Pallbearers

Kenneth McLaren - Brother
Rupert McLaren - Brother
Terry McLaren – Nephew
Luke McLaren - Nephew
Derron McLaren - Nephew
Frederick Lewis – Nephew-in-law

Ushers

Sister Jessica Brown
Sister Cynthia Livingston
Sister Princess McIntosh
Sister Sonia McClean
Sister Louise Weber



Acknowledgements

The family of the late Joan Joy Whyte wishes to convey our sincere appreciation for the many expressions of thoughtfulness shown to us. Your phone calls, visits, prayers, support and encouragement provided comfort and strength during our time of bereavement.

The Clergy, Staff, and Congregation of Mision Temple Ministries wish to express their condolences to the family and friends of Joan Joy Whyte in their bereavement.

Repast

Miracle Temple Ministries
4930 Old Pleasant Hill Road Kissimmee, Florida 34759

Interment

Rose Hill Cemetery
1615 Old Boggy Creek Road, Kissimmee, FL 34744



Professional Services Entrusted To:

RICHARD FUNERAL SERVICES

Richard Funeral Services
"The Best Service. The Best Price."
233 N. 9th Street Haines City, FL 33844
863-353-1511



Celebrating The Life Of

Joan Joy Whyte

February 2, 1967 – September 28, 2026

Saturday, October 31, 2026
11:00 AM
Miracle Temple Ministries
4930 Old Pleasant Hill Road
Kissimmee, Florida 34759

Eulogy for the life of Joan Joy Whyte

to Remember A Life

Joan Joy Whyte-McLaren, affectionately known as Joy was born on February 2, 1967, at Jubilee Hospital in Kingston, Jamaica, to our parents, Bernice and Sydney McLaren (pre-deceased).

Joy was surrounded by a large family. On the McLaren side, she shared a special bond with her siblings Brother Stafford, Smiley, Ronald, Cecil (pre-deceased), Girley, Yvonne, Derrick (pre-deceased), Verna, Ruth (pre-deceased), and Tekiel.

Joy was later raised by a wonderful woman, Eliza Grant (pre-deceased), who opened her heart and home and helped raise Joy along with Beryl and Wayne, as well as her own biological son. Through Mrs. Grant, Joy experienced the love, care, and guidance that helped shape the woman she became.

When I learned that our precious little sister, Joy, had returned to the family, I flew from the United States, while my sister Girly traveled from the United Kingdom. We both wanted to reunite with our beloved baby sister in Jamaica. Meeting Joy for the first time was a beautiful and heartfelt experience, and it marked the beginning of a special bond filled with love and cherished memories.

Girly and I visited Joy in St. Thomas. During our visit, I was surprised to see a breadfruit that looked so much like a soursop on the outside. Joy proudly insisted that St. Thomas had the best breadfruit, and we shared a good laugh over it. It was a simple, joyful memory that has remained close to my heart.

One of my deepest regrets is that Joy was too young to truly know our biological mother before she passed away. I am grateful she had the opportunity to know her father and share stories of her childhood growing up in St. Thomas.

I cherished those warm memories, as they helped me better understand her life and the person she became. She was also surrounded by her other siblings and family members, Toney, Beryl, Wayne, Courtney, Marva, and Debbie, along with countless nieces, nephews, extended family members, and friends who loved her dearly.

Then there was Mikaily, who was especially close to Joy and was like a daughter to her. Their relationship was a beautiful and meaningful part of Joy's life.

Joy began her education at Miss Whittle Basic School, continued at Wilmington Primary School, and later attended Seaford High School. She later continued her education and pursued nursing training in the United States, dedicating herself to compassionately caring for the elderly.

After completing her schooling in Jamaica, Joy worked at various places in Morant Bay and Kingston. One of her fondest memories was working alongside her favorite sister, Verna, as cashiers. The two had their own little system: Verna would go to lunch first to secure Joy's lunch, ensuring something was waiting for her when she arrived. The funny part was that they kept their sisterhood a secret from their coworkers so they could continue working together. Their special bond was a beautiful reflection of their love and care for each other.

Pursuing new opportunities and embracing greater possibilities, Joy left the sunny shores of Jamaica and traveled to the United States by way of Georgia. There, she worked as a caregiver. While living in Georgia, she was able to spend quality time with her brother Tekiel, his wife Carol, their family, and other nieces and nephews who lived nearby. After fond memories back home in Jamaica, Verna was just a little jealous knowing that living in Miami kept her from sharing those cherished times together again.

Eventually, Joy moved to the lush, majestic mountains of the Poconos in Pennsylvania to live with her eldest brother Rupert, whom his siblings affectionately call him Brother Stafford, his wife Dr. Andrea McLaren, and their two beautiful daughters, Natasha & Natalia.

Joy soon became the newest member of the McLaren household, until her nephew Terry joined them. From the very beginning, Joy was embraced with love and quickly became an important part of the family. Although Joy was their beloved auntie, and nurtured her little nieces for five precious years, she became so much more. She had no biological children of her own, but she poured her love into the girls, nurturing them, caring for them, and helping raise them as their geminate mamma.

Joy cared not only for their needs, but also for their happiness. She shared in their childhood adventures—trips to amusement parks, restaurants, horseback riding, and playing pinball hours-long. She even stayed up with the girls watching their favorite television shows; and endearingly, she had a friendly contest with them to see who could endure the snow and freezing temperatures out on the deck the longest—especially when Rupert was paying the winner. Those fun-loving experiences became beautiful memories for the McLaren home. Joy gave them laughter, companionship, guidance, and a childhood filled with love.

Joy's big brother and sister-in-law owned a busy Ob/gyn practice and inevitably spent much of their time away from the home. As a hardworking Midwife caring for others and Rupert overseeing the business operations, they both could leave knowing that their children and the-household were in loving and capable hands. Joy cared for the entire family with a devotion they would never forget.

When the time came for Joy to leave the McLaren's home and begin a life of her own, she could carry with her the knowledge that she had given their children something priceless: love, confidence, independence, and the ability to care for themselves.

It was also during Joy's time in Pennsylvania that another beautiful chapter of her life began. Owen Whyte her betrothed, went to big brother Rupert and asked for Joy's hand in marriage.

Joy and Owen were truly like two peas in a pod. They were perfect for each other, and together they found a happiness that was special to see.

Their nuptial was beautiful and they had something rare and precious: love, companionship, happiness, and each other. They shared life's joys and challenges together and created memories that will remain with those who knew and loved them. With two beautiful hearts united in endless love, they made their home in Florida for 18 wonderful years.

The blessed day finally came when Joy gave her heart to the Lord and became a faithful and devoted member of Miracle Temple Ministries. Her life was transformed as she and Owen were embraced by a loving and devoted spiritual family.

On November 30, 2025, Joy was baptized alongside her baptismal sister, best friend, and destiny helper, Debbie Nugent. Debbie was a faithful and devoted presence in Joy's life, standing steadfastly by her side and remaining with her until the very end.

Joy's journey took her from Jamaica to various places across the United States, but wherever she went, she carried her love and appreciation for family, friends, and colleagues. She worked at Kissimmee Health and Rehabilitation Center from February 11, 2016, until her passing, becoming part of a community where she shared meaningful connections and companionship.

Joy will forever be remembered for her beautiful smile, infectious laughter, vibrant personality, treasured stories, and the special way she touched the lives of those around her.

We will remember the sister who loved her family, the aunt who was loved by her nieces and nephews, the wife who shared her life with Owen, and the woman whose presence made a difference in the lives of so many people.

There will be moments when we reach for the phone to call her. There will be moments when something reminds us of her and brings tears to our eyes like the memories of being together and taking amazing trips with big sisters Girly, Yvonne, and Verna. And there will also be moments when we remember something funny she said or did, and we will smile. Those are the moments when we should remind ourselves that although Joy is no longer physically with us, her love and her memories remain.

Today, we can find comfort in our faith and in the promises of God. The Bible tells us in Psalm 34:18, "The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit." And in John 14:2–3, Jesus reminds us that there is a place prepared for His children. That promise gives us hope and comfort. We may not understand everything that happens in life, but we can trust the God who has carried us through every season.

So today, even through our tears, we choose to thank God for the gift of Joy. We thank Him for the years He allowed us to have her. We thank Him for the memories. We thank Him for the laughter. We thank Him for the love she shared with a host of surviving siblings, nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends far and near.

And we trust that she is now resting peacefully in God's loving care. Joy, our dear sister, your earthly journey has come to an end, but your story does not end here. Your family will continue to speak your name. We will continue to tell your stories. We will laugh about the memories.

We will hold on to the moments we shared.

And whenever we miss her, we will remind ourselves that love never truly leaves us. It remains in our hearts. Joy may no longer be here for us to see, touch, or hear her voice, but she will always be a part of us.

We will carry her with us in our hearts, in our memories, and in the love that binds our family together. So, Joy, we say rest peacefully.

Rest in the love of God. Rest knowing that you were loved. Rest knowing that you made a difference. And until that day when we meet again, we will hold you close in our hearts.

Forever our sister. Forever our family. Forever our friend Forever our Joy.

May God bless your soul, may He comfort everyone who mourns your passing, and may He give our family strength in the days ahead. Sleep peacefully, Joy. You will never be forgotten. You will always be loved. Until we meet again, rest in heavenly peace. We love you, Joy, but God loves you best. ❤️🙏🏾

It is Well With My Soul

When peace, like a river, attendeth my way,
When sorrows like sea billows roll;
Whatever my lot, Thou has taught me to say,
It is well, it is well, with my soul.

Refrain

It is well, with my soul,
It is well, with my soul,
It is well, it is well, with my soul.

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,
Let this blest assurance control,
That Christ has regarded my helpless estate,
And hath shed His own blood for my soul.

Refrain

My sin, oh, the bliss of this glorious thought!
My sin, not in part but the whole,
Is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more,
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!

Refrain

But, Lord, 'tis for Thee, for Thy coming we wait,
The sky, not the grave, is our goal;
Oh trump of the angel! Oh voice of the Lord!
Blessèd hope, blessèd rest of my soul!

Refrain

And Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight,
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll;
The trump shall resound, and the Lord shall descend,
Even so, it is well with my soul.

First Scripture: Ecclesiastes 3 Verses 1 - 14

1 To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven: 2 A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted; 3 A time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; 4 A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; 5 A time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; 6 A time to get, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to cast away; 7 A time to rend, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak; 8 A time to love, and a time to hate; a time of war, and a time of peace. 9 What profit hath he that worketh in that wherein he laboureth? 10 I have seen the travail, which God hath given to the sons of men to be exercised in it. 11 He hath made every thing beautiful in his time: also he hath set the world in their heart, so that no man can find out the work that God maketh from the beginning to the end. 12 I know that there is no good in them, but for a man to rejoice, and to do good in his life. 13 And also that every man should eat and drink, and enjoy the good of all his labour, it is the gift of God. 14 I know that, whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ever: nothing can be put to it, nor any thing taken from it: and God doeth it, that men should fear before him.

Second Scripture Reading: 1 Corinthians 15 Verses 45 -58

45 And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit. 46 Howbeit that was not first which is spiritual, but that which is natural; and afterward that which is spiritual. 47 The first man is of the earth, earthy; the second man is the Lord from heaven. 48 As is the earthy, such are they also that are earthy: and as is the heavenly, such are they also that are heavenly. 49 And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly. 50 Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption. 51 Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, 52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. 53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. 54 So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. 55 O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? 56 The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. 57 But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. 58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.

Oh, What a Sunrise it's going to be

1.God gives life He takes it away
He is the Potter and I am the clay
When I view the last sunset and cross over sea
I know sunrise will be waiting for me

Refrain

Oh what a sunrise it's going be
Death will lose it's sting, the grave it's victory
Silence will be broken, and the storm clouds rolled away
I hear the saints of angels singing on our homecoming day

1.Time will come for the last goodbye
There's a smile though tears dim the eye
Death will take us, but only to sleep
In the arms of our Saviour so sweet

Refrain

Sing the Wondrous Love of Jesus

1. Sing the wondrous love of Jesus,
Sing His mercy and His grace;
In the mansions bright and blessed
He'll prepare for us a place.
Refrain:
When we all get to heaven,
what a day of rejoicing that will be!
When we all see Jesus,
we'll sing and shout the victory!
2. While we walk the pilgrim pathway
Clouds will overspread the sky;
But when trav'ling days are over
Not a shadow, not a sigh.
3. Let us then be true and faithful,
Trusting, serving ev'ry day;
Just one glimpse of Him in glory
Will the toils of life repay.
4. Onward to the prize before us!
Soon His beauty we'll behold;
Soon the pearly gates will open–
We shall tread the streets of gold.

Order of Service

OPENING PRAYER ..... Pastor Bonito McLeod
OPENING HYMN ..... It is Well With my Soul
Pastor Bonito McLeod
FIRST SCRIPTURE (Old Testament) ..... Kenneth McLaren
SECOND SCRIPTURE (New Testament) ..... Rupert McLaren
HYMN ..... Oh What a Sunrise
REFLECTIONS
Natalia McLaren ..... Video Presentation
Sister Teselyn Lawrence
NURSING HONOR GUARD CEREMONY .....
Debbie Nugent MSN
Dr. Andrea McLaren DNP
Dawn Webb MSN
Selection ..... Miracle Temple Ministries Church Choir
Open Tributes ..... (3 minutes each)
OBITUARY ..... Yvonne William
Giving to the Glory of God ..... When We all Get to Heaven
Introduction ..... By Debbie Nugent
FLORAL TRIBUTE ..... Family
Accompaniment ..... I Believe (Bye Bye) by Jonathan Nelson
HOMILY ..... Pastor Bonito McLeod
PRAYER FOR THE FAMILY ..... Elder Frederick Shan
CLOSING HYMN ..... When The Roll is Called Up Yonder













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