potawatomiheritage.com/history/>

<https://www.potawatomiheritage.com/360-virtual-tour/>

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC5rvJC20li-0cmZ6eCi4m00Q/videos>

The *Goals and Criteria* outlines the essential principles and values of Sacred Heart education. From the very beginning, it has served as a covenant among Sacred Heart educators and the Society of the Sacred Heart on behalf of young people for the sake of building a world reflective of the attitudes of Christ's Heart. It remains the pivotal document for students, families and educators of the Sacred Heart. This articulation of mission continues to play a fundamental role in supporting mission integrity by expressing the timeless principles at the heart of Sacred Heart education. Schools of the Sacred Heart educate to:

- a personal and active faith in God
- a deep respect for intellectual values
- a social awareness which impels to action
- the building of community as a Christian value
- personal growth in an atmosphere of wise freedom.