

*Celebration of Life*



*Mother  
Catherine Jones Glee-Russell-Goss*

*Sunrise: August 25, 1936*

*Sunset: March 21, 2023*

**Friday, March 31, 2023 - 10:00 a.m.**

**Bethlehem Baptist Church**

**587 North Fourth Street • Newark, New Jersey**

# Obituary

On August 25, 1936 in Robeson County, North Carolina a baby was born to J.D. and Amanda Granger-Jones, named Catherine. Catherine was one of 9 children. She was preceded in death by her parents and siblings.

Catherine received her early education in the Robeson County School System. She attended and accepted God at an early age at the First Baptist Church of Fairmount, NC. Catherine enjoyed her childhood with her siblings and good friends in North Carolina. Her stories of growing up in the South, picking cotton, dealing with acts of racism and discrimination but always knowing that her dad, brothers and uncles and most of all God was there to protect her brought a sense of value to her.

In 1960, Catherine migrated north to New Jersey where she joined other family who made the move. Catherine met and married Howard Glee Sr. and of this union 9 children was born. Newark, NJ is where they made their home and bought their family home on Vermont Avenue in the Vailsburg section of Newark where they would raise their children. Catherine made sure that her family was cared for and loved. There was no doubt of her love for family. Despite the large family she always made room for other children. She ran a summer play street at Abington Avenue as well as on Howell Place in Newark, NJ to provide the neighborhood kids a safe place to enjoy their summer, have food to eat and grow as human beings and also work with the Speedy Summer Employment Program.

Catherine was very involved in the communities where she lived. Her early battles with North Ward politicians for the community was well known and appreciated in the Black community but not by others. Catherine was very outspoken on different causes but never back down from a fight!

Catherine worked for the Newark Board of Education for 27 ½ years as a Teachers Assistant retiring in 1995. She worked at various schools the most memorable being Abington Avenue School where she would meet some of her lifelong friends and touch lives of countless students who kept in touch with her until her death. Catherine also worked at the now closed Upsala College in East Orange, NJ. She retired as a Sergeant in the Security department. For years Catherine worked two full time jobs for her family but she had trained her children how to care for each other. Her children never went hungry and always had clean clothing to wear. Howard and Catherine also 'raised' her younger sisters children: Earl, Amanda and Derrick. Catherine was tasked with caring for her younger sister Gerogianna upon her relocation to New Jersey from North Carolina, so Gergianna children became her's also. Going to the Salvation Army and Goodwill to get clothes you would never know that they were second hand because once she finished washing and pressing them, they looked brand new. The children never went without love and without an understanding of God as Catherine BROUGHT her children to church.

She “TRAINED” her kids how they should go but never forced a relationship with God on them.

Catherine joined the Bethlehem Baptist Church in 1976 under the leadership of the Reverend Steve C. Henderson, Sr. She was not just a pew member CATHERINE WORKED! She was in the Missionary Society, Pastor’s Aide, Women’s Ministry. She worked with First Lady Henderson with the youth with the Sunshine Band, Red Circle Girls, Junior Mission and etc. She later became president or the Pastor’s Aide in the early ministry of the Reverend Toney E. Jackson, Sr. and served well.

Catherine relocated in 1999 to La Grange, GA and married John Russell in that same year. Upon relocating, Catherine joined the St. Paul Baptist Church of La Grange. Catherine served as a Deaconess, Women’s Ministry President, Sunday School Teacher and Missionary. John closed his eyes to this world in 2003. She relocated back to New Jersey and rejoined the Bethlehem Baptist Church under the leadership of Reverend Toney E. Jackson, Sr. Catherine became the President of the Deaconess Ministry and during this time of service being led by the Holy Spirit, Pastor Jackson and Deaconess Russell was able to consecrate over 5 women to the service of Deaconess. Most of the women are still serving in that capacity today. In 2005, Catherine was led to relocate back to La Grange, GA where she continued her service to the Lord’s Kingdom and not to the church building.

In 2012, Catherine married Deacon Thomas S. Goss of La Grange, GA. This union would provide Catherine with a love that had escaped her until then. Working together in ministry in the local church of Saint Paul Baptist Church in La Grange, GA as well as feeding the community breakfast on Monday mornings brought tremendous joy to them both. This union was truly a God-send to the both of them at a vital time in their lives.

Because of both of their illnesses they relocated to Mesquite, Texas to be cared for their daughter Jannifer. On May 26, 2019, Thomas and Catherine joined the Mount Zion Baptist Church, virtually, of Westwood, NJ. The church’s Pastor was their son Reverend Bernard D. Glee. They both participated in virtual worship service, Bible study and Intercessory Prayer each week. In May 2021, at the direction of God, Thomas went home to be with the Lord. With Jannifer’s illness, Catherine relocated one more time on this earth to Goldsboro, North Carolina to be cared for her eldest child – Walter and his wife Paula in 2022.

On May 21, 2023 @ 1:11 AM God called Catherine home to her final resting place.

Catherine leaves to cherish her memories and share in the love that she has 8 children: Walter (Paula) Goldsboro, North Carolina; Herman (Dolly) Bronx, NY; Ruqayyah Wilson Newark, NJ; Fred (Constance) Somerset, NJ; Jannifer (John) Mesquite, TX; Sharon (Anthony) Blakeslee, PA; Howard Jr. Mesquite, Tx and Bernard D. (Karen) Irvington, NJ. Five step-children Thomas (DeAndrea); Sean (Trenicka) and Falandria (Carlton) Atlanta, GA; Cornelius (Jacklyn) Pineview, GA and Gail (Earl) Lauderhill, FL. 26 grandchildren and 19 great-grandchildren and 1 great-great grandchild. 1 cousin Thomas of Lumberton, North Carolina and 1 aunt Queen Granger of Orange, NJ. A host of nieces, nephews and other relatives and friend. Son Donald and granddaughters Samantha and Stephanie preceded her in death.

# Order of Service

Opening Prayer.....Minister Carol A. Wilson  
Mount Zion Baptist Church, Westwood, NJ

Scripture Reading:

Old Testament ..... Mrs. Constance Brown, Daughter-in-Law

New Testament..... Minister Dianne Beckwith  
Bethlehem Baptist Church, Newark, NJ

Congregational Hymn.....Oh I Want To See Him  
Words are in the program

Prayer of Comfort..... Pastor Thomas Jones  
Jones Chapel Missionary Baptist Church, Lumberton, NC

Selection..... Mr. Kevin Sims  
Mount Zion Baptist Church, Westwood, NJ

Poem..... Sister Rosemary Flowers-Jackson  
Acknowledgements & Resolutions  
Minister Karen C. Glee, Daughter-in-Law

Remarks..... Friends  
Sister Alma Jean Henderson - Union Baptist Church, Orange, NJ  
Sister Robin Taylor-Hunt - Bethlehem Baptist Church, Newark,  
Family - Mr. Walter Tyrone Brown, Son

Selection

Eulogy..... Pastor Bernard D. Glee  
Mount Zion Baptist Church, Westwood, NJ

Recessional.....Clergy and Family

## Interment

Glendale Cemetery  
Bloomfield, New Jersey

*Repast The Chandelier*  
340 Franklin Avenue  
Belleville, NJ

*The Master Called And I Answered*

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 Am Sorry. I Had To Leave You  
My Loved Ones, Oh So Dear.  
But, You See, The Master Called Me  
And Now I Am 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 Will Meet Again Someday!

## *Oh I Want To See Him*

V1. As I journey through the land, singing as I go,  
Pointing souls to Calvary—to the crimson flow,  
Many arrows pierce my soul from without, within;  
But my Lord leads me on, through Him I must win.  
Chorus. Oh, I want to see Him, look upon His face,  
There to sing forever of His saving grace;  
On the streets of glory let me lift my voice,  
Cares all past, home at last, ever to rejoice.

V2. When in service for my Lord dark may be the night,  
But I'll cling more close to Him, He will give me light;  
Satan's snares may vex my soul, turn my thoughts aside;  
But my Lord goes ahead, leads whate'er betide.  
Chorus. Oh, I want to see Him, look upon His face,  
There to sing forever of His saving grace;  
On the streets of glory let me lift my voice,  
Cares all past, home at last, ever to rejoice.

V3. When in valleys low  
I look toward the mountain height,  
And behold my Savior there, leading in the fight,  
With a tender hand outstretched toward the valley low,  
Guiding me, I can see as I onward go.

V4. When before me billows rise from the mighty deep,  
Then my Lord directs my bark; He doth safely keep,  
And He leads me gently on through this world below;  
He's a real Friend to me, oh, I love Him so.

## *2 Timothy 4:6-8*

*“For I Am Now Ready To Be Offered, And  
The Time Of My Departure Is At Hand. 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 All Them Also  
That Love His Appearing.”*



## *Acknowledgement*

The Family Of **Mrs. Catherine Jones-Glee-Russell-Goss** Would Like To Thank You All For Your Prayers, Calls, Texts, Well Wishes And All Other Expressions Of Sympathy And Concern Shown During This Very Difficult. We Pray That God Will Continue To Bless Each And Everyone Of You Now And Forever More.

Special Thanks To The Fresenius Dialysis Centers In Garland, Texas And Goldsboro, North Carolina. The Willow Creek Nursing And Rehabilitation Center In Goldsboro, North Carolina. Reverend Fred L. Sullivan And The Bethlehem Baptist Church Of Newark, NJ For Your Tremendous Hospitality.

Love Always – The Glee, Brown And Goss Families.

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### Professional Services Provided By

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