

*In Loving Memory*  
*of*  
*Bernadette A. Durand*

**Sunrise**  
March 28, 1928

**Sunset**  
January 4, 2017



*Thursday, January 12, 2017 - 10:00 a.m.*

**REDEMPTION TABERNACLE PENTECOSTAL CHURCH**  
15-17 Gareis Street • Newark, New Jersey

# Order of Service

Viewing .....9-10am  
Service..... 10-10:45am  
Opening Prayer..... Joana Mathurine  
Scripture Reading - Psalm 23..... Peter Williams  
Scripture Reading - 1 Thessalonians 4: 13-18 .....Alexis Akridge  
Special Song..... "Somewhere Around God's Throne"  
Christabel St. Jean  
Reading..... "I Will See You Again"  
Natasha Williams  
Eulogy..... Cecilia Babb  
Pamela Daniel-Charles  
Special Song..... "His Eye Is On The Sparrow"  
Eddie Mae Abu-Smail  
Words of Comfort..... Bishop Peter Piper  
Benediction .....Bishop Peter Piper  
Recessional ..... "Run To You"

## **INTERMENT**

Rosedale Cemetery  
Orange, New Jersey

**Repast immediately following the interment  
at Calvary Roseville United Methodist Church  
400 Main Street, East Orange NJ 07018.**

# *Eulogy for Bernadette Agnette Durand*

Bernadette was born into the First People's community of Petite Soufriere, Dominica on March 28, 1928 to Mr. and Mrs. Neal and Rosa Durand. Bernadette lost her mom and baby brother during the 1930 hurricane that struck her village when she was only 2 years old. She was therefore raised by her extended family – producers of Bay Oil for export, who supplemented their livelihoods with fishing and basket making.

Bernadette, or Agnette, as she was better known, migrated to the capital, Roseau, in her early twenties. She specialized in domestic and laundry services throughout her adult life until she was impacted by Hurricane David in 1979 during which she sustained critical injury. She migrated to the United States in 1985 to join her daughter Pamela, already living in Philadelphia.

She worked as a nanny for a loving family, with whom she travelled throughout Europe and Canada. In 1988 she began working at New Jersey Transit as a Coach Cleaner, where she was a mother figure to many of her coworkers. The following year, 6 more of her children and 6 grandchildren came to live in New Jersey with her. She continued working at New Jersey Transit until retirement in the early 2000s, then took up gardening, traveling, and caring for her large family.



She was involved in her church community. She loved life and laughter and lighted up each moment with her beauty, grace, and strength.

Mama Agnette was healthy and active until a few short months before her passing. She was the quintessential matriarch of an extensive family leaving to mourn her sister Justine, children Pamela, Cecilia, Andre, Neville, Patricia, Peter, Bernadette, Gilbert, Billy, Miranda, 27 grandchildren, and 15 great grandchildren. 8 sons and daughters in law, nieces, nephews, cousins, neighbors, and friends join us in mourning.

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# *The Master Called*

*I'm sorry I had to leave you.  
My loved ones, oh so dear.  
But you see, the Master called me,  
His voice was very clear!  
I had made my reservation  
A heaven bound ticket for one,  
And I knew that He would call me  
When He felt my work was done.  
I know that your hearts are heavy  
Because I have gone away,  
But when the Master called me,  
I knew that I could not stay.  
Yes, I'm sorry I had to leave you  
My loved ones, oh so dear,  
But, you see, the Master called me  
And, now I'm resting here.  
Yes, I've crossed on over to glory  
And to you all I say  
Just stay in the hands of Jesus  
And we'll meet again someday.*

*-Author unknown*

## *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**

130 Main Street  
Orange, NJ  
973-675-6400

1025 Bergen Street  
Newark, NJ  
973-926-6400

**COTTON-PARKER FUNERAL HOME**

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