

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Priest: In confidence we approach the throne of God’s grace. No one has seen God, but as long as we love one another God will live in us and his love will be complete in us, and we know that love is stronger than death. Let us pray to the God who first loved us.

Reader 1: Our response is: **Lord graciously hear us**

Reader 1: We pray for those who care for the sick and house-bound. We give thanks for the skills and the commitment of doctors, nurses and other who assist at the hospital. May they continue to reflect the compassion and healing of God. **Lord hear us**

Reader 2: We pray for all who mourn a loved one, especially for all of us gathered here. May our tears be wiped away, and may our mourning be turned into joy. **Lord hear us**

Reader 3: We pray for our father ... May God receive his soul with mercy and forgiveness, and because of the faith he manifested while he lived. **Lord hear us**

Reader 4: We give thanks for the love which our father showed during his life. May he know the perfection and fulfilment of that love in heaven. **Lord hear us**

Reader 5: Bring all the dead into the light that no darkness can over power, especially those who have died our family. May we all meet in joy with you in heaven. **Lord hear us**

May Mary our Mother intercede for us as we pray: Hail Mary...

Priest: Father, all those who love others, after the example of Christ your Son, are truly blessed by you in this life, but what they receive here is only a shadow compared with the good things you have prepared for them in the next life. We make all our prayers through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Offertory – Offertory Hymn

Consecration

Lord’s Prayer

Sign of Peace

Communion – Communion Hymn

Final prayer and Blessing

Dismissal



—A NOTE OF THANKS—

We extend our gratitude and appreciation for all your prayers, words of comfort, cards, flowers, other expressions of kindness and sympathy shown during our bereavement. We pray the blessings of God will forever shine upon you.

The Gardin Family

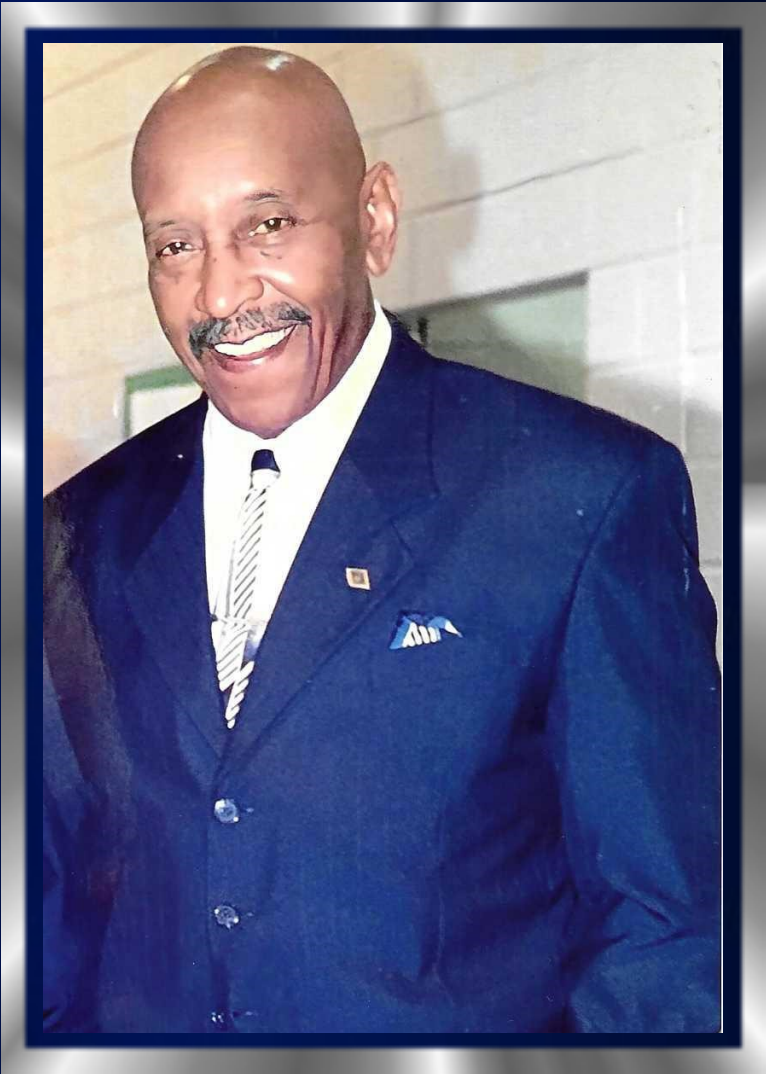


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Celebrating the Life and Legacy of

Raymond J. Gardin, Sr.

SEPTEMBER 6, 1931 - FEBRUARY 15, 2024



VISITATION FROM 1:00 PM -1:30 PM

SERVICE 1:30 PM

THE 22ND OF FEBRUARY 2024

1:30 IN THE AFTERNOON

ST. HELEN CATHOLIC CHURCH

341 DALLAS-SPENCER MOUNTAIN ROAD

GASTONIA, NORTH CAROLINA 28056

Raymond Joseph Gardin, Sr.

Was born on September 6, 1931, and peacefully departed this life surrounded by family on February 15, 2024.

He was the son of the late Fred and Clara Gardin both of Gaston County. He was a loving husband, father, brother, uncle, grandfather, and great-grandfather. He was a Marine Corps veteran and retired as a Textile Mechanic/Machinist.

He was preceded in death by his first wife, Wilma Brumfield Gardin, siblings, Christopher, James, George, John, Vergie Mae and Annie.

He leaves behind his cherished wife of 51 years, Frankie B. Gardin of Dallas, NC, son, Raymond J. Gardin, Jr. (Regina), daughters, Lee Ann Wofford (Dennis) of Kings Mtn., NC, Beverly Byers of Dallas, NC, Victoria Spencer (Kevin), Donna Sharpe (Jeff), and Niki Blalock all of Gastonia, NC. A host of grandchildren, great-grandchildren, honorary grandchildren, nieces, and nephews.

He also leaves behind siblings: Wayne Gardin, Patricia Gardin, Margaret Hunter (Dan), Lucinda Gardin and Mary Miller (Leonard); brother-in-law, sister-in-law, other relatives, and friends.

Affectionately called Poppy by his loving grandchildren, Raymond was known for his big laugh, story-telling abilities, excellent memory, and his sense of humor.



*I am home in heaven, dear ones,
Oh so happy and so bright
There is perfect joy and beauty
In this everlasting light.
So, you must not grieve sorely,
For I love you dearly, still,
Try to look beyond earth’s shadows
Pray to trust our Father’s will.*

“Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you.”
John 14:27

Order of the Mass

Entrance - Hymn

Opening Prayer

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading: A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah (25:6-9)

On this mountain* the LORD of hosts will provide for all peoples a feast of rich food and choice wines, juicy, rich food and pure, choice wines. On this mountain he will destroy the veil that veils all peoples, the web that is woven over all nations. He will destroy death forever. The Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces; the reproach of his people he will remove from the whole earth; for the LORD has spoken. On that day it will be said: “Indeed, this is our God; we looked to him, and he saved us! This is the LORD to whom we looked; let us rejoice and be glad that he has saved us!”

The Word of the Lord

The Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 116:5, 6, 10-11, 15-16ac

R/. I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.
Gracious is the LORD and just;
yes, our God is merciful. **R/.**
The LORD keeps the little ones;
I was brought low, and he saved me. **R/.**
I believed, even when I said,
"I am greatly afflicted";
I said in my alarm,
"No man is dependable." **R/.**
Precious in the eyes of the LORD
is the death of his faithful ones.
O LORD, I am your servant,
you have loosed my bonds. **R/.**

Second Reading

A Reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans (14: 9-18)

Love must be completely sincere. Hate what is evil, hold on to what is good. Love one another warmly as Christians and be eager to show respect for one another. Work hard and do not be lazy. Serve the Lord with a heart full of devotion. Let your hope keep you joyful, be patient in your troubles, and pray at all times. Share your belongings with your needy fellow Christians and open your homes to strangers. Ask God to bless those who persecute you—yes, ask him to bless, not to curse. Be happy with those who are happy, weep with those who weep. Have the same concern for everyone. Do not be proud, but accept humble duties. Do not think of yourselves as wise.

If someone has done you wrong, do not repay him with a wrong. Try to do what everyone considers to be good. Do everything possible on your part to live in peace with everybody.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation:

I am the resurrection and the light. No one comes to the Father except through me.

GOSPEL: Matt. 11: 25 - 30

At that time Jesus said, "Father, Lord of heaven and earth! I thank you because you have shown to the unlearned what you have hidden from the wise and learned. Yes, Father, this was how you were pleased to have it happen. "My Father has given me all things. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. "Come to me, all of you who are tired from carrying heavy loads, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke and put it on you, and learn from me, because I am gentle and humble in spirit; and you will find rest. For the yoke I will give you is easy, and the load I will put on you is light."

The Gospel of the Lord