

A service of thanksgiving for the life of



Reverend Senny Tamunowari

Sunrise 27th November 1951 - Sunset 21st November 2020

Monday 21st December 2020

St John the Evangelist Angell Town,
49 Wiltshire Road, Brixton, London, SW9 7NE at 12 noon

The Committal will be held at Lambeth Cemetery,
Blackshaw Road, Tooting, London SW17 0BY at 2pm

Order of Service

Conducted by Reverend Robert Faulkner

Opening sentences

Introduction

Hymn - How Great Thou Art

Prayers

Bible reading - Bene Kariboba Gogo-Abite
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

¹³Brothers and sisters, we do not want you to be uninformed about those who sleep in death, so that you do not grieve like the rest of mankind, who have no hope. ¹⁴For we believe that Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him. ¹⁵According to the Lord's word, we tell you that we who are still alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep. ¹⁶For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever. ¹⁸Therefore encourage one another with these words.

The word of the Lord Thanks be to God

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.
He makes me lie down in green pastures;
He leads me beside still waters;
He restores my soul.
He leads me in right paths
for his name's sake.
Even though I walk through the darkest valley,
I fear no evil;
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff—
they comfort me.
You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
You anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord
my whole life long.

Bible reading - Ibroma Oruwari
1 John 2:15-17

¹⁵Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, love for the Father[d] is not in them. ¹⁶For everything in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—comes not from the Father but from the world. ¹⁷The world and its desires pass away, but whoever does the will of God lives forever.

The word of the Lord Thanks be to God

Hymn – Great is Thy Faithfulness

Eulogies

Wife's tribute - read by Boma Campbell
Children's tribute - read by Loliya Oruwari
It is well - played Sharna Campbell

Hymn – When The Trumpet of The Lord Shall Sound

Gospel Reading

John 14:1-6

¹“Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. ²My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. ⁴You know the way to the place where I am going.”

⁵Thomas said to him, “Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?”

⁶Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

This is the Gospel of the Lord Praise to you O Christ

Homily – Reverend Robert Faulkner

Prayers

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on 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,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.

Hymn – I Hear The Welcome Voice

Commendation and farewell

At the graveside

Hymn – Abide With Me

Abide with me; fast falls the even tide;
The darkness deepens: Lord, with me abide!
When other helpers fail, and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, O abide with me!

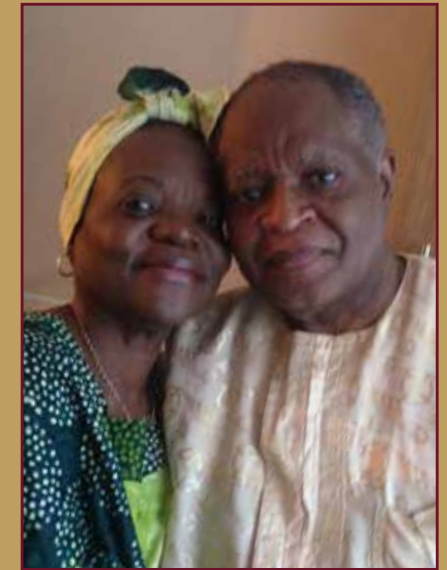
Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;
Earth's joys grow dim; its glories pass away;
Change and decay in all around I see;
O Thou who changest not, abide with me!

I need Thy presence ev'ry passing hour:
What but Thy grace can foil the tempter's pow'r?
Who like Thyself my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, O abide with me!

Committal and dismissal

The Blessing

Tributes



Reverend Senny and Esimi spent 42 wonderful years together happily married





Reverend Senny Tamunowari weds Esimi, August 1978

Tribute to darling husband,

Seniapuye, my darling, my love, when you and I started our journey together on this earth, 52 years ago - 10 years of friendship and courtship and 42 year of marriage, neither of us envisaged that it would end so quickly.

I thank God for the many years He gave us together as a couple. God has blessed us with four wonderful children and four precious grandchildren.

You have been released from this dark fallen world into the hands of our Saviour, The Lord Jesus Christ, that you loved so much. So now you are in a far far better place. To be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord.

What will I miss about you? Everything. Your reassuring presence, your protection - you watched over me like a hawk - your friendship and companionship, your endless compliments. I will miss your gentle character which had so much strength in it. I will miss your sense of humour.

I remember the many belly-aching laughters we shared over the years when you started to tell your funny jokes or something funny happened.

I appreciate so much the leadership you gave the family, to read the bible daily and pray. You never missed a day of prayer and bible reading.

You did what you liked doing the most till the very end - leading unbelievers to the Lord. The night before your departure, you witnessed to the young nursing assistant who used to come to the house to help you with your recovery. She gave her life to the Lord and joined the throng of people who you helped lead to the Lord both here and in Nigeria. They have been transferred from the kingdom of darkness into the Kingdom of God - the Kingdom of Life, Light and Love.

Thank you for your unstinting love for me. I love love love you. One thing I know - we'll meet again in heaven where you now are.

Your beloved wife, Esimi



Reverend Senny Tamunowari with three of his four children, Loliya, Boma and Ibroma



Reverend Senny Tamunowari preaching at a church

Dear Daddy,

Your prayers continuously filled in our home. Sometimes when we were trying to sleep! Our home was filled with the peace and presence of God because of the atmosphere that you and mummy cultivated.

We have such wonderful memories from our childhood.

You were always ready to listen and reassure if we had a nightmare or an injury. We loved it when you carried all four of us at once and when you threw one of us up high in the air (as mummy screamed). We remember being pleased to be the one picked to go on a walk with you. We remember you taking us to the park and on other outings. You were our Super Daddy, as we used to call you.

You instilled in us the importance of putting God first. You taught us how to pray, how to read the Word and write down what we had learnt in our notebooks, the importance of memorising Scripture, of confessions of faith and of praying in tongues. You enthusiastically taught us that we are saved by God's grace and not by our own works. This has been invaluable in all of our lives and will be passed on to generations to come as part of your legacy.

You were a man of prayer, and a man of faith who loved God, His Word and His kingdom. You cared about the marginalised more than the majority. You modelled the Christian life for us through your life and beyond your words.

Thank you, Daddy. We are grateful and honoured to be your children. You live on in heaven now and your legacy lives on through us. We love and miss you deeply, but we are comforted in the knowledge that you are now with the Lord and we will see you again, because our hope is not in the things of this world, but in Christ, the One who created the world.

You have fought the good fight, you have finished the race, you have kept the faith (see 2 Timothy 4:7). We will continue the race. We know you are watching and cheering us on.

We will always love you,
Loliya, Boma, Ibroma and Ibiere



My grandpa was the best grandpa ever. This is because he taught me about the Bible and God and made things to help me speak positively. He also taught me about using computers when I was little.

Grandpa always had a smile on his face and I love him and miss him. Although he is not here anymore, he is in the best place he can be - in heaven.

Sharna Campbell

Reverend Senny Tamunowari with two of his four grandchildren, Sharna and Keira



Grandchildren: Sharna, Keira, Adetomiwa and Jenna



Reverend Senny and Esimi on Boma's wedding day, March 2008



Reverend Senny at Ibieren's wedding, Sept 2016



Reverend Senny loved preaching the word of God

Writing this tribute has been extremely hard and saddening for me, my brother Senny was a loving and very kind man. He had a heart of gold and always wanted to help people and also bring them closer to God.

He loved his family and loved God more than anything else. Senny was very intelligent and would put in his best in whatever he put his mind to. I spoke to my brother few days after he was discharged from the hospital, little did I know that it would be the very last time I would speak to him.

Through everything, I loved my baby brother so much and I will miss him. Rest in peace Senny you are now in the bosom of the Lord.

Ndoki Oruwari-Etete



Reverend Senny, where he loved to be, with family

Tribute To Senny (Seni)

Death is not fair, sometimes it takes away the ones that should not be touched but God knows best.

I should not be writing this tribute for Senny; my immediate dear brother and childhood friend. We grew up together shared our childhood and adolescence together, helping each other through the rigours and challenges of primary and secondary education.

We attended the same primary and secondary school in Methodist boys high school, Lagos.

Senny was very brilliant and his strong desire to give his life to the service of the Almighty God and humanity started in the secondary school. He was a very active member of the Christian Student Union (SU).

Senny was a very active basketball player which endeared him to his classmates.

He was also very disciplined and forthright in his relationships with friends and colleagues. Highly principled and devoted to serve the Almighty God.

On his return from Britain after studies as a professional accountant with opportunities to lucrative jobs, Senny chose to set up his life dream; The Greater Faith Ministries church in Diobu Port Harcourt.

Over the years he finally returned to Britain to join his family where he continued with his service to the Almighty God.

Esimi, May the good Lord grant you, the children and grand children the fortitude to bear this irreparable loss.

Senny, we thank God for your life well spent. May your gentle soul rest in the bosom of the Lord, till we meet again.

Farewell.

Ebuye Daye Oruwari

Tribute to my dear brother

My wonderful brother, the gentle giant with the heart of gold. A honourable man of integrity and always true to his words.

He was intelligent, hard working, kind, loving, caring and spoke well of people always.

He enjoyed giving to others. He opened a School in Port Harcourt, Nigeria and invited many poor families to attend free of charge. Many families took up his offer and were blessed as a result of this generous act.

He was a great man of God and served God with his whole heart and soul.

To the Glory of God, he won thousands of souls for Christ. This was his passion and he did it with the fear of God.

He once prayed for a certain politician about an election outcome. The politician later became a Nigerian state Governor and offered my brother millions of Naira.

My brother refused the money saying "Prayer is free, go give the money to the poor and serve the people who voted you into power with the fear of God"

My brother's focus was always on how he could serve God better and what he can do for people.

He never took for granted the calling of God on his life and the anointing placed on him. He was very humble and felt privileged to have been chosen by the Almighty God.

Bene Kariboba Gogo-Abite

The triumph of a good man

Losing a loved one is very hard on a family. Your passing is still like a dream and I cannot help but have a warm feeling when I think of you.

You were such a straight gentleman who steered the path of the family to Christ in spite of all antagonism.

I vividly remember your determination and resolve to stand firm for Christ. You took the fall and the responsibility as well as the bold step to change the family name. The enmity and polarity were heavy, yet you stood firm. Changed the name from Óruwari to 'Tamunowari' inflexibly declaring for Christ. Thank you. Your hard-line paved the way for many to find Christ and changed the clique of our family.

You affected people of all ages, you gave and sacrificed, you contributed in changing lives, you shared experiences and to me, you were an experience.

Your passing was abrupt, I keep asking God, what the urgency was. Never the less I remember the scripture in Romans 8:16-17:

“The spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs-heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him”.

It broke our hearts to lose you, but you did not go alone. A part of us went with you, when you passed. In life we loved you dearly, in death we love you still, in our hearts you hold a place no one could fill. Though you might be physically gone, your thoughts shall never depart from our minds neither will your place in our hearts.

Brother you will be greatly missed.

Rest in Perfect Peace till we see again on the resurrection morning.

**Alabo Ibiminabelem Orubo Bob Manuel
(Formerly Ibiminabelem Victor Tamunowari)**

Seni was our big cousin. For some of my siblings and I, he played a big roll, as we grew up living with our Aunty in Lagos.

He had a wonderful sense of humour and I remember him as the one cousin, at that time, that spoke to me as the child I was.

He would play games with us, and tell us stories. Mainly ones that served to teach a lesson.

In 2003/04, I was ill and was in a coma for a time. I remember him standing over me praying with all his being for my recovery.

Well, God answered his prayers for me.

A few weeks back, he, ended up in hospital, and it was then my turn to pray for him. I spoke to Seni a day or two before he died. My phone rang and there he was talking to me. I count myself truly blessed to have had that opportunity. I said to him “You know bro Seni, when you were in hospital, I prayed for your recovery. God was so surprised to hear from me that he granted my prayer.”

He laughed.

That is what I remember when I think of my cousin Seni.

He will be missed.

Erefuro Amaso-Nedderman

I have many fond memories of Seni. I recall his gentle smile and raucous laughter when highly amused. He was a kind person and always about family and maintaining ties.

Seni rest in perfect peace in the bosom of the Lord you loved so much.

Much Love from Nimi, Sydney and Daye

My earliest memories of my dear cousin are when he used to come and visit us during his holidays. He was at university, I was in primary school, so he looked like a (friendly) giant from my childhood perspective! Later on, when I was now at university, he encouraged me in my faith. It was a joyous surprise to hear him say that he had written down the names of everyone in the family and had been praying for us every morning! It was heart-warming to know that he was praying for me when I did not have a clue that this was happening.

What a generous heart! He and I were both pleasantly surprised to find out when I got married that my new brother-in-law, Olusanya Adekanye, was his very close friend of many years - a small world indeed!! It has been a joy to witness and share in his life - watch his family grow, see him pastor a church, see him give his children away in marriage and enjoy the privilege of hugs and conversations that can never occur again, at least not in this life. The last time we talked was at Ibiere's wedding. He talked about organising a get-together for all the relatives in the UK so we could interact more often and more closely. Unfortunately, it was not to be. I take comfort in knowing that we have the hope of getting together again in eternity. Rest in peace dear cousin, till we meet at Jesus' feet.

Much love,

**Sikiya Adekanye (nee Amaso) on behalf Korede,
Damilola and Ayomide Adekanye**

Senny,

Your passing is very untimely and sad. It was never expected. Not so soon. God knows best and took you in His loving arms. He saw you needed a rest. His garden must be so beautiful for you to have transited peacefully in your sleep. Cuz.

You will be so dearly missed.

Good night Senny and God bless till we meet again.

Fola Stephens

My mum had always shared stories of her brother who lived in the UK. The stories she told of him, made him out to be a special breed of which indeed he was. I remember how she spoke of his intelligence and adventures and, when I finally met him on one of his trips to Nigeria from the UK, I was drawn to his sweet personality. One thing, stood out above all else which was his fatherly heart, mixed with an excellent Pastoral virtue.

He was a true lover of God. How he was able to come from the UK on missions and go down to villages still remains a mystery to me. He was a true example of the fulfilment of the call of God to leave everything and follow Christ.

Anyone who met him couldn't help but love him because he was always smiling, generous and highly positive. His only worries about me, was my faith.

I vividly remember his words to me, "Lolo study the word and don't get corrupted by wrong doctrines" he always would say to me." He actually went the extra mile to give me a list of topics to study and Pastors he trusted. And thank God, today, I am a woman of faith.

Uncle I miss you dearly. You were the Jesus we needed to see. You have ran your race, finished the course and have gone to be with Him who made you.

Rest in Him till we meet on the resurrection morning.

Sleep well Uncle

Adieu!!!

Data Lolo Aribimeari

Tribute to my treasured brother and dad

I call you 'Oh Dad' because you're indeed my dad in the Lord.
But this is what I have to say.

I did not know you to be a son to the big Auntie my grand-mum used to visit in Georgewill's compound, carrying me along. I walked into Greater Faith Ministries International as led by God and it was my Mother who told us of our ties when she saw you. Nevertheless you did not keenly relate with me as a sister but daughter after leading me to Christ.

You did not get weary about many questions I used to ask you concerning the Kingdom of God. You were ready if it were possible to open my head to deposit the word of God.

You laid such a strong foundation in me as far as the Kingdom life is concerned. You're my great counsellor, my encourager, my mentor, the great preacher, the prayer warrior, the man of great faith, a prophet. You give your prophecies without stress or demonstration but any one that has an ear, hears it, believes it and it works for him/her. God used you to save many souls and to teach them how to exercise "Greater Faith" as a proof that you were really called of God.

Oh Dad, when I was weeping out my heart on hearing of your demise, your wife repeatedly said to me that I should take heart because you made heaven. I weep because a big wound is in me now, aching me and I did not know that you will leave us so soon. I promise not to fail the Lord - the author and finisher of my faith - and you, my dad, my mentor. You fought the good fight of faith and made it, receiving the crown of righteousness. I shall also make it by God's grace and we shall see each other again to pain no more.

Enjoy your eternal bliss my Dad, while I remain very grateful to God for identifying with you and I'm very proud to say you mean so much to me. I truly love you with the love of God.

Rest on and live on my treasured Dad. Adieu!!!

Pst Fabia Tamunongo

From the mile 1 area of Portharcourt, Abonnema and Lagos, the intercessory prayers, teachings and street crusades never turned empty.

To God be the glory, precious in the sight of God is the death of his saint. Psalm 116:15.

Rev Senny Tamunowari was as brave as a lion and as daring as it a warrior in battle, he was more consecrated than miracle workers.

Ye preachers and believers of the gospel weep over Rev Senny Tamunowari whose faith in Christ Jesus brought many to the love of Christ in an unequal style.

Reverend Senny Tamunowari I came to meet you in a full gospel gathering in Ahoada and thereafter we became very close as if we had known each other for many years.

Our God had used me to secure your life when you were deep in tempest of life and God had also used you to bring life to me in the midst of the trauma of life. You were more than a brother to me; our love for each other went beyond brotherhood, your demise was very sad to hear, let the Lord you served remember your past sacrifices in his service and reward you adequately.

Good night.

Pastor T.J. Dasimaka.



Thank you

The family wishes to extend our deep gratitude to all, for the prayers, support, comforting messages, calls, flowers, cards and financial gifts during this time of bereavement.