Catherine Louise Bayne was born in Baltimore on February 9, 1929, the first daughter of Catherine and Charles Bayne from Maryland and baptized at St. Paul Church. In her autobiography, Sister Marie Angela said she first expressed an interest in entering the convent in fifth grade. By the time she was a senior in high school she began thinking of religious life seriously. “I definitely made up my mind on Christmas night of that year and had no more doubts.” She entered the School Sisters of Notre Dame in August 1946 in Baltimore and professed first vows in August 1949. She said she entered the order because, “I wanted to teach children and I knew the Notre Dames the best.”

Sister Marie taught elementary and secondary school for thirty years, primarily in Baltimore City. In 1980, she served as vice principal at Madonna Academy in Florida for two years and then went on to minister for 35 years at St. Agnes in Key Biscayne as a director of religious programs and then as director of parish programs.

Sister Marie Angela earned her Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education and Chemistry in 1960 at the College of Notre Dame, a Master of Science in Secondary Education in 1970 from Villanova University and in 1988, a Master of Arts in Pastoral Ministry-Hispanic at S E Pastoral Institute in Miami. She returned to Baltimore in 2011, ministering in prayer and presence.