



*“Life’s journey is to God’s eternal Day . . .*

*For in Life and in death, we belong to the Lord!”*

### **Early Years**

Born in Fall River, MA, Rosalina was the youngest of eight children. Her parents had both come to the US from the Azores, and Portuguese was the family’s lingua franca, mixed gradually with English as the children went to school. There was a wonderful family custom of asking the parent’s blessing morning and evening, part of the daily Catholic upbringing they all had.

**Sr. Rosalina Cabral FMM  
(M. Agathangelus)  
Born: April 21, 1928  
Entered: Dec. 8, 1951  
Novitiate: Sept. 17, 1952  
First Vows: Sept. 17, 1954  
Final Vows: Sept. 17, 1957  
Born to Eternal Life: 5. 9. 2009**

There was no question of small children fidgeting in church - it just was not done! After she graduated from high school, Rosalina worked in the billing department of a clothing store for about five years.

### **God’s Call**

Feeling drawn to the quiet, contemplative life, Rosalina sought information about entering one such community and was told about a two-year waiting period. Her spiritual director at the Cathedral suggested she visit the FMM in St. Anthony’s Convent on Second Street. Rosalina entered at the Institute of the Franciscan Missionaries of Mary in North Providence, RI December 8, 1951.

The following September, she received the Habit and the name M. of St. Agathangelus. One of her charges during the novitiate was the knife in the print shop.

### **Missionary Life**

After her First Vows, September 17, 1954, Rosalina was sent to Fall River, where she served as a “Commissioner” – one of many Sisters of her Institute who went all over the United States selling the handwork made in the workrooms, thus obtaining the funds to support missionary works in the USA as well as young girls employed in Needlework Rooms in overseas missions. She also taught in Espiritu Santo School.

September 17, 1957, Bishop Gerrard, her former spiritual director, presided at her ceremony of Final Vows. During the homily, he said, “You are never alone; Jesus is always with you.” — words which gave Rosalina strength throughout her religious life. A few months later, Rosalina, along with Frances Milano, set sail for Peru. It was George Washington’s Birthday, 1958.

After a month in Lima, she was sent in mission to Iquitos, in the tropics not far from Brazil, where she taught English as a second language until 1968. Rosalina was fluent in the languages of French, Spanish and Portuguese as well as English.

Later, Rosalina was sent in mission to Cartavio on the coast helping in a hospital department until 1972, and then was sent to Chaclacayo in the Lima area as superior, where, she says, she learned a lot from the elderly sisters who lived in a section of the retreat house there.

In 1985, she was sent to Ancon and worked with the girls in a shelter for children from broken families. "I loved that!" she said. In 1992, she was asked to return to Chaclacayo as superior.

Rosalina returned to the US for health reasons in 1998 and came to St. Francis in Roslyn, where she served as a receptionist for her community. September 17, 2002, she celebrated her Golden Jubilee of religious life in Roslyn.

Throughout her life, Rosalina was a quiet, gentle person always conscious of having Jesus with her as her constant companion.