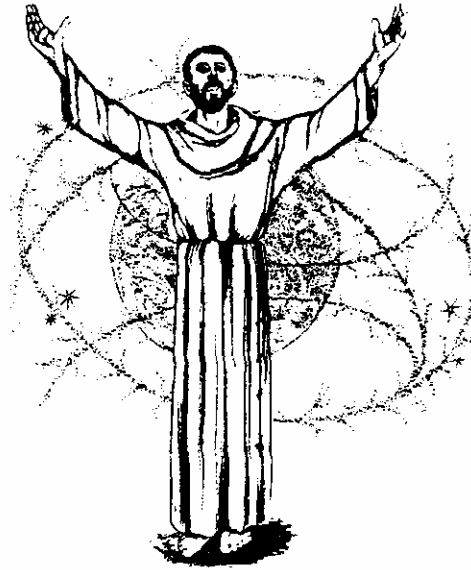


Breastplate of St. Patrick

Christ beside me,
Christ before me,
Christ behind me,
Christ within me,
Christ beneath me,
Christ above me.
Christ on my right hand,
Christ on my left,
Christ where I lie,
Christ where I sit,
Christ where I rise.
Christ in the hearts of all
Who think of me,
Christ in the mouths of all
Who speak to me,
Christ in every eye
That sees me,
Christ in every ear
That hears me.

“ Following Christ . . . I offer my life
for the Church and the salvation
of the World . . . ”

From FMM Formula of Vows



*“When the time of our particu-
lar sunset comes,
Our thing . . .
our accomplishments won't
really matter a great deal.
But the Charity and Care
With which we have loves
others
Will speak with vitality of the
Great Gift of Life we have
been for others.”*



Sr. Rosemary Sullivan, FMM
(M. Thomas Aquinas)

Born: Oct. 31, 1927
Entered: Dec. 9, 1947
Novitiate: June 13, 1948
First Vows: June 13, 1950
Final Vows: June 13, 1956
Born to Eternal Life: 6.10.06

Early Years

Sr. Rosemary Sullivan was born on an auspicious day, Halloween, October 31, 1928 in Rochester, New York. She was next to the youngest of 4 children born to devout parents, John and Helen Sullivan.

God's Call

She had always felt the call to be a missionary and never seriously considered anything else. She worked for a year after high school as a billing clerk while waiting for entry into Maryknoll. Instead, Rosemary found the F.M.M. Her life as a Franciscan Missionary of Mary began at Fruit Hill in December, 1947.

Missionary Life

For four years, she was a unit helper at Kennedy Memorial Hospital, now called Franciscan Hospital for Children, and then spent a year in Divine Providence, 45th St., Manhattan with the pre-school boys. One year at Emmanuel, followed by three at St. Joseph's College for Women in Brooklyn, saw Rosemary through to a B.A. and a New York State Teacher's Certificate in early childhood education, in June, 1959. She had made her Final Vows in June of 1956.

Rosemary left for the missions in September, 1959, in order to be a

participant in the missionary departure ceremony in which she, with 19 other F.M.M., had the privilege of receiving her missionary crucifix directly from Pope John XXIII. Then she went to South-east Asia where she was eventually to have gone from Kuantan to Indonesia; however, plans were changed when she landed in Singapore, where her ministry was something akin to running an archdiocesan CCD office. She loved Singapore and remembered her ten years there with gratitude. A year's study in Lumen Vitae in Brussels was a high point for her during that time.

Because of illness, Rosemary returned to the U.S. in January of 1969. She became the Director of the Mount St. Francis Day Care Center in Woonsocket in August of that year. She was stricken with Guillain-Barre syndrome, a form of infectious paralyzing polyneuritis. She recovered 100% from this event.

After the F.M.M. withdrawal from Woonsocket, Rosemary had the happiness of getting her Master's Degree in Divinity in 1975 from Andover Newton Theological School. Later, she utilized this education in a truly pastoral role with the People of God. She was first called to give herself for her own FMM sisters. After completing her studies, Rosemary was in the 45th Street community where much of her time was spent preparing for the Provincial Chapter of July, 1976; for which she was also elected Delegate. She did volunteer

work counseling prisoners, also. She was elected as a provincial councilor and as a delegate to the General Chapter of 1978-79, after which she was asked to write "Listening Attentively to the Word of God: Reading the Constitutions with the Word of God."

In 1979 Rosemary was called to ministry in the State of Georgia. She served as an associate pastor of Christ the King Parish, Hamilton Georgia. She initiated and directed FOCUS-Fellowship of Christians United for Service. It was during these years that she fulfilled her hope of ministering in pastoral care and ecumenical involvement.

After seven years in Georgia, Rosemary was called to a service as the provincial of the U.S.A., followed by six years in service as a general councilor.

In 1996, back in the U.S.A. again, after a short period of renewal, Rosemary was sent to Miriam community, Bronx, N.Y. She ministered in pastoral care in Jacobi City hospital as a staff chaplain.

While on vacation with her sister, she fell, suffering a critical brain injury from which she never regained consciousness. "We know not the day nor the hour" but we are confident that Rosemary was ready. We pray for Rosemary as we thank God for her beautiful life.