

FOREVER IN OUR HEARTS



*Ernestine Dacreay
Parsons*

Affectionately known as “Teacher Tin” or “Mom” to all.

SUNRISE
MAY 31, 1940

SUNSET
JANUARY 14TH, 2026

“GOD HAS CALLED YOU HOME—
TO JOY, PEACE, AND EVERLASTING LIFE.”

— *Matthew 25:21*



FUNERAL ITINERARY AND SERVICES

The family of Ernestine Ducreay Parsons respectfully shares the following schedule of services as we gather in prayer, remembrance, honoring and celebration of her life

Viewing of the Body

Thursday, January 29, 2026 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

McKay's South Bay Mortuary 3918 Marine Ave, Lawndale, CA 90260

Family, friends, and loved ones are invited to pay their final respects.

Funeral Mass

Friday, January 30, 2026 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM

Saint Joseph Catholic Church 11901 Acacia Ave, Hawthorne, CA 90250

A Funeral Mass celebrating the life, faith, and legacy of Ernestine Ducreay Parsons.

Committal / Burial Service

Friday, January 30, 2026 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Holy Cross Cemetery 5835 W Slauson Ave, Culver City, CA 90230

Interment will follow the Funeral Mass.

Repass (Reception)

Friday, January 30, 2026 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM

The Proud Bird 1022 Aviation Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90045

All are welcome to join the family in fellowship and remembrance.

Dove Release & Beach Send-Off

Saturday, January 31, 2026 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Manhattan Beach Pier

(Meet near the pier)

A symbolic dove release honoring "Mom" peaceful transition and eternal rest.

Live Streaming

January 30th @ 12:00 PM

<https://powerbliss.com/ernestine>



EULOGY OF THE LATE ERNESTINE PARSONS

Ernestine Ducreay Parsons, affectionately known as “Teacher Tin” and lovingly called “Mom” by family, friends, and generations of students, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, January 14, 2026, in Harbor City, California, at the age of 85. She courageously battled Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), or Lou Gehrig's disease, meeting her illness with unwavering faith, grace, and quiet strength until the Lord called her home.

Mom was born on May 31, 1940, in the village of Marigot, Dominica, West Indies, to Elie John Lewis and Selwyn Sabastian DuCrey. She was raised in a faith-filled home where discipline, resilience, education, and service were deeply valued—principles that guided her throughout her life. Her Catholic faith was central to who she was. Ernestine received her First Holy Communion and was Confirmed at Wesley Catholic Church in Dominica, where she later became a devoted choir member, singing faithfully until her village church was built. Her love for worship, music, and service to God remained a constant source of joy and strength.

She attended the Marigot Primary Government School and later completed her primary education at the Portsmouth Government School. After graduating, Mom was appointed as a schoolteacher in her home village of Marigot, where her exceptional teaching ability earned her the beloved name “Teacher Tin.” She was later transferred to the Primary School in Bense, a village eleven miles away, demonstrating her early dedication to education and service.

One of eleven siblings, Mom stood out early for her ambition and determination. Despite limited resources and the loss of her father at a young age, she pursued learning with resolve. With the support of a strong and resourceful mother, she advanced her education at a time when opportunities were scarce and began what would become a lifelong vocation in teaching. “Teacher Tin” was deeply involved in community life and service. She joined The Young Christian Workers, a Catholic youth movement dedicated to leadership, faith, and service, reflecting her lifelong commitment to uplifting others.

Seeking new experiences, Mom traveled to the Bahamas, where she worked with Bahamas Airlines. During this time, she met and married her former husband, Reginald Parsons, and together they migrated to California, where she made her home and raised her family. Throughout her life, Mom remained deeply devoted to her children, while continuing her work in education and pursuing her studies with grace and quiet determination.

True to her calling, Mom continued her education while raising her children. She attended El Camino College and went on to earn both a Bachelor's Degree and a Master's Degree in Education from California State University, Dominguez Hills—a remarkable achievement accomplished through perseverance, discipline, and faith.



EULOGY OF THE LATE ERNESTINE PARSONS

Over the course of more than 50 years in education, Ernestine devoted her life to teaching, mentoring, and uplifting students across generations. In the United States, she began her teaching career at the Inglewood Child Development Center, later teaching first grade at Highland Elementary School within the Inglewood School District, and subsequently teaching Adult ESL at Centinela Valley High School District and ESL plus Elementary students at El Camino College. Revered by students, parents, and colleagues alike, she received numerous Teacher of the Year awards, along with many other honors recognizing her excellence, dedication, and lasting impact.

Mom was a devoted member of Saint Joseph Catholic Church in Hawthorne, California, where she was an active parishioner for over 50 years. She faithfully served as a choir member, lifting her voice in praise and worship, and remained deeply connected to her church community throughout her life. Mom made her home in Lawndale, California, where she lived for over 35 years, creating a warm and welcoming household rooted in faith, love, learning, and generosity.

She found joy in singing with her church choir, playing the piano, walking, traveling, and—above all—teaching others. She was known for her kind heart, generosity, and willingness to help anyone without hesitation. To many, she was more than a teacher, she was a mentor, a guide, and a source of encouragement.

Mom survives by her beloved children: Reginald Parsons, Lorraine Parsons, and Anthony Parsons; and her cherished grandchildren: Keenen Parsons, Dominique Parsons, and Justin Parsons.

She was one of eleven siblings. She is survived by her siblings Helina DuCreay, Lewis DuCreay, and Maria DuCreay, and was preceded in death by Haynes Etienne; Flossie Bernardine DuCreay Joseph; Wilma DuCreay John Baptist; Veronica DuCreay Nicholas; Peter DuCreay; Selena DuCreay Ferrette; and Cyrila DuCreay.

She is also survived by her loving nieces and nephews, including Maria Ferrette, Tony Ducret, Mark Abraham, Paula Jno-Baptiste, Mickey Joseph and Keith George, along with many other nieces, nephews, cousins, extended family members, former students, colleagues, and friends whose lives were enriched by her love and guidance. Mom lived a life devoted to faith, education, and service. She fulfilled her calling with humility, compassion, and love. She was a beautiful human being and will be deeply missed.

May she rest in eternal peace.



ORDER OF MASS

<i>Reception of the Body</i>	Priest & Sacristan
<i>Entrance Hymn - On Eagle's Wings.....</i>	Choir
<i>First Reading.....</i>	Wisdom of Solomon (3:1-6, 9) Read by Tony Ducret
<i>Responsorial Psalm.....</i>	Psalm 23 Read By Tony Parsons
<i>Second Reading.....</i>	Philippians (4:6-8) Read By Zion Nunez
<i>Gospel Acclamation.....</i>	Priest
<i>Gospel.....</i>	John 12:23-26 Priest
<i>Homily.....</i>	Priest
<i>Prayer of the Faithful.....</i>	Priest
<i>Offertory Hymn.....</i>	How Great Thou Art Choir
<i>Eucharistic Prayer.....</i>	Priest
<i>Communion Hymn.....</i>	Choir As the Deer Runs
<i>Final Blessing.....</i>	Priest
<i>Recessional Hymn.....</i>	Choir Be Not Afraid



ORDER OF MASS CONT.

Reception of the Body, First Hymn, First Reading and Scripture

Reception of the Body

The body is received at the entrance of the church by the Priest and Sacristan.
The pall is placed on the casket as a reminder of Baptism.

Entrance Hymn — "On Eagle's Wings"

You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord,
Who abide in His shadow for life,
Say to the Lord, "My Refuge,
My Rock in Whom I trust."

And He will raise you up on eagle's wings,
Bear you on the breath of dawn,
Make you to shine like the sun,
And hold you in the palm of His Hand.

The snare of the fowler will never capture you,
And famine will bring you no fear;
Under His Wings your refuge,
His faithfulness your shield.

And He will raise you up on eagle's wings,
Bear you on the breath of dawn,
Make you to shine like the sun,
And hold you in the palm of His Hand.

You need not fear the terror of the night,
Nor the arrow that flies by day,
Though thousands fall about you,
Near you it shall not come.

And He will raise you up on eagle's wings,
Bear you on the breath of dawn,
Make you to shine like the sun,
And hold you in the palm of His Hand.

For to His angels He's given a command,
To guard you in all of your ways,
Upon their hands they will bear you up,
Lest you dash your foot against a stone.

And He will raise you up on eagle's wings,
Bear you on the breath of dawn,
Make you to shine like the sun,
And hold you in the palm of His Hand.
And hold you in the palm of His Hand.

First Reading

A Reading from the Wisdom of Solomon (3:1–6, 9)

The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God, and no suffering shall touch them.
To human eyes, it may seem that they have gone from us,
but they are at peace.
Their passing was thought an affliction,
their going away a loss,
yet they are in peace.
Though they were tested in the eyes of the world,
their hope was full of immortality.
God tried them and found them worthy of Himself.
Those who trust in the Lord will understand truth,
and the faithful shall remain with Him in love,
because grace and mercy are with His holy ones,
and He watches over His chosen.
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God

Psalms 23

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.
He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.
Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.
Amen



ORDER OF MASS CONT.

Second Reading and Gospel

Second Reading

A Reading from the Philippians (4:6–8)

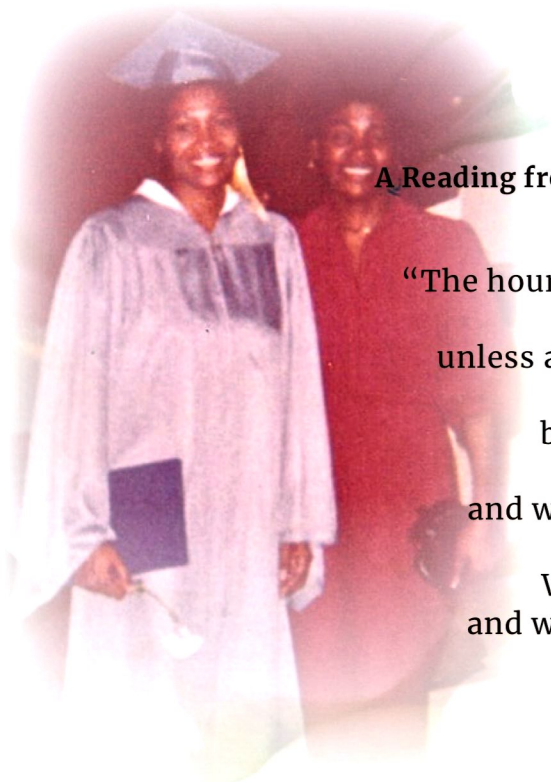
Brothers and sisters,
do not be anxious or troubled.
In every situation,
by prayer and quiet trust,
with thanksgiving,
bring your needs before God.
Then the peace of God,
which is beyond all understanding,
will gently guard your hearts and minds
in Christ Jesus.
Whatever is good, whatever is kind,
whatever brings peace—
let your hearts rest in these things.
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.



Gospel

A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to John (12:23–26)

Jesus said to His disciples,
“The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.
Amen, amen, I say to you,
unless a grain of wheat falls to the earth and dies,
it remains just a grain of wheat;
but if it dies, it produces much fruit.
Whoever loves their life loses it,
and whoever let’s go of their life in this world
will preserve it for eternal life.
Whoever serves Me must follow Me,
and where I am, there also will My servant be.
The Father will honor
those who serve Me.”
The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ.





ORDER OF MASS CONT.

Offertory Hymn

Offertory Hymn

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

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!

When through the woods, and forest glades I wander
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees
When I look down, from lofty mountain grandeur
And see the brook, and feel the gentle breeze

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!

And when I think, that God, His Son not sparing
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in
That on the Cross, my burden gladly bearing
He bled and died to take away my sin

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!

When Christ shall come, with shout of acclamation
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart
Then I shall bow, in humble adoration
And then proclaim: "My God, how great Thou art!"

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!





ORDER OF MASS CONT.

Communion Hymn and Recessional Hymn

Communion Hymn

As the Deer Longs

As the deer longs for running streams,
so I long, so I long, so I long for you.

A-thirst my soul for you the God who is my life!
When shall I see, when shall I see,
see the face of God?

As the deer longs for running streams,
so I long, so I long, so I long for you.

Echoes meet as deep is calling unto deep,
over my head, all your mighty waters,
sweeping over me.

As the deer longs for running streams,
so I long, so I long, so I long for you.

Continually the foe delights in taunting me:
"Where is God, where is your God?"
Where, O where, are you?

As the deer longs for running streams,
so I long, so I long, so I long for you.

Defend me, God, send forth your light and your
truth,
they will lead me to your holy mountain,
to your dwelling place.

As the deer longs for running streams,
so I long, so I long, so I long for you.

Then I shall go unto the altar of my God.
Praising you, O my joy and gladness,
I shall praise your name.

Recessional Hymn

Be not Afraid

You shall cross the barren desert,
but you shall not die of thirst.
You shall wander far in safety
though you do not know the way.
You shall speak your words in foreign lands
and all will understand.
You shall see the face of God and live.

Be not afraid.
I go before you always.
Come, follow me, and I will give you rest.

If you pass through raging waters in the sea,
you shall not drown.
If you walk amid the burning flames,
you shall not be harmed.
If you stand before the pow'r of hell
and death is at your side,
know that I am with you through it all.

Be not afraid.
I go before you always.
Come, follow me, and I will give you rest.

Blessed are your poor,
for the kingdom shall be theirs.
Blest are you that weep and mourn,
for one day you shall laugh.
And if wicked tongues insult and hate you
all because of me,
blessed, blessed are you!

Be not afraid.
I go before you always.
Come, follow me, and I will give you rest.



ORDER OF COMMITAL

Gathering at the Graveside

Family and friends gather around the place of burial.
The casket or urn is positioned over or near the grave.
The priest welcomes all present and invites everyone to prayer.

Priest: "In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit."

All: Amen.

Blessing of the Grave

The priest blesses the grave with holy water.

Incense may also be used.

The casket or urn is sprinkled with holy water.

Holy water reminds us of Baptism and the promise of eternal life.

Committal / Burial

The casket is gently lowered into the ground.

Family members may place flowers, soil, or petals if they wish.

The priest may say: "Earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust."

The Lord's Prayer

All pray together: Our Father, who art in heaven...

Concluding Prayer & Final Blessing

The priest prays for peace, comfort, and eternal rest.

Priest: "May the angels lead you into paradise.

May the souls of all the faithful departed,
through the mercy of God, rest in peace."

All: Amen.

Hymn or Song

Music may be sung or played quietly.

A common hymn:

Amazing Grace

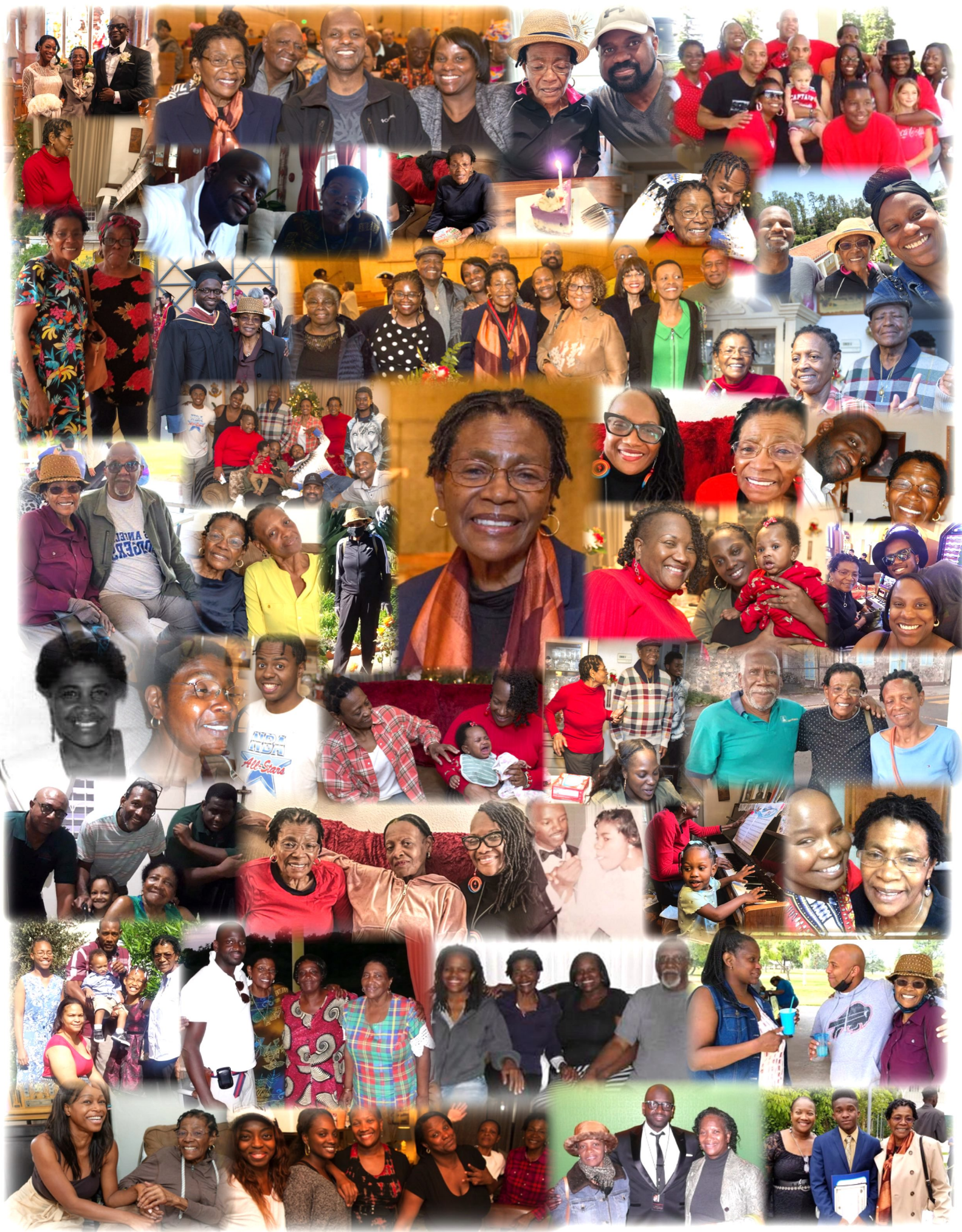
Dismissal

The priest offers a final word and dismisses the gathering.

Priest: "Go in peace."

All: Thanks be to God







REPASS CELEBRATION

The Proud Bird 4 pm- 7 pm

Welcome & Meet and Greet

4:00 PM – 4:30 PM

Opening Prayer — The Lord's Prayer

4:30 PM – 4:35 PM

Read by Tony Parsons (Son)

Dinner Service

4:30 PM – 5:30 PM

Reading of the Eulogy & Toast in Her Honor

5:00 PM – 5:15 PM

Read by Tony Parsons (Son)

Open Mic Reflections

5:15 PM – 6:00 PM

(Family and Friends)

Acknowledgement & Appreciation

6:00 PM – 6:10 PM

Read by Tony Parsons (Son)

Celebration of Her Life

6:10 PM – 7:00 PM

(The celebration may continue
beyond 7:00 PM as time allows.)

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.
Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever.
Amen.

Music Requests Welcome
Guests are invited to request a
song in honor of Ernestine.

To submit a request:

- Open a web browser on your phone
- Go to DjPowerBliss.com
- Select "Ask the DJ"
- Enter your song request





DOVE RELEASE & BEACH SEND-OFF

Manhattan Beach

Saturday • 2:00 PM

Order of Service

Opening Prayer

2:00 PM – 2:10 PM

Read by Reginald Parsons (Son)

Open Mic & Shared Reflections

2:10 PM – 2:40 PM

(Family and friends are welcome to speak)

Poem Reading — “To a Loving Mother”

2:40 PM – 2:50 PM

Dedication Read by Tony Parsons (Son)

Dove Release Ceremony

2:50 PM – 3:00 PM

Musical Tribute

“All Night Long” — Lionel Richie

Scripture Reading & Prayer

Psalm 121 (from prayer card)

I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help.
My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth.
He will not suffer thy foot to be moved: He that keepeth thee will not slumber.
Behold, He that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep.
The Lord is thy keeper; the Lord is thy shade upon thy right hand.
The sun shall not smite thee by day, nor the moon by night.
The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil; He shall preserve thy soul.
The Lord shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in
from this time forth, and even forevermore.



DEDICATION TO MOM

"To a Loving Mother"

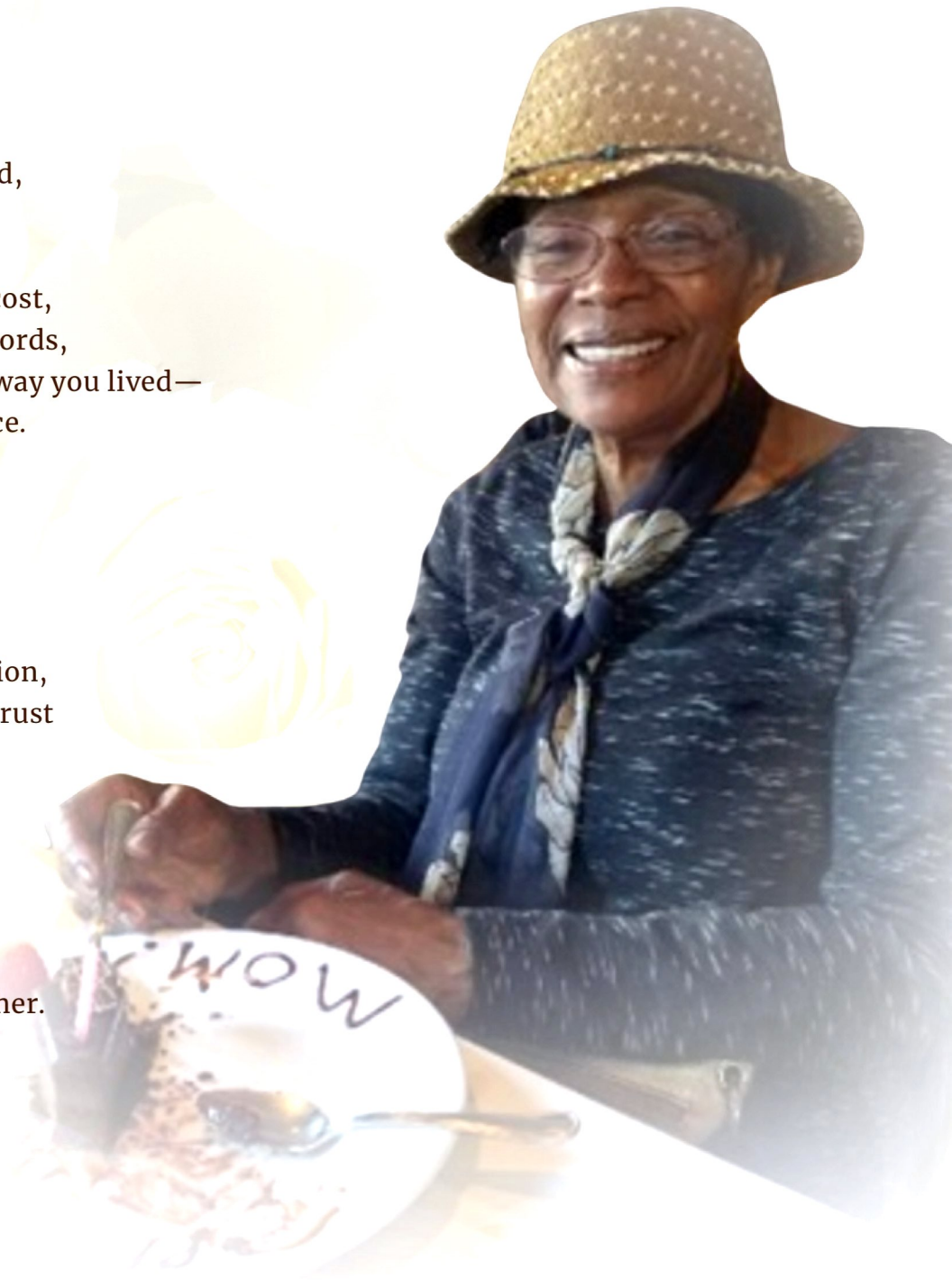
Mom,

your love was a quiet strength,
a steady light that never dimmed,
even when the days grew heavy
and the nights felt long.
You gave without counting the cost,
held us close without needing words,
and taught us love through the way you lived—
patient, faithful, and full of grace.
Your hands carried comfort,
your voice brought calm,
and your heart was a safe place
where we always belonged.
In your laughter we found joy,
in your wisdom we found direction,
and in your faith we learned to trust
that God was always near.
Though we cannot see you now,
your love still walks beside us,
woven into who we are,
etched forever in our souls.
Rest gently, Mom,
in the arms of our Heavenly Father.
Until we meet again,
you live on in every prayer,
every memory,
and every beat of our hearts.

Forever loved.

Forever missed.

Forever our Mom.





Pallbearers

Anthony (Tony) Parsons (Son)

Keenen Parsons

Justin Parsons

Anthony (Tony) Ducret

Cory Trammell

Teddy Parsons

Acknowledgement & Appreciation

The family of Ernestine Ducreay Parsons extends our deepest and most heartfelt gratitude to all who have shown love, kindness, prayers, and support during this time of sorrow. Your comforting words, thoughtful calls, visits, cards, flowers, meals, and generous expressions of sympathy have been a true source of strength and encouragement to our family.

We are profoundly thankful to our extended family, friends, neighbors, church family, caregivers, medical professionals, and all who stood beside us with compassion and grace throughout Mom's illness and during our time of loss. Your presence, whether near or far—has reminded us that we are not alone and that love truly carries us through life's most difficult moments.

Above all, we give thanks to God for the precious gift of Ernestine's life—her unwavering faith, gentle spirit, love of music, devotion to education, and the countless lives she touched as a teacher, mother, grandmother, aunt, and friend. Though our hearts are heavy, we find comfort and peace in knowing that she now rests in the loving arms of our Lord.

May God bless each of you abundantly for the kindness you have shown. Your love, prayers, and support will forever be remembered and cherished.

With sincere appreciation,
The Family of Ernestine Ducreay Parsons