

FUNERAL BURIAL AND
THANKSGIVING SERVICE

FOR THE LATE

MRS. IRENE MERCY
AFRIYE

DATE: 3rd & 4th SEPTEMBER 2022

VENUE: TRANSITIONS PLACE, N0 C1/17,
ASORE JUCTION ATOMIC-KWABENYA
MAIN ROAD HAATSO

1934-2022



PROGRAMME

PART 1 - FUNERAL SERVICE

1. Mother's Invocation
2. Invocation to Light and Love with Psalm 121
3. Song 73: How Great Thou Art
4. I AM Lord's Prayer by Jesus the Christ
5. Bible Sentences
6. Song 16: I AM Coming Home
7. Transfiguring Affirmation of Beloved Jesus the Christ
8. Biography
9. Tributes
10. Song 85: Higher Grounds
11. Pertinent Facts/Ideals about Life
12. Interlude
13. It is finished (Meditation)
14. Offertory/Special Offering
15. Benediction
16. Recessional Music – Hallelujah Chorus

PART 2 - BURIAL SERVICE

1. Scriptural Sentences
2. Song 52
3. Laying of Wreaths
4. Vote of Thanks
5. Benediction
6. Song 54

OFFICIATING CLERGY

1. Rev. Emmanuel Asiedu Mante
2. Rev. Lambert Ntibrey
3. Rev. Phillipine Kodjo

SONG 73: HOW GREAT THOU ART

O Lord my God! When I in awesome wonder
Consider all the worlds thy hands have made
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder
Thy power throughout the universe displayed—

Refrain:

Then sings my soul, my Saviour-God to thee
How great thou art, how great thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Saviour-God to thee
How great thou art, how great thou art!

O Light within, thou art my inner splendor—
The Christ in man, the Flame, the Three-in-One
When I invoke thy will, O Great Defender
I see the goal of Life for every Son—

Thy Spirit bold, thy Flame of Love so tender—
Thou Holy One in nature and all hearts
When I would praise and loving service render
I speak thy name: “I AM” - how great thou art!

I AM LORD'S PRAYER - *By Jesus the Christ*

Our Father who art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy name, I AM
I AM thy kingdom come
I AM thy will being done
I AM on earth even as I AM in heaven
I AM giving this day daily bread to all
I AM forgiving all Life this day even as
I AM also all Life forgiving me
I AM leading all men away from temptation
I AM delivering all men from every evil condition
I AM the Kingdom
I AM the Power and
I AM the Glory of God in eternal, immortal manifes-
tation
All this I AM.

SONG 16: I AM COMING HOME

I AM the soul demanding wholeness of the One
 By my free will, according to the law
 I now command the light, I AM a living soul
 And by free will I now return unto the Whole.
 By my free will I now discard all discord
 Into the flame, the flame of sacred fire
 I hear the voice of the Good Shepherd calling me
 O Father, O my Mother, I AM coming Home!

I went forth from the center of thy flaming will
 By love I would return, I would fulfill
 The law, the truth—by love of Alpha it is done
 And lo, I come unto the altar of the heart.
 And now I kneel before the flame, the Three-in-One
 To start the flame of Love, of Wisdom's fire
 I come, O Lord! I hear thy Word! I AM thy soul
 O Father, O Mother, I AM coming Home!

I walk into the living center of the One
 I claim the flame, I balance life's aim
 I AM the soul of God returning to the Christ
 And I AM sealed, I AM ascending to the Sun
 Hail, Alpha! Hail Omega! We are One!
 I AM secure within the heart of God.
 And I AM fired by Love's own law, the mind of Christ
 O Father, O my Mother, I AM coming Home!

This life I call my own, it is the Life of God

By the authority of living flame
 I make my way along the path, and day by day
 I AM becoming more and more of thee, my aim.
 By the authority of God, I chart my course
 I AM transparent immortality
 I see the goal of Jesus Christ ascended
 O Father, O my Mother, I AM coming Home!

TRANSFIGURING AFFIRMATIONS OF JESUS THE CHRIST

I AM THAT I AM
 I AM the Open Door which no man can shut
 I AM the Light which lighteth every man that cometh
 into the world
 I AM the Way
 I AM the Truth
 I AM the Life
 I AM the Resurrection
 I AM the Ascension in the Light
 I AM the fulfillment of all my needs and requirements
 of the hour
 I AM abundant supply poured out upon all Life
 I AM perfect Sight and Hearing
 I AM the manifest perfection of being
 I AM the illimitable Light of God made manifest
 everywhere
 I AM the Light of the Holy of Holies
 I AM a son of God
 I AM the Light in the holy mountain of God.

BIOGRAPHY OF THE LATE MRS. IRENE MERCY AFRIYE

Madam Irene Mercy Afriye of blessed memory was born on 21st January 1934 at Aburi to Rev. William Vernon Ofori from the Ofori Brothers Larteh and Mrs. Mary Magdalene Ofori (Nee Akwa) both of blessed memory, Daughter of Rev. D.E. Akwa of Manfe. She was the second of eleven (11) children.

Early Years: She started her primary education in Aburi, then in larteh. Daughters of Presbyterian priest as was the norm in those days were educated at missionary schools. Irene was a remarkable student so she continued her education after completion of her elementary at Agogo Basel Girls school in 1951. According to Irene after completion of her education she went to work for her maternal grandfather Rev. D. E Akwa and picked up a lot of people skills from the Presbytery as well as travelling with him to some of the stations he headed including Accra.

After her exposure to the top brass of the Presbyterian church Irene was ready to take on her next challenge. She got employment with Ghana Post Office in the mid-1950s

Further Education: Irene had a knack for enterprise and the ambition to become an entrepreneur. She followed her dream and travelled to Paris to study



BIOGRAPHY OF THE LATE MRS. IRENE MERCY AFRIYE

Hairdressing at a professional level. She enrolled at Loreal laboratoires D' Applications Techniques in Paris in 1962. She obtained the Certificat de Stage Professionnel in March 1963.

She wasn't finished yet, after completing her course at Loreal, she got admission to L'Institut De Coloration Capillaire-Clairol where she obtained her Diplome, The Clairol Gold Crown Certificate, thereby acquiring requisite proficiency in the use of the famous Clairol Haircolourings.

Professional Life: Madam Irene returned to Ghana and worked at B's beauty palace at Osu. This was where all the fashionable middle class ladies did their hair. Madam Irene did not work there for long, she opened her own Salon, Crescent Link Salon in the mid 1960s. From this platform her operations grew from strength to strength.

She travelled to Nairobi Kenya to join Dad in 1984 and again set up shop very close to Nairobi University again taking advantage of most of the trade from the university.

Family Life: Madam Irene was blessed with a husband and six (6) children. She was a maverick and loved and cared very well for her children.

Church Life: Madam Irene was baptized into the Presbyterian faith and later joined Church Universal and Triumphant.

TRIBUTE FROM CHILDREN

Auntie was a mother of different parts all working together in the most amazing fashion.

She could make you laugh and she could make you cry, she could also make you cry and laugh at the same time.

Auntie was a workaholic above all else and it was this trait that made us sweat. She did not stick to one standard; she kept increasing the bar at will which was very annoying and at the same time exhilarating.

We called her Auntie because she refused to answer to being called mummy which we found bizarre, but she stuck to her guns and so Auntie it was.

Auntie had everything in her locker: She was incredibly funny, brave, ambitious, witty, kind, generous, pragmatic, loving, consistent and seemingly had no fear.

During the heady period of the revolution in 1979, soldiers came to the house, stuck guns in her face and asked her to go and fetch the money she had at home or be shot. Auntie asked the soldiers to shoot her, she was not going to give them a penny because she worked too hard for the money they were trying to get for free.

Auntie you were a brilliant mother, you could easily have been a computer game because that's what living under your control felt like.

You were a mother that encouraged your children to dream big by deploying both orthodox and unorthodox policies, in fact the unorthodox policies outnumbered the former by a ratio of 5 to 1.

With six children who were always ready to play you, you did great, Ayekoo.

We hope by your passing to have satisfied God's first commandment with a promise-"HONOUR THY FATHER AND MOTHER" Ephesians 6:2

Auntie we are very grateful for all you did for us. Rest in perfect peace.

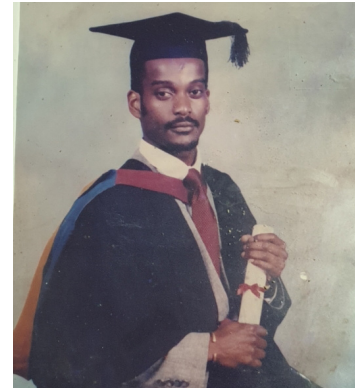
CHILDREN



Ms. Maudlynne Afriye



Mr. Edward Ofori-Afriye



Mr. Kofi Afriye



Mrs Helen Smith



Mr. Kobby Afriye

TRIBUTE FROM GRANDCHILDREN

My dear grandmother.

My experience of your time here was an adventure, one I would not encourage anyone to go on, but an adventure nonetheless.

They say that gratitude is the key to life.

And so, in that spirit, I thank you for sharpening my ability to observe.

I thank you for the resiliency I needed to survive.

I thank you for allowing me to know that I am not afraid of anyone or anything.

Auntie, I hope that in the next life peace is a friend you cherish and keep by your side.

Rest In Peace,

Sincerely,

Nana Yaw

Auntie was a resilient woman. I'd like to say if you can make it here (Blue Gate) you can make it anywhere. She was a disciplinarian. Things were as she saw fit and there was no other options.

Her disposition prepared us for an ever changing world. If you lived in that house you know you had to be on your p's and q's.

Auntie was funny, keen and ambitious. She lived an illustrious life with lots of twists and turns. She was the backbone to family and friends alike, I hope to live as ambitiously as she did, to be as keen as she was and best of all laugh as joyously and distinctly as she did.

Farewell Ofam Queen of Asylum Down

Farewell Keeper of Blue Gate

Farewell Grandma

(From Sophia)

TRIBUTE FROM GRANDCHILDREN

Grandma,

I thank God for your life, and the precious moments I spent with you. You are one of a kind, and I'm honored to be named after you! I still remember how you would call my name with your infectious laugh and a beautiful big smile; I genuinely miss that. Your kindness and loving energy were refreshing, and, I'm blessed to have experienced your love. I will always treasure our moments together, feeding the chickens and catching up on life. I loved watching you take care of the chickens whilst absorbing your wise words of wisdom.

Our time together taught me so much about life, the gift of family and about myself, I'm grateful for these precious times. I pray that you're resting peacefully and that you're happy. I love you so much, and promise to keep making you proud.

(From Irene)

Grandma, thank you for all the love and kindness you showed and taught me whilst you were here. I'll miss our phone calls where I'd tell you all about my day in great detail and trust that you'll listen. I'll miss your contagious smile that could light up a room and put a smile on everyone's face. I know you're in a better place now where you're happy, and that gives me joy. I was blessed to have you as my grandmother, until we meet again, Rest in peace.

(From Tessa Afriye)

GRANDCHILDREN



Frank Assibey Bonsu



Sophia Irene Assibey
Bonsu



Micah Assibey Bonsu



Naabea Assibey Bonsu



Irene, Edward and Theresa

TRIBUTE FROM DAUGHTER IN-LAW

Auntie Ireeney as she was affectionately called by me and my sister Ellen, had known us since childhood when our mother went to her salon regularly to do her hair.

As time went on she became my mother in law and treated me with such affection and love. During one of our numerous conversations one day, she told me she is not a mother in law but rather a “mother in love”. This defined our relationship over the years with an everlasting strong bond. She supported me in every way possible and I cherished the times I spent with Auntie Ireeney as she always had some kind words and good counsel with underlying tones of humor which made us both laugh non-stop. The memories I hold of auntie Ireeney will forever be my treasure as she made a lasting impact.

Indeed “the long days task is done and we must sleep”.
Shakespeare (Anthony and Cleopatra)

Sleep well “auntie Ireeney” and may your memory forever be a blessing.

Time is too slow for those who wait, too swift for those

grieve, too short for those who rejoice, but for those who love, time is eternity.

(Serwa Afriye)



“I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith; Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge shall give me at that day and not to me only, but unto them also that love his appearing” 2 Tim 4:7-8

From our human perspective, we are of the opinion that the late Mrs. Irene Mercy Afriye, whom we lovingly called Auntie Irene, can also lay claim to this Victory Declaration by St. Paul.

This opinion is strongly rooted in her works and aspirations since she found the teachings of the Ascended Masters in the seventies. Some of these are discussed below.

Having found the teachings, she introduced them to her husband, the late Mr. Edward Afriye, who bought into them and consequently registered as a Keeper of the Flame on 27 July 1980. This ‘Alpha and Omega’ presence of theirs brought tremendous blessings to the Church.

When the Church was operating in the Odorkor premises, the couple presented to the Church a quantity of specially fabricated chairs that compel users to sit upright, that occupy less space and that have compartments for their Decree and Song Books. These chairs are over forty years old but some of them are still serviceable.

Then came a very big donation in 1996. Mr. Afriye gave to the Church a parcel of land located at Adenta-Accra which now houses the Headquarters of the Church in Ghana. After the death of her husband, Auntie Irene also added a piece of land to that of her husband.

Auntie Irene extended her spirit of giving to the Clergy as well as the congregants by supplying them

from time to time with cookies to refresh them after Sunday Family Worship Services.

At age 86, it was apparent that age had taken a toll on her, that notwithstanding, she managed to attend all services including the Special Tuesday Decree Session that is Prayer Warriors' Session.

Attending the Church's public lectures was her passion. Even if she were left behind during public lecture trips outside Accra, even as far as Agbozume in the Volta Region, she would hire a car to the venue at her own expense.

Between 2004 and 2008, she pursued a higher calling by participating in the Church's First African Ministerial Training Program. Consequently, in 2009, she was appointed to the Holy Order of Sisters.

In recognition of her selfless, dedicated and committed service to the Church, her unalloyed and unwavering faith in the teachings of the Ascended Masters and her dogged determination, the Church presented her with a citation on 1 April 2018.

According to the Master Jesus, "...the outer service is an extension of the inner temple work, the inner temple meditation, contemplation, garnering of the Light," Pearls of Wisdom Volume 31 N° 88. Our belief is that Auntie Irene, through her exemplary service to God and mankind might have garnered enough light to qualify her for that emphatic approbation and warm reception of the Lord, "Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler of many things: enter thee into the joy of thy Lord." Matt. 25:21

Mrs. Irene Mercy Afriye, your sojourn earth is over. You have played your part and the good Lord will reward you accordingly. We pray that He will set your sweet soul on its ascension spiral, by His grace. AMEN!

SONG 85: HIGHER GROUND

I'm pressing on the upward way
 New heights I'm gaining every day
 Still praying as I onward bound
 "Lord, plant my feet on higher ground."

Refrain:

Lord, lift me up and let me stand
 By faith, on heaven's tableland
 A higher plane than I have found
 Lord, plant my feet on higher ground.

My heart has no desire to stay
 Where doubts arise and fears dismay
 Though some may dwell where these abound
 My pray'r, my aim, is higher ground.

I want to live above the world
 Though Satan's darts at me are hurled
 For faith has caught the joyful sound
 The song of saints on higher ground.

I want to scale the utmost height
 And catch a gleam of glory bright
 But still I'll pray 'til heav'n I've found
 "Lord, lead me on to higher ground"

IT IS FINISHED

It is finished!
 Done with this episode in strife
 I AM made one with immortal Life.
 Calmly I AM resurrecting my spiritual energies
 From the great treasure-house of immortal knowing.
 The days I knew with thee O Father,
 Before the world was—the days of triumph,
 When all of the thoughts of thy being
 Soared over the ageless hills of cosmic memory;
 Come again as I meditate upon thee.
 Each day as I call forth thy memories
 From the scroll of immortal Love,
 I AM thrilled anew.
 Patterns wondrous to behold enthrall me
 With the wisdom of thy creative scheme.
 So fearfully and wonderfully am I made
 That none can mar thy design,
 None can despoil the beauty of thy holiness,
 None can discourage the beating of my heart
 In almost wild anticipation
 Of thy fullness made manifest within me.

O great and glorious Father,
 How shall a tiny bird created in hierarchical bliss
 Elude thy compassionate attention?

SONGS

I AM of greater value than many birds
And therefore do I know that thy loving thoughts
Reach out to me each day
To console me in seeming aloneness,
To raise my courage,
Elevate my concepts,
Exalt my character,
Flood my being with virtue and power,
Sustain thy cup of Life flowing over within me,
And abide within me forever
In the nearness of thy heavenly presence.

I cannot fail,
Because I AM thyself in action everywhere.
I ride with thee
Upon the mantle of the clouds.
I walk with thee
Upon the waves and crests of water's abundance.
I move with thee
In the undulations of thy currents
Passing over the thousands of hills
composing earth's crust.
I AM alive with thee
In each bush, flower, and blade of grass.
All nature sings in thee and me,
For we are one.
I AM alive in the hearts of the downtrodden,

Raising them up.
I AM the Law exacting the Truth of Being
In the hearts of the proud,
Debasing the human creation therein
And spurring the search for thy Reality.
I AM all things of bliss
To all people of peace.
I AM the full facility of divine grace,
The Spirit of Holiness
Releasing all hearts from bondage into Unity.

It is finished
Thy perfect creation is within me.
Immortally lovely,
It cannot be denied the blessedness of Being.
Like unto thyself, it abides in the house of Reality.
Nevermore to go out into profanity,
It knows only the wonders of purity and victory.
Yet there stirs within this immortal fire
A consummate pattern of mercy and compassion
Seeking to save forever that which is lost
Through wandering away
From the beauty of Reality and Truth.
I AM the living Christ in action evermore!

It is finished
Death and human concepts have no power in my
world!

I AM sealed by God-design
With the fullness of that Christ-Love
That overcomes, transcends, and frees the world
By the Power of the three-times-three
Until all the world is God-victorious-
Ascended in the Light and free!

It is finished!
Completeness is the Allness of God.
TLife, beauty, and holiness occurs within me,
Released from the fairest flower of my being,
The Christ-consecrated rose of Sharon
Unfolding its petals within my heart.
My heart is the heart of God!
My heart is the heart of the world!
My heart is the heart of Christ in healing action!
Lo, I AM with you always, even unto the end,
When with the voice of Immortal Love
I too shall say, "It is finished".

SONG 52: GOD BE WITH YOU 'TIL WE MEET AGAIN

God be with you 'til we meet again
I AM Presence e'er uphold you
In Love's arms of light enfold you
God be with you 'till we meet again.

Refrain:

'Til we meet — 'til we meet
'Til we meet to serve our friends of light
'Til we meet — 'til we meet
I AM with you 'til we meet again.

God be with you 'til we meet again
White fire cross of light now seal you
Gautama's peace and love now heal you
God be with you 'til we meet again

God be with you, 'til we meet again
Michael's sword of light protect you
Morya's Diamond Heart perfect you
God be with you 'til we meet again.

God be with you 'til we meet again
Mother Mary's grace before you
Jesus' love abiding o'er you
God be with you 'til we meet again.

God be with you 'til we meet again
Saint Germain's great love provide you
Freedom's violet flame e'er guide you
God be with you 'til we meet again.

God be with you 'til we meet again
Vict'ry's light and pow'r e'er raise you
Purity's design e'er praise you
God be with you 'til we meet again.

God be with you 'til we meet again
Central Sun receive our "thank you"
Master, angels, friends, we thank you
God be with you 'til we meet again.

SONG 54: MAY THE LORD BLESS AND KEEP YOU.

May the Lord bless and keep you
May he let his Light shine upon you
And be gracious to you
And give you his peace
And give you his peace.

PHOTO GALLERY



Mrs Irene Afriye with siblings



Spending time with friends in Nairobi Kenya



With daughter in law and grandchildren



Irene and Edward with daughter in law Iris



Quality time with grandma and grandad



With her bestie Auntie Diana

PHOTO GALLERY



Wedding day



Mrs Irene Afriye day



As a young mother with three children



Mr and Mrs Afriye out and about



Getting excited about her grandchildren



Young Irene posing

PHOTO GALLERY



Go on have a laugh!



Citation ceremony- Church Universal Triumphant of Ghana



Mrs. Afriye receives her Citation from Church Universal Triumphant of Ghana



With her namesake

PHOTO GALLERY



With her grandchildren Edward and Irene



Irene's 88th and final birthday



Spending time with grandchildren Sophia and Micah

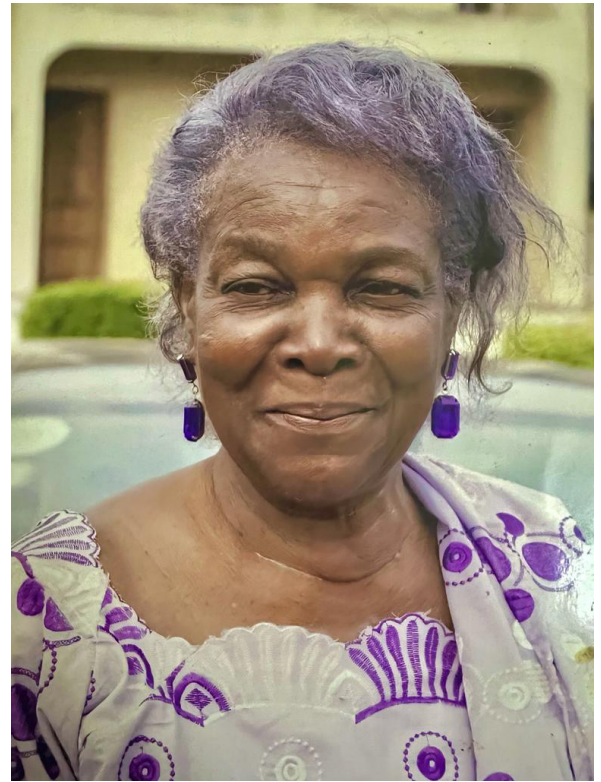


With her Grandchildren



Spending time with siblings at a birthday party

PHOTO GALLERY



APPRECIATION

The entire family and children of the late

MRS. IRENE MERCY AFRIYE

Wish to express their sincere gratitude to all who in diverse ways mourned and supported us with prayers, personal visits, thoughtful gifts and everlasting expression of condolence

MAY GOD RICHLY BLESS YOU ALL

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FULL-ISH ART

hello@fullishart.com / +233 20 029 3521 / +233 20 195 1704
/ fullishart.com / @fullish_art