

Irma M. Hilda Rosa

December 14, 1925 - January 14, 2024



Sister Hilda Rosa (religious name), was born on December 14, 1925 and received the civil name of Justina Rosa. Her family attended the Baptist Church and prioritized academic and Christian training, so Sister Hilda as a teenager studied at a boarding school run by the Benedictine Sisters. Sister Margarida Ming was in the same class and they both formed a great friendship. After completing their studies, they both wanted to join a religious congregation. Justina Rosa joined the Congregation of the Sisters of Saint Francis of the Providence of God on February 5, 1950 and received the name Sister Hilda Rosa.

Remembered for her faith, compassion and intellect, Sister Hilda served in education, pastoral ministry and leadership throughout her 73 years as a Sister of St. Francis of the Providence of God. She served as an educator at St. Michal the Archangel and Pius XII schools, where she also served as director.



A voracious reader of news, theology, literature, science and other topics, Sister Hilda was well prepared for the various leadership and advisory roles Providence called her to embrace. She served as Director of the Center for Franciscan and Pastoral Studies for Latin America (CEFEPAL) in the 1970s. She was elected Regional Superior in 1984 - the first Brazilian Sister to serve in leadership of the Congregation in Brazil. She was also active in the Conference of Brazilian Religious in São Paulo, and presented retreats for religious women and men.



From 1994 to 2012 she served in various administrative roles at St. Pius XII school and as an advisor to our Congregation sponsored ministries, including Dr. Eugênio Gomes de Carvalho Maternity Hospital, St. Michael the Archangel School and Our Lady of Mount Carmel School. She also helped guide our Sisters in formation by teaching classes on our Franciscan spirituality and way of life. In 2012, she entered into a ministry of presence and prayer at our Recanto Paz e Bem Community. Sister M. Hilda Rosa died at the age of 98 on January 14, 2024 at our Paz e Bem residence in Brazil. We give thanks to God for Sister's life, her loving, spirit, and her unique way of manifesting the love of Christ.

*For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid,
but gives us power, love and self-discipline.*

~2 Timothy 1-7