

*Celebrating
the Life
Of*



Mary Gray

Sunrise: February 16, 1928

Sunset: September 21, 2016

Services:

Wednesday, October 5, 2016

10:15 a.m.

ST. MICHAEL CATHOLIC CHURCH
1212 Kelly Street • Union, New Jersey
Father Emmanuel Agu, Officiating
Peter Petrecca, Organist

Obituary

Mary Gray was born on February 16, 1928 to Mary Daniel and Leonard Browne in Plymouth Montserrat, West Indies. She died peacefully on September 21, 2016 at home in Union, New Jersey. She was 88 years old.

Mary was a proud mother, who was survived by her six wonderful children, Therese Gray, Gerard Gray (Shaumen), Althia Gray, Cynthia Christopher, Dr. Noel Gray (Jacinth) and Desmond Gray.

Mary was a devoted member of the St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Church, Montserrat. She was a minister of the Eucharist, a member of the Legion of Mary and the St. Vincent De Paul Society.

Mary's husband, John Gray, passed when she was only thirty two years old, their oldest child was only eight and their youngest was only five months old. To care for her young children she took on as many as four jobs at a time to ensure that they always had the best. Her love was always guaranteed. When her children were young, she ignored her personal needs, her children's needs were her needs and she gave all of herself selflessly. She chose to never remarry so she could completely devote herself to her children.

She neglected her health and pretty much all of her needs during the early years of her children's lives. Thankfully as her children grew older and became more independent, she went on vacations and began to take better care of herself to the delight and pride of her children. It was with pride her children witnessed their mother investing more of her time and devotion to the church as she began to make presentations to such groups as the Legion of Mary and the St. Vincent De Paul Society. She also attended various conferences as an Executive Housekeeper. With all of the information she learned while holding her position as Executive Housekeeper, she took pride in sharing her knowledge and began training other hotel owners via various classes on the island.

As we know Mary was an avid church goer and ensured that her children also were. As a family they were actively involved in the life of the church whether as acolytes or members of the youth groups and other church organizations. As her children arose every morning, she would gather them for early morning prayers. It was her firm belief that a family that prays together, stays together. She also believed that although in adulthood some of her children became disconnected from the church, they would once again become involved.

Mary's children are blessed to have learned many valuable lessons from her. Such as this infamous phrase she commonly used, "You will wish your cake was dough". This phrase was used to indicate that a poor choice which had serious repercussions had been made. It meant that one or more of her children acted carelessly, insensitively, or did not complete a task such as school work to the best of their abilities. Today, that phrase is a reminder that actions have consequences, and it should serve her children as a guide for life.

Mary had a great impact on the lives of all whom she graced with her presence. She always offered amazing advice, continuous support and assurance. She taught us to always love, respect, to be kind and helpful to others and to always treat others as we wish to be treated. Mary's children are blessed to have had her as their mother.

Mary leaves to celebrate fond memories and mourn their loss, her six children, her sisters Veronica Lee, and Ethlyn Lee-Carter (Colin Carter). Her ten grandchildren, Marlon Harris, Kenyatta Gray, Evered Gray, Randolph Christopher, Rucynth Christopher, Melissa Gray, Noel Gray Jr., Natalie Gray, Kai Gray and Khan Gray. Her five great-grandchildren, Kenecia Gray, Kenijah Gray, Chaelissa Gray, Kha'liar Harris, and Robyn Gray. Her three nieces, Carol West, Beverly Simms and Abi Lee-Carter; two nephews Alford Dyett and Stephen Baker, and by grandnephews and nieces, Otis and Nathan West, Alford Dyett Jr., Veisha Greenaway, Cara Seymoura, and Aliya Dyett. She is also survived by her cousins, Betty, Chedmond, Derek, Alphege, Damian, Darius, Shaka and Claude Browne, Natalie Turner in the UK, Archdeacon Peter Daley, William and Delma Daley, her other relatives and many friends.

Mary has joined in eternity her parents Mary and Leonard and her husband John.

Order of the Mass

Entrance Song

Welcoming Prayer/Sprinkling of Holy Water on Coffin

Opening Prayer

First Reading.....Desmond Gray

Responsorial Psalm(Sung by Cantor)

Second Reading.....Melissa Gray

Gospel Reading (John 14:1-6) Fr. Emmanuel

Homily Fr. Emmanuel

Universal Prayer

Presentation of Gifts.....Althia Gray
Betty Cynthia Christopher

Praying Over the Gift/Eucharist Prayer

Communion

Prayer after Communion

Committal Prayer/Final Prayer Over the Coffin

INTERMENT
Gates of Heaven Cemetery
East Hanover, New Jersey

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 25:6a, 7-9

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah

On this mountain the Lord of hosts
will provide for all peoples.

On this mountain he will destroy
the veil that veils all peoples,

The web that is woven over all nations;
he will destroy death forever.

The Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces;

The reproach of his people he will remove
from the whole earth; for the Lord has spoken.

On that day it will be said:

"Behold our God, to whom we looked to save us!

This is the Lord to whom we looked;
let us rejoice and be glad that he has saved us!"

The Word of the Lord



But they are in peace. For if before men, indeed, they be punished, yet
is their hope full of immortality; chastised a little, they shall be greatly
blessed, because God tried them and found them worthy of himself.

As gold in the furnace, he proved them, and as sacrificial offerings
he took them to himself. Those who trust in him shall understand truth,

And the faithful shall abide with him in love:

Because grace and mercy are with his holy ones,
and his care is with the elect.

The Word of the Lord

Acknowledgement

Perhaps you sent a lovely card or sat quietly in a chair.

Perhaps you sent a floral piece If so, we saw it there.

Perhaps you spoke the kindest words as any friend could say.

Perhaps you were not there at all just thought of us on that day.

Whatever you did to console our hearts, We Thank You, Whatever the part.

Professional Services Provided By

COTTON FUNERAL SERVICE

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Orange, NJ
973-675-6400

1025 Bergen Street
Newark, NJ
973-926-6400

COTTON-PARKER FUNERAL HOME

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