

*In Loving  
Memory  
of*



*Charles*  
**Eugene Gathers, Sr.**

**SUNRISE: April 3, 1938**  
**SUNSET: October 12, 2021**

**Tuesday, October 26, 2021 - 10AM**

**St. Aloysius Catholic Church**  
**219 W. 132nd Street, New York, NY 100277**

# Obituary

**Charles Gathers** was born to the late Prince Frasier and Viola Gathers on April 3, 1938, James Island, South Carolina. He was the eldest of fifteen children.

“Chris”, as he was known to many, received his early education at Boys and Girls High School in New York City.

He was united in marriage with the late Althea Gathers on August 17, 1963 at St. Charles Borromeo Church, NYC. Out of this union two sons were born, Charles Jr. and Darin. Chris was a devoted husband and great father.

He worked for the Board of Education until his retirement in 2016. He served his beloved church, St. Aloysius, for many years untiringly and devotionally. Unless not feeling well, he was present every Sunday, opening the church doors, making sure everything was in working and welcoming condition, welcoming parishioners in as an usher, and counting and recording the collection money after the service. He always said that he treated his service to his church like a job, focused, serious and dedicated. He loved what he did and served along with his loving wife Althea wherever and whenever he could. He was not only a silent force, but also a man of simple taste, gentle and quiet nature, and great sense of humor.

Chris was called home to glory on Tuesday, October 12, 2021, after taken ill and being hospitalized and in a nursing home for a number of weeks. He passed away peacefully in his home with a gentle smile on his face. He was ready to meet his Maker and reunite with his beloved wife of many years. He will be missed by his loved ones and all who knew him.

He leaves to cherish and celebrate his life: two sons, Charles Jr. and Darin; sisters, Martha Lyons (NYC), Margie Marine (GA), Gloria (Hector) Gibbs (SC), Susan (Abraham) Simmons (SC), Eva Mae Moore (SC), and Joyce Walker (SC); one brother, John Heyward (SC); seven sisters-in-law; one brother-in-law; one daughter-in-law, Monique; six grandchildren, Ashley, Tiffany, Darin Jr., Chelsea, Courtney and Casey; one great grandson, Hazes; three godchildren, Kristen, Denise and Leshon; and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives, family and friends.

***POP we love you. You will always and forever be in our hearts.  
- Charles and Darin.***

***Sleep on and take your rest. We love you but Jesus loves you best.”***

# *Order of Service*

**GREETING AND BLESSING OF BODY**

**PROCESSIONAL HYMN**

**OPENING PRAYER**

**LITURGY OF THE WORD**

Old Testament

Psalm Response

New Testament

Gospel Reading

**HOMILY**

**GIFT BEARERS**

**INTERCESSIONS**

**OFFERTORY HYMN**

Choir

**EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER AND COMMUNION**

**COMMUNION HYMN**

Choir

**COMMUNION MEDITATION**

**OBITUARY**

**REFLECTIONS**

**FINAL COMMENDATION**

**CLOSING HYMN**

**INTERMENT:**

Woodlawn Cemetery

Bronx, New York

# *I'm Free*

Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free,  
I'm following the path God laid for me.  
I took his hand when I heard his call,  
I turned my back and left it all.

I could not stay another day,  
To laugh, to love, to work, to play.  
Tasks left undone must stay that way,  
I've found that peace at the close of the day.

If my parting has left a void,  
Then fill it with remembered joy.  
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,  
Ah yes, these things I too will miss.

Be not burdened with times of sorrow,  
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.  
My Life's been full, I savoured much,  
Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch,

Perhaps my time seemed all too brief,  
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.  
Lift up your heart and share with me,  
God wanted me now, He set me free.



## *Acknowledgement*

***The family acknowledges with deep appreciation all acts of kindness extended to them during this bereavement hour.  
May God bless you for all your thoughtfulness and concern.***

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*Clifford V. James, President & CEO*

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