

Memories are Forever



Pallbearers
KPC Knights

Floral Bearers
Rosary Altar Society

Expression of Gratitude

The family of Mary Helen Barr Tillman wishes to express our sincere thanks for the flowers and other expressions of love during our time of bereavement. Special thanks to the staff of White Oak Manor for their exceptional care during her illness. We are eternally grateful for every act of kindness that has been shown during this difficult time of grief. Please continue to pray for us. We thank each one and pray that God blesses beyond your imagination for blessing us.



CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF SERVICE

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Jonathan L. Holley
PRESIDENT & DIRECTOR

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IN LOVING
Memory



Mary Helen
TILLMAN

OCTOBER 20, 1948 - APRIL 11, 2026

THURSDAY, APRIL 23, 2026

12:00 PM

ST. MARTIN DE PORRES CATHOLIC CHURCH
2229 HAMPTON STREET, COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA 29204
FATHER MICHAEL OKERE, PASTOR

A LIFE WELL LIVED A LEGACY *Remembered*

Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands. Serve the Lord
with gladness: come before his presence with singing.
Psalm 100:1-2

Mary B. Tillman was born on October 20, 1948, to the late Joe Chester Barr, Sr. and Helen Allonia Barr of Columbia, South Carolina. She was the only girl born to this union. She graduated from C.A. Johnson, Class of 1967 in Columbia, South Carolina.

Mary began her spiritual journey at an early age which included her attending St. Martin De Porres Catholic School and becoming a lifelong member of St. Martin De Porres Catholic Church. She continued the legacy her mother started by being available to her church. Every week the linens were prepared for service. She was faithful to her service to the church and community until her health declined. Serving as Member of the Knights of Peter Claver, and Ladies Auxiliary, she served with dignity and honor.

- ◆ Chartered Member of the Rosary Altar Society St. Martin De Porres Catholic Church
- ◆ Chartered Member of Knights of Peter Claver Ladies Auxiliary-Father Paul M. Williams Court #330 (Mistress-At-Arms)
- ◆ Knights of Peter Claver Fourth Degree Ladies of Grace (Faithful Pilot and Steward)
 - ◆ St. Martin De Porres Gospel Choir
 - ◆ St. Martin De Porres Bereavement Committee

Mary was known for her sense of style of fashion. She worked at Tots and Teens and Steinmart, for many years. She will be remembered for her warm and bubbly personality. She loved people and she was loved by all.

She was preceded in death by her parents: Joe Chester Barr, Sr. and Helen A. Barr, brothers: Joe Chester Barr, Jr., Melvin H. Barr and Gerald J. Bar, and only son Reginald Tillman Sr.

Her absence leaves a void in so many lives. Carrying that void are her two daughters: Shawna and Reneé Tillman of Columbia, South Carolina, five grandchildren: KeShawn Tillman, Reginald Tillman, Jr., dedicated grandson, Malik (Taylor) Tillman, Angelo (Aj) Gadson, Jr., Morgan Tillman, three great-grandchildren: Zian, Londyn and Rile Tillman, and one great granddaughter, Keylynn Tillman, sister in love; Jackie Brown, faithful goddaughter; Consuela Jackson, best friend of 50 plus years; Queline Thomas, special mention of gratitude to her cherished niece and nephew, Jole and Daryl Barr for their unwavering love, kindness and support, special niece Yvette Somerville who stayed by her side by advocating and orchestrating much needed care, nieces, nephews, many other loving relatives and caring friends that will miss her dearly.

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the strength of my life, of whom shall I be afraid?
(Psalm 27:1)

Order of Service

Processional
Hymn
Total Praise Gospel Choir

1st Reading
Revelation 22:1-5a, 6b-7
Dr. Juanita Henry

Responsorial Psalm
Psalm 23
Dr. Juanita Henry

2nd Reading
Romans 5:5-11
Vernitta Garcia

Alleluia Verse
Revelation 14:1
Vernitta Garcia

Gospel John 6:37-40
Priest or Deacon

Song
Brittany Daniels

Homily
Father Michael Okere

Intercessions I-4 Lector

Offertory Hymn
God Is Gospel Choir

Communion Hymn
Let Us Break Bread Together
Gospel Choir

Remarks (2-3 minutes each)
The Jones Family
Jim McCoy-Parker
Wayne Culbreath

Grandchildren's Tribute

Recessional Hymn
I'm Free Eddie Isaac

Interment
Randolph Cemetery

301 Elmwood Avenue, Columbia, South Carolina 29201

In Loving Memory of **OUR MOTHER**

A piece of our hearts went home to God
On April 11th, when you took your rest.

Kind in spirit, generous in love,
You gave your children nothing but your best.

You stood alone when life grew heavy,
After the storm of a broken vow.
With steady hands and an unshaken faith,
You raised us then—you carry us now.

You worked with grace, you served with joy,
Your heart forever rooted in the church.
Loved by many, a helper to all,
Never too tired, never too much.

You gave your last, even when in need,
Your love poured out without a sound.
And now we know heaven welcomed you,
Where joy and family once again are found.

Reunited with our brother and those gone before,
We imagine laughter filling that place.
Though we miss you here with every breath,
We see God's peace upon your face.

Forever Loved. Forever our Mother.

Until we meet again.

-Shawna Tillman