

Celebrating the life of

Cora LeeF lythe

*April 11, 1946 - May 17, 2023*



# S ervice I nformation

**SATURDAY, MAY 27, 2023**  
**VIEWING: 9:00 AM- 10:00 AM**  
**SERVICE: 10:00 AM**

**Bethlehem Apostolic Faith Church**  
428 South 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue • Mount Vernon, NY 10550

**Bishop Ralph Gorham, Eulogist**

**Evangelist Claytee Melvin, Mistress of Ceremony**  
(Refreshing Springs COGIC, Riverdale, MD)

**Donald Gorham, Organist**

**PRIVATE DISPOSITION**



# Order of Service

Prelude .....	Donald Gorham
Processional .....	Family and Clergy/ Elder Ronald Alston, Jr. Pastor, Life Hope Ministries Redeemed
Mistress of Ceremony .....	Evangelist Claytee Melvin Refreshing Springs COGIC, Riverdale, MD
Prayer of Comfort .....	Minister A. Nicole Alston Life Hope Ministries Redeemed
Musical Selection .....	Donald Gorham
Scripture Reading .....	Minister Joanne Henry
Old Testament - Psalm 34:19	
New Testament - Matthew 9:35-38	
Solo .....	Elder Joseph Daniels St. Paul Apostolic Faith Church Staten Island, New York
Obituary .....	Leah V. Bennett
Acknowledgments and Family Reflections .....	Cherise Edwards
Musical Selection .....	St. Paul Apostolic Faith Church Choir
Eulogy .....	Bishop Ralph Gorham Pastor, Bethlehem Apostolic Faith Church
Musical Selection .....	Donald Gorham
Final Instructions .....	Eternity Funeral Services Directors
Benediction	
Recessional	

# O bituary

On April 11, 1946, the late Cilla Mae and William Flythe were blessed with the birth of Cora Lee Flythe, in Garysburg, North Carolina.

As an infant, Cora Lee emigrated with her family to Lackawanna, New York. William worked at Bethlehem Steel and Cilla Mae mothered their three daughters Fannie Mae, Catherine, and Cora Lee. Less than a year later, William sent Cilla Mae and their daughters back to North Carolina after Cilla Mae contracted tuberculosis.

During the next year, Cilla Mae healed but Fannie Mae and Catherine succumbed to illness. William left Lackawanna and traveled westward for more financial opportunities. Cilla Mae decided to travel to Mount Vernon, New York after one of her sisters convinced her of the many domestic work options.

Cora remained in the care of her grandparents Joseph and Aretha Gorham surrounded by cousins, aunts, and uncles who became lifelong best friends. In 1959, Cilla Mae sent for Cora. In Mount Vernon, Cora attended school and served the church, and worked during summers.

In 1961, she was reunited with her childhood friend Leotis Daniels after he moved to New York. The couple were joined in holy matrimony on January 30, 1963, in Staten Island, New York. The union produced two children, Michael David and Annette Daniels (Taylor). In 1967, Cora passed the New York State Civil Service exam and began working as a laundress at the former Willowbrook New York State School in Staten Island. She is a proud member of the union CSEA -AFL CIO Local 910.

In 1974, Cora and Leotis divorced. Cora transferred to the kitchen at Willowbrook. There she worked and thrived as a cook. Because of her love of children and service, Cora enrolled into a volunteer program at work, where employees could apply to bring patients whose families have not made regular visitations, home with with them for the weekend. It broke her heart to see children forgotten by their families. Cora was approved, and regularly invited less fortunate children into her home to receive a semblance of traditional family love.

Later that year, she married co-worker Roland Hodge. Roland was from St. Maarten. Together they traveled often to the Caribbean. Cora enjoyed being social with his family and their friends. She was introduced to, and learned how to cook, many new dishes and new ways to prepare food and wines. Cora was state-certified in restaurant and food preparation, and occasionally cooked for small community and social events.

In 1980, after a fall at work, Cora was severely injured and received an early retirement from the state.



She and Roland divorced in 1981. She pivoted and became a private child-care provider finding real joy in caring for children. Cora decided to become a foster mother and welcomed William George and Anne Marie into her family. Both instances Cora received a telephone call asking if she was able to accept an infant. William George was 3 months old and Anne Marie was 3 days old. She never hesitated. Instead she grabbed her keys and drove to pick up her new babies. She fell in love with their beauty and innocence at first sight. They were officially adopted from the state and into our large loving family very soon after.

Cora Lee Flythe's greatest joys were giving her life to Christ, honoring, serving, protecting, and caring for her family. Sometimes Cora stumbled, once in a while she fell. She always tried, and before May 17, 2023, she always got back up again. She remained joyful and encouraged by serving her family, the church, and her church family.

She practiced ignoring pains and aches that others could not endure. She prayed and resolved to meet her challenges. She loved and used that love as an investment to manifest more love.

Cora Lee Flythe leaves behind two sons, Michael David Daniels and William George Cherry. Two daughters, Annette Daniels-Taylor (pre-deceased by Rodney) and Anne Marie Cherry. Nine grandchildren, Ashante' Tarea Daniels, Mingus Daniels-Taylor, Haven Daniels-Taylor, Bleu-Ruby Daniels-Taylor, Winter Sky Daniels-Taylor, Otha Smallwood Jr., Negus Smallwood, Egypt Maria Holder, and Yaminah Cherry. She also leaves behind an aunt, Molly Tomlinson, and one uncle, Henry Wilson Gorham. She will be mourned by her dozens of beloved cousins and church family.

# F aith S oldier

*Modest child of God  
Giving and taking jokes  
Teasing  
Sharing her blessings  
Knowing her  
Loving her  
Cora, our Blessing  
Cora Lee Flythe  
Take flight,  
Take flight and soar.*



# Precious Memories





## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

*The family of the late **Cora Lee Flythe** wishes to express our gratitude and deep appreciation for all acts of kindness during this time. We greatly acknowledge and thank you for your calls, support, and prayers. God bless you all.*

*Eternity*   
*Funeral Services*

**E=>? @ABFC@?DES>?GAI, LLC**

Karrie O. Harvey-Edwards

CEO / Licensed Manager

23 E. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street • Mount Vernon, NY 10550

ph (718) 231-8737 • ph (914) 340-3145

efsnys@gmail.com • www.EternityFuneralServicesNY.com