

*In Memory
of a
Matriarch*

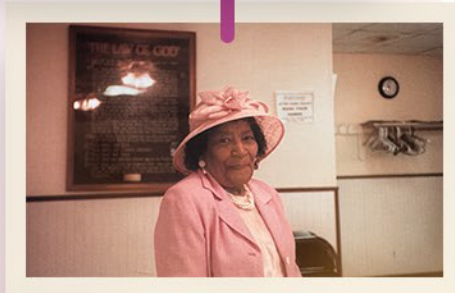
MOTHER

ALPHA
12.09.1929

OMEGA
8.18.2026

*Jacqueline
Deloris*
BURGESS
SUNDAY, AUGUST 30, 2026

BETHEL CHRISTIAN CENTER
5715 MERRICK RD, MASSAPEQUA NY 11758 | BISHOP DEREK K. PRICE, HOST PASTOR



THE ORDER OF WORSHIP & CELEBRATION FOR

MOTHER
Jacqueline Deloris
BURGESS

* | Where indicated, please stand

Musical Prelude

A Medley of Psalms, Hymns, and Spiritual Songs

Processional

Clergy, The Officiant, The Eulogist, The Burgess Family

The Call To Worship

Psalm 100 Responsive Reading

Song of Praise

*"Come Into His Presence"
The Memorial Ensemble*

*The Prayer of Comfort

Pastor John H. Boyd

Old Testament Reading

Pastor Cornelius Allen Sr.

New Testament Reading

Pastor Terrance Daye

*The Hymn of Victory

*"Hold To God's Unchanging Hand"
The Memorial Ensemble*

Resolutions and Acknowledgements of Cards

Grace Community Church Representative

Civic Reflections

*Madeline Quintyne-McConney
Town of Babylon Representative*

Ministerial Reflections

*Bishop Curtis Redmon
Rev. Dr. Gina Talbert
Rev. Dr. David Robinson
Pastor Joshua Tyson*

Musical Tribute

*"God Will Take Care of You"
The Memorial Ensemble*

Spiritual Sons Tribute

*Rev. Valdimar Slater
Rev. Leon Byrd*

First Ladies Tribute

*Co-Pastor Brenda Mackey
Evang. Theresa Willie*

Song of Triumph

*"For The Rest Of My Life"
The Memorial Ensemble*

Words of Appreciation

*Sister Beverly Lattimore | Missionary Board
Sister Sandy Ouedraogo | Women's Fellowship
Elder Kevin Spann | Men's Fellowship
Elder Robertha Johnson | Grace Community Leadership*

"Honoring Our Mother"

Daughter's Tribute

This Is My Story (Obituary)

Video Presentation

Musical Tribute

*"Tis So Sweet/Oh, The Glory Of His Presence"
The Memorial Ensemble*

INTRODUCTION OF THE EULOGIST

Song of Preparation

*"Things Will Work Out"
The Memorial Ensemble*

The Eulogy

*Bishop Walter C. Willie, Jr.
Prayer Tabernacle Church of God in Christ | Amityville, New York*

Final Viewing

* The Benediction & Recessional *

Repast to follow

Interment

Monday, August 31, 2016

Leaving from Grace Community Church at 10am



From Our Hearts to Mom A PHENOMENAL WOMAN

Dear Mom,

How can we adequately say thank you for a lifetime of love? From our earliest steps into womanhood and throughout every season of our lives, you were there—smart, strong, loving, protective, and unwavering in your devotion to us. You taught us not only by what you said, but by how you lived. You showed us the value of education, hard work, dignity, perseverance, and carrying ourselves as women of strength and character. Your wisdom helped shape the women we became, and even when your guidance was firm, we always knew that behind it was a mother who loved us deeply and wanted God's very best for our lives.

Mom, you gave us something even greater than your wisdom—you gave us the example of a woman who loved and served God. We watched you pray, study His Word, teach others, serve faithfully, and stand beside Dad through more than seven decades of marriage. You taught us that faith was not simply something to profess on Sunday; it was something to live every day. Long before we fully understood the value of those lessons, you were planting seeds within us that would continue to grow throughout our lives.

We are so proud of the woman you were. You were a wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, educator, teacher of the Gospel, mentor, church mother, and servant of the Kingdom—but to us, you were simply Mom. You gave so much of yourself to your family, your students, your church, and to generations of men and women who were blessed by your teaching. Your life reminds us that a true legacy is not merely what a person leaves to others, but what she leaves within them.

And so, Mom, we say thank you. Thank you for giving us roots strong enough to hold us and wings strong enough to carry us. Thank you for the sacrifices we knew about—and the many we probably never saw. Thank you for your prayers, your wisdom, your strength, your laughter, your correction, your protection, and your love.

Although we can no longer hear your voice as we once did, its wisdom still speaks within us. We will carry forward what you placed in our hearts, and we will tell those who come after us about the remarkable woman we were blessed to call our mother. Your work is finished, Mom, but your influence is not. Your legacy lives on—in your daughters, in our children, our grandchildren, and in every life made better because Jacqueline Deloris Church Burgess passed this way. We love you, Mom. Always.

Your Daughters,
Alexia, Robyn & Cheryl





The Obituary

Mother Jacqueline Deloris Church Burgess was born in Norfolk, Virginia on Dec 9, 1929. One of eight children born to Rudolph and Julia Church, whose influence in her early years helped form the strength, discipline, and devotion that would characterize her life. After graduating from Booker T. Washington High School, she attended Norfolk State College, which at that time was a junior college, and later continued her education at Shaw University in Raleigh, North Carolina. It was at Shaw that Jacqueline met Robert L. Burgess, the man with whom she would share a remarkable life of love, family, faith, and service. They married following graduation and, as young newlyweds, journeyed north to make New York their home and begin building a life together.

In New York, Mother Burgess began a distinguished career of service. She worked as a social worker and attendance officer before ultimately becoming a teacher in the New York City school system. Her own pursuit of knowledge never ceased. She earned her master's degree in education from Hofstra University while also completing accelerated courses at City College of New York (CCNY), Queens College, and Stony Brook University. Education was more than a profession for Mother Burgess; teaching and developing others would become a thread woven throughout her life. She faithfully pursued her career until her retirement in 1987.

In 1973, Sister Burgess accepted Jesus Christ as her personal Savior and joined Little Zion Church of God in Christ under the leadership of Elder, later Bishop, Frank O. White. There, her gifts quickly found a place of service as she became church secretary, faithfully serving until 1984, when her husband, Rev. Robert L. Burgess, was called to pastor. His call opened a new chapter for their family, and Jacqueline brought to the work the same discipline, intellect, administrative ability, and gift for teaching that had distinguished her professional life. She served as secretary of Grace for the next eight years and became an integral part of the ministry they were building together.

During this period, Lady Burgess also received her master's degree from the O. M. Kelly Religious Training Institute of the Church of God in Christ. When Elder, later Bishop, Walter Willie opened the O. M. Kelly extension at Prayer Tabernacle Church of God in Christ in Amityville, New York, she began teaching there. Many pastors and ministers sat under her tutelage, carrying with them lessons shaped by her knowledge of Scripture, her high standards, and her commitment to preparing others for ministry.

The members of Grace Community Christian Ministries likewise benefited from her tireless dedication to Christian education. Through Bible Study and Sunday School, Mother Burgess did more than teach lessons; she helped build believers. She taught them how to live victoriously in Christ, to stand firmly upon the Word of God, and to establish a foundation of faith strong enough to sustain them through life.

For more than forty years as the Elect Lady of Grace Community Christian Ministries, Mother Burgess labored faithfully alongside her husband in Kingdom building. She was never limited by a title or a single assignment. Whatever needed to be done, she could be found doing it—praying, teaching, organizing, encouraging, supporting, and working behind the scenes to help bring to fruition the vision God had entrusted to them. Her gifts were practical as well as spiritual, and she poured both into the life of Grace. Even the music of the church bore her touch: for approximately twenty years, she served at the organ for Tuesday Morning Service, providing a faithful musical foundation for worship and prayer.



Yet beyond the classroom, the sanctuary, and the many titles she carried, there was Jacqueline—the woman her family knew and loved. She found joy in the ordinary expressions of care that make a life together beautiful. She enjoyed preparing food for her husband, an everyday act of love within a marriage that would span more than seven decades. She treasured time with her granddaughter Yandrea, especially having her hair done by her, and she enjoyed her visits to the nail salon.

In the final two years of her life, another companion claimed a special place in her heart: her fur-grand, CeCe. Mother Burgess delighted in spending time with CeCe and, true to her nurturing nature, made certain that CeCe stayed well fed. And while generations of family knew Mother Burgess as a woman of standards—one who believed deeply in proper living and decorum—the arrival of her great-grandchildren revealed a particularly tender side of her. Somehow, some of the once-firm rules became a little more negotiable when the great-grands were involved. The woman who had spent a lifetime teaching others how things ought to be done discovered that great-grandchildren had a way of rewriting the rules.

Overseer and Mother Burgess shared a beautiful and enduring marriage, celebrating seventy-one years together before the passing of Overseer Burgess in July 2025. Their marriage stretched across nearly the whole of the story of their adult lives: from college and their journey north, to careers and raising their daughters; from answering the call to ministry and building Grace, to retirement, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and growing older side by side. Behind the public titles of Overseer and Mother were Robert and Jacqueline, husband and wife, whose covenant was lived not only in the great moments of ministry but also in the countless ordinary acts of companionship, sacrifice, care, and devotion that filled seventy-one years.

Their union was blessed with three daughters: Pastor Alexia Burgess; Elder Robyn Burgess Walton (Jeffrey); and Sister Cheryl Burgess Johnson (Derek). Mother Burgess was the cherished grandmother of eight: Lavelle Evans (predeceased), Yandrea, Michelle, Jeffrey, Derek, Jordan, Deryca, and Desrae (Colin); and great-grandmother of five: Jayden, Selah, Joni, Kaysen, and Railynn.

Throughout her life, Mother Burgess encouraged those around her to pray for others, stand firmly on the Word of God, and live a holy life in preparation for the return of Jesus Christ. These were not merely words she taught; they were convictions she endeavored to live.

Her legacy can be found not only in the positions she held or the work she accomplished, but in the people she helped shape: her daughters, grandchildren and great-grandchildren; the students she educated; the pastors and ministers she trained; the believers she grounded in Scripture; and the congregation she helped build and nurture for more than forty years. Through education, she built minds. Through Christian instruction, she built believers. Through love and covenant, she built a family. And through a lifetime of faithful service alongside her husband, she helped build a ministry whose influence will continue far beyond her years.

Some lives are remembered primarily for what they accomplished. Mother Jacqueline D. Burgess will also be remembered for what she built in others—a testimony of faithfulness, perseverance, service, and unwavering devotion to God.

Grandmother

YANDREA

My grandma was so much more than a grandmother to me—she was my heart, my safe place, and one of the most important people in my life. She was always there for me, through every good day and every difficult moment, with a love that never wavered. She gave me comfort when I needed it, strength when I felt weak, and a love I will carry with me for the rest of my life. Her presence made everything feel a little safer and a little brighter.

I will miss her more than words can ever express. Although my heart is broken that she is no longer here, I am forever grateful that I had the blessing of calling her my grandma. The memories we shared, the love she gave me, and everything she taught me will stay in my heart always.

I love you, Grandma. Thank you for always being there for me, for loving me unconditionally, and for being such a beautiful part of my life. You will forever be one of the greatest pieces of my heart. Until we meet again, I will carry you with me every day. ❤️

MICHELLE

My beautiful grandma I will miss our kitchen table talks for hours. As you always had a way of calming me down and making things better. You taught me about God and how to pray. You'd always speak life into me and tell me to trust in God. But more importantly you showed me unconditional love and made me understand I am a part of this amazingly beautiful family. Thank you for always having my back and picking me up when I'd fall. You are always going to be the GOAT! Forever my advisor and favorite grandma. I'll love you forever and always. Your lady bug 💚💚

My Sweet Grandmother, I'm really having a hard time coming to grips with you no longer being here with us. You were our rock, the one that glued our family together.

You were love personified. It truly defined you. Even when you had to fuss and get us together, we all knew the place it came from. I watched you support and hold up Grandpa as he took on these great tasks in helping to build our church and community. You carried yourself with such poise and grace. You were the strength that didn't need the spotlight, or accolades. You cared about the work, and the people.

I'm so grateful for the role you played in my life. You really were an anchor for me. You created a home that was always my place of peace and safety. I will never forget that. Some of my favorite moments I will hold on to are seeing my children with you. You loved them from the moment they arrived, and they loved you right back...you became their GREAT GRAM!!!

I really couldn't have had a better grandmother. You were the BLUEPRINT. There will forever be a hole in my heart, that only you could fill. I love you BIG!!!

JORDAN

*Grandma,
I hope that you know you blessed my life more times than I can ever count. You will always be my hero. I hope that I can make you proud. Thank you for loving me like a grandmother should. I love you forever.*

DEREK JR.

Grandma, it's hard to believe that you are gone. I will forever miss your compassion, love, and god-fearing spirit. Going up to the house to spend time with you and the family was a big highlight of my childhood. While it's overwhelming to say goodbye, I will always cherish the memories of the times we've had over the years. You made a meaningful and lasting impact as the head of the Burgess family, and it was a blessing to witness you live such a long and fulfilling life.

DEREYKA

When I think of Grandma, I think of her warm smile, her laughter, and the way she made people feel loved and cared for. She genuinely enjoyed being around people, and there was something special about the way she could make you feel welcomed, appreciated, and important. As I've spent time with her throughout my life, she's made me realize that making people feel loved and special is one of the greatest gifts you can give to this world.

More than anything, Grandma taught me that the most important relationship you will ever have in this life is your relationship with God. That is something I will always carry with me, and I'm grateful that her life was such a beautiful example of faith, love, and kindness.

I'm going to miss her smile, her laugh, and all the stories she'd tell. But I'm grateful for all the years, love, and memories we were blessed to have with her. And while saying goodbye hurts, it brings me comfort knowing she's reunited with Grandpa in Heaven. I love you, Grandma. ❤️

DESRAE

JAYDEN

JONI SÉLAH KAYSEN

When I think of Grandma Jackie, I think of love, comfort, and kindness. As a child, I remember visiting her with my siblings and getting hurt while playing outside and crying a lot after. She would gently clean my wounds, put on a bandaid, and remind me that I was tough, just like the big kids. She had a way of making me feel safe, cared for, and a little stronger.

She also encouraged my interest in reading and nurtured my curiosity. And in the same way she helped to nourish my mind, she nourished our family around the dinner table. I will always cherish the delicious meals she made, sometimes with fish my grandpa had caught or tomatoes from their garden. But most of all, I will remember the memories, the lessons, and the love she gave. Grandma, you are deeply loved, and will be deeply missed.

I miss you great grandma. I'm sad that you left me. You were so funny and you always gave me food and snacks even when my mom said no. I love you forever.

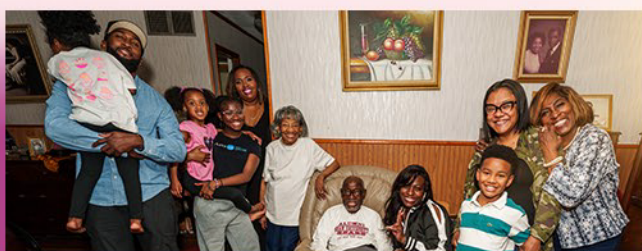
Great Gram You've been the best Great Grandma I've had, you mean the most to me. I love you so much. You loved me, you cared for me, I always wanted to stay with you. I hope you have the most love and the most care and the most hugs in heaven.

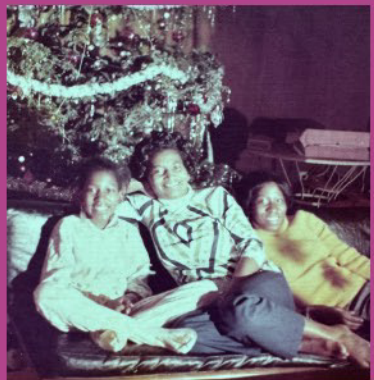
I love you Great Gram, You're the best and I miss you, you are very special and I love you

To Grandma,

I miss you so much. I'm sad you won't be here. I'm going to always love you.

Great Gram





To everyone who took the time, made a sacrifice, or lent a helping hand to make today special — we deeply appreciate you. It was our heart's desire to the life of Mother Burgess with the highest regard, and your love, presence, and support have made that possible.

Thank You

Special Thanks To:

JOSEPH A. SLINGER-HASGILL FUNERAL SERVICES

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BISHOP DEREK K. PRICE AND PASTOR JEAN PRICE AND THE BETHEL CHRISTIAN CENTER STAFF

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Omega Celeste of Seventh & Lane
Cherub Alethia Ruth
Timothy Walker of Techlyfe Inc.
Brandon Daniels of Royal Production Group
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Heavenly Too Florist
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Brianna Turner
Chenee Campbell
Karyn Porter
Ken Alston Jr.
Matia Celeste Washington
Daniel "Flash" Revell
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Tristan Andrews

Grace Community Church Music Ministry
Made Whole Nation Music Ministry

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Overseer Noah Bullard
Pastor John H. Boyd
Pastor Cornelius Allen Sr.
Pastor Terrance Daye
Madeline Quintyne-McConney
Bishop Curtis Redmon
Rev. Dr. Gina Talbert
Rev. Dr. David Robinson
Pastor Joshua Tyson

Thank you for standing with us in this moment of remembrance. Your kindness will never be forgotten.

— *The Family of Mother Burgess*





Together Again