



**In Loving Memory
OF THE LATE**



**Sister Gloria
JACINTA OCHU ADOGA, SSND
1982-2024**

DATE: 25th April 2024

VENUE: St. Sylvanus Catholic Church, Pokuase, Accra

TIME: 10:00am

OFFICIATING CLERGY

Most Rev. John Bonaventure Kwofie CSSp
Metropolitan Archbishop of Accra

Most Rev. Michael Apochi
Bishop of Otukpo Diocese - Nigeria

Most Rev. Anthony Narh Asare
Auxiliary Bishop of Accra

Most Rev. John Kobina Louis
Auxiliary Bishop of Accra

Very Rev. Fr. John Neumann Tettehio
(Parish Priest - St. Sylvanus Catholic Church, Pokuase)

Rev. Fr. Raymond Lord Ampong
Parochial Vicar

All con-celebrating Priests.

IN ATTENDANCE

St. Sylvanus Catholic Church Choir.
Epiphany Catholic Church Choir

MASTER OF CEREMONY

Rev. Fr. Raymond Lord Ampong
Sr. Irene Brookman Arthur, SSND.

ORDER OF SERVICE

PART I - PRE-BURIAL SERVICE

Reception of the body	- 6:00 am
Filing Past the body	- 6:30 - 8:30am
Tributes/Biography	- 8:30 - 9:00 am
Office of the Dead	- 9:00am
Closing of the Casket	- 9:30am

PART II - EUCHARISTIC CELEBRATION- 10:00am ORDER OF MASS

- Processional Hymn: CH. 308
- Introit: Kyereme Kwan
- Kyrie: Martin de Porres
- Opening Prayer
- First Reading: Romans 6:3-5
- Responsorial Psalm: 131 (*My soul is longing for your peace, near to you my God*) CH. 34
- Acclamation: John 11: 25a, 26 (*I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord; whoever believes in me will never die.*)
- Gospel: John 17:24-26
- Homily
- Prayers of the faithful: Hear our prayer
- Offertory
- Collection: Medley of Songs
- Incensation CH.62
- Prayer over the gift
- Sanctus: Martin de Porres
- Mystery of Faith
- Pater Noster
- Agnus Dei: Martin de Porres
- Communion: CH. 245, 235, 104
- Post Communion: Where is our God
- Prayer for Communion
- Second Collection
- Vote of Thanks
- Announcement
- Final Commendation
- Hymn: CH. 213
- Prayer, Sprinkling and Incensing
- Farewell
- Closing Song: CH. 305

PART III – Interment and Cemetery

- Song
- Prayer
- Song
- Interment
- Laying of wreaths
- Final Song



THE BIOGRAPHY OF THE LATE SISTER GLORIA JACINTA OCHU ADOGA, SSND

'God has created us for Heaven' (Letter 11, September 10, 1831- Bl. Mary Theresa of Jesus Gerhardinger, Foundress of the School Sisters of Notre Dame)



Sister Gloria Adoga was born on September 30, 1982 into the family of Daniel Idaa Adoga and Justina Owoloyi Adoga. She hailed from Umogidi-Adoka, in Otukpo Local Government Area of Benue State, Nigeria. She received baptism on October 2, 1984 at Umogidi and Confirmation on

July 14, 1996 at St. Augustine Catholic Church, Otukpo. She was Idoma by tribe and the fourth child in a family of ten, seven girls and three boys from her mother's side and has three other siblings from her father's second wife.

Sister Gloria began her elementary educational pursuit at Ekam Primary School, Makurdi, at the end of which she was admitted into Holy Rosary Girls College, Adoka, Benue State. While in secondary school, Sister began nursing a desire to become a religious when the Daughters of St. Paul visited for a vocation talk. She also interacted with the Sisters of Nativity serving in her home parish. Like Mary, she treasured her desire and held it close to her heart, as she continued to develop herself.

After her secondary education, Sister Gloria gained employment at the Cathedral of St Francis of Assisi in Otukpo Diocese, where she served as secretary to the Cathedral Administrator and assisted as Parish Clerk and Shopkeeper. After two years and seven months, Sister resigned to further her education at Benue State University where she obtained a diploma in Social Work and Development in October 2004. At the end of her tertiary education, Sister Gloria returned to her home diocese and worked as Secretary /personal assistant to the Chancellor/Diocesan Secretary. Utilizing her varied gifts, she also assisted with the office



finances, Diocesan archive, insurance and licensing of cars in parishes, Religious Houses and Institutions within the Diocese.

In the words of our foundress, *'If the dear God wants to call something into life, he also always gives the means for that to happen'*, thus Sister Gloria found the address of the School Sisters of Notre Dame in the *Ambassador Magazine* and wrote to them. The Sisters invited her for a visit. This marked the beginning of her journey with the School Sisters of Notre Dame. Sister began attending SSND Vocation seminars and became an affiliate on October, 14 2006 with Mkar Community in Benue State as her contact community.

Her reception into the School Sisters of Notre Dame Postulancy in Mbribit Itam, Uyo, Akwa Ibom State in Nigeria was in October 2007. Sister Gloria was received as a Novice on August 26, 2009 at the School Sisters of Notre Dame African Novitiate in Sunyani Ghana. She made her First profession of vows as an SSND on July 11, 2011. After her first profession of vows, Sister Gloria joyfully and enthusiastically moved to her assigned community in Nyalienga, Kenya where she served in the capacity of a Bursar and Social Worker at Notre Dame Children's Outreach till 2016. She served for a short time at Adiaha Obong Girls Government Senior High School, Akwa Ibom State, Nigeria and as Assistant Development Director of SSND Africa in 2017. Sister felt enriched by her ministry and learned a lot from living in community and this helped her come to a deeper knowledge and appreciation of God, self and others.

Since we do not know what tomorrow will bring with it, let us scatter seed for eternity as long as there is time (Blessed Mary Theresa of Jesus Gerhardinger), Sister Gloria scattered seeds of faith, hope and love wherever she found herself. She was hard working, radically available, loved to assist at the parish, training of altar servers, making the altar, teaching catechism among others.

Sister Gloria made her Perpetual Profession of Vows in the Congregation of the School Sisters of Notre Dame on July 29, 2017 at St. John the Baptist Cathedral, Gboko, Benue State, Nigeria and shortly after that, she was enrolled at the Veritas University Abuja, where she obtained a B. Sc in Business Administration in 2020. At the end of her studies, she was called to form community in the Provincial House in Accra, Ghana where she served as Province Treasurer.



Sister enjoyed cooking, listening to music, reading and exercising. She was very versatile and never held back her gifts. As a member of the Provincial House community, she was deeply committed to her ministry of service and made significant sacrifices for the growth and success of the SSND Retreat and Conference Centre in Accra, Ghana. At the Epiphany Catholic church, Mayera-Dunyo, Accra, Ghana, she was a dedicated Lector, a member of Liturgy Committee and she taught Catechism. She expressed *“I cannot dance Lord, unless you lead me. If you want me to leap with abandon, you must intone the song. Then I shall leap into love, from love into knowledge, from knowledge into enjoyment, and from enjoyment beyond all human sensations”*.

Sister suffered a brief illness and had to undergo surgery at the 37 Military Hospital, Accra. After a few days of being in the Intensive Care Unit, Sister Gloria responded to God's call to her to recuperate peacefully in heaven. We extend our deepest gratitude to our bishops, priests and religious, the Hospital Staff, Sister's family members, friends, and all SSND for their accompaniment and prayerful support to Sister Gloria during the last days of her life. Sister Gloria slept peacefully in the Lord in the afternoon of April 11, 2024. May she rest in peace and hear the Lord say to her *'Well done, good and faithful servant. You were faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter the joy of your Lord.'* (Mt 25:21).

We extend our sympathy to Sister Gloria's mum, siblings, and other members of her family, her friends, the Catholic Diocese of Otukpo, former colleagues and classmates, her sisters in community, all the School Sisters of Notre Dame and the Catholic Archdiocese of Accra. She was preceded in death by her dad, Mr. Daniel Adoga and her elder sister, Miss Christiana Adoga.

Indeed, our life is nothing other than leaving each day behind; what we call dying is the completion of dying and the beginning of true life (Blessed Mary Theresa of Jesus Gerhardinger). Sister Gloria is now united with Jesus the source of true life in our true native land of heaven. Dear Sister Gloria, thank you for accepting to share your life with us as a School Sister of Notre Dame, we love you and will always pray for you. Adieu, Farewell, enjoy heaven! Pray for us!



School Sisters of Notre Dame

Province of Africa

TRIBUTE FROM THE LEADERSHIP TEAM AND THE SISTERS OF THE PROVINCE TO SR. GLORIA ADOGA

“Throughout our lives, we strive to do whatever God tells us, to respond affirmatively to God and to carry out His action in us. This basic thrust of our lives reaches its climax in death, the moment for which life prepares us. In death, we say our ultimate human yes to our Creator. Trusting in God's power to bring us to the fullness of life, we see death as an act of worship: in dying, we proclaim God, God, and ourselves, creatures...” (YOU ARE SENT, School Sisters of Notre Dame Constitution #47)

We received the news of our dear Sister Gloria with great shock. We never expected it to be too soon. We were hoping she would come back from the hospital to enjoy her clean room and community that was eagerly waiting for her return. Nonetheless, we are eternally grateful to God for giving you to us.

Sister Gloria was a beautiful sister with a golden heart. A gentle but firm woman, quietly and lovingly touching lives. You saw God in everything, every experience, and in everyone. You made everyone around you feel so special. As a good listener, you could notice everyone and pay



attention to everyone. You were a woman of peace, simple and kind, always reaching out to others. We are so grateful to have known you and thank you for being part of our lives today. We can only hope and pray that all that your life has taught us will remain deep in our hearts. *Death is nothing at all. It does not count. I have only slipped away into the next room. The old life that we lived fondly together is untouched, unchanged. Whatever we were together, that we are still.*

You were a great and wonderful woman whose life taught us many things. Your passing saddens us, but we are consoled by the fact that you were the epitome of a devout Christian and a distinguished woman. We will treasure and value your gracious spirit, straightforwardness, creativity, hardworking, courage, words of encouragement, and of course, the deeply touching friendliness.

We remember you for your generous sharing of self and all that you had with others, even when you looked so tired and stressed. You would warmly welcome anyone and chat heartily whenever there was an encounter. You were a very hard-working woman, goal-oriented, and an encourager to many. Your way of life was a Gospel in itself; a prayerful woman, very unassuming, simple in nature, and your generosity was boundless. As School Sisters of Notre Dame, an essential aspect of our charism is the striving for the oneness of all in God. This was evident in every aspect of your life: community, ministry, and relationships with God and others. As an SSND, you impacted many lives in Nigeria, Kenya, Ghana, and beyond.

You constantly made efforts to bring people together wherever you found yourself. Indeed, you were a true daughter of the Church and of Blessed Mary Theresa of Jesus Gerhardinger, foundress of the School Sisters of Notre Dame, a congregation you cherished so dearly and dedicated your entire life towards proclaiming the Good News by your life. Sister Gloria, as the Provincial Treasurer of the School Sisters of Notre Dame in Africa, a position you held so faithfully until your demise, you remained selfless and dedicated to your religious commitment to the end. Until your passing, you were known for your gentle, gracious spirit, transparency, authenticity, simplicity, contentment, integrity, and the spirit of evangelization. You were



deeply committed to your ministry of service and made significant sacrifices for the growth and success of the SSND Retreat and Conference Centre, Accra, Ghana.



Even though we mourn your departure from this earthly journey, we believe and are convinced that you have fulfilled your purpose in life and have taken your rightful place in the bosom of your Maker. May you now enjoy your eternal reward in God, and may we be consoled together with your cherished family as we look back at the good life you have lived. May your good deeds continue to shine before ALL. Through your intercessions, may the Lord enable us to nurture our human values, gospel values, and SSND values within His Mission. God is the giver of all good gifts. He gave you to us, and now He has called you back to Himself...what can we say... May you now experience the joy of the resurrection. *In hope and peace, we enter into the joy of the Lord!* (SSND Constitution, You Are Sent #47).

Sleep in peace, great woman of God! Rest on, dear Sr. Glo! Rest on, great SSND kindred soul filled with passion! You will forever be cherished and remembered for the ways that you partnered with us in the mission of God on the continent of Africa and beyond. We are missing you already. As Sr. Gloria experiences the reward of her trust and faith in a provident God, may her eternal life bring unimaginable happiness and peace to her religious family, biological family, especially her mom, and all whom she held dear to her heart during her earthly journey.

The Provincial Council and all the sisters of the Province of Africa



TRIBUTE FROM THE FAMILY

Rev. Sr. Gloria Adoga, our dear sister, your smile so real, your heart so pure, you were so loving, compassionate, convivial, impeccable, immaculate, kind, generous, very patient and accommodating. Your demise on that fateful day left us speechless and sent chills down our spines. There will be no one to fit your shoes, no one to share our thoughts and feel our heartache. Our hearts are broken, the children could not understand when we told them that you are in heaven and Gloria asks why you had to go to heaven. It is so hard to accept that we will never see you or hear your voice again. So much pain so many questions.

Sr Gloria, you have left unforgettable memories in our hearts such that we wonder how we could cope with this irreparable gap in life You were the shoulder we leaned on, and you had a motherly care. Our hearts longed for your coming home and we cherished our conversations. We are internally grateful, blessed beyond measure, to have grown up alongside you, our beloved sister. Even though you are no longer with us in body, the memory and love we shared will forever remain in our hearts. You stood for justice and showed mercy to those who had none. Yours was a life so brief yet full of impact. Your death came as a shock to us, the distress and sorrow was unprecedented. You have impacted lives within and outside our family. You are a peacemaker, you are loving and you always unify the family. Your death has changed a lot of things within a short time. Who will be willing to make sacrifices like you? Who will love and counsel us? What shall we do today, this is a day of distress for many, you are like Dorcas, and you have created a big Vacuum.

We are grateful to God to have lived with an angel in human form. Rev Sister Gloria Adoga you were a wonderful Sister-in-law. We are yet to come to terms with the reality of your demise. Your stay on Earth was so brief but the impact was massive. We learnt so much from you each time we met. You were a scholar and yet very humble. We are so happy that you were part of our lives on this divide of eternity.

Thank you for the cherished moments, unspoken understanding and unwavering support. Sister, it's difficult to accept that you're no longer

here. There isn't a single day that we don't think of you. No amount of time can ease the pain of your death. God bless your soul dear. You were unasked for but always desired present. Sending love and prayers to you in heaven, who has gifted us with memories we will remember forever. Your family and friends will always adore and remember you. Your recollections will stay with us forever. Our darling sister, may your soul rest in peace while your memory lives on.

Thank you to everyone who has come to honour our sister. Sr Gloria would have been so pleased to see all her loved ones gathered in one place to honour her. Sr Gloria was a “people person”. Sr Gloria was very determined, smart, and humble, and her kindness knew no bounds. She was determined, she knew what she wanted, she heard God calling her loud and clear and she answered that call faithfully. This is our consolation, she loves Jesus so much and we are sure that was why she answered His call for eternity without even saying goodbye. Growing up as kids, Sr. Gloria led an exemplary lifestyle and she was a dedicated Christian. Her prayer life was inspirational to many. She made us eager to learn about the Catholic faith in so many ways.

Sr Gloria over the years grew in kindness for mankind, and she offered help in any way she could. She was always there to listen and redirect. Sr Gloria was that person you could talk to about anything and everything. Oh our Sister, she had the right words for everything. When we lost Papa you became a strong pillar to all of us. Your demise has left us very devastated. We are deeply hurt that you had to go. Mama is inconsolable, and she keeps asking why you left her. Sr Gloria thank you for all your sacrifices and kindness to us. Now it's time for you to rest, rest in Jesus' arms, dear sister. To us all gathered here, the best way we can mourn Gloria is to take an attribute of her life and imbibe it into ours, by doing so we get to keep a memory of her forever.

Our loving God, as we grieve the death of Sister Gloria Jacinta Owofu Adoga together, please send us the comfort we need, let us find peace as we seek you. Please help us to adjust to life without her and let go of her here on earth. If you are willing to send us a heavenly sign that Sister Gloria Jacinta is well, please do so to encourage us. When we think of her in heaven, let that inspire us to use each day you give us well, strengthen our



faith and help us to do all we can to spread your love in this world. Allow us to sense your presence within us every day in our grieving so that we can find hope, healing and even joy despite our pain. Help us to emerge from grieving with a stronger relationship with you and with one another. Amen.

Sleep on dear Sister and shine on until that Resurrection morning. We love you and we miss you.



CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF OTUKPO

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SECRETARIAT

RESIDENCE

Catholic Bishop's House
Otukpo, Benue State
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April 16, 2024.

Sr. Oyin-oza Asishana,
Provincial Leader,
The Province of Africa,
School Sister of Notre Dame,
Accra, Ghana.

Dear Sr. Oyin-oza,

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you!

Hearing the news of the sudden death of our dearly beloved illustrious sister, Sr. Gloria Jacinta Ochu Adoga, SSND, who died on April 11, 2024, I am writing, on behalf of the Catholic Diocese of Otukpo, to express our condolences to you, the members of your Congregation and the biological family of Sr. Gloria.

We are mourning Sr. Gloria's death with great affection and praying that our Lord Jesus Christ may welcome her in his peace and in joy in his bosom, and, reward her abundantly for the services she had rendered in the Lord's vineyard, amen.

Sr. Gloria, whom we entrust to the mercy of our Lord, will ever be remembered for her profound love for Jesus Christ, the Catholic Church, the religious life and God's people. This, she exemplified in living out the religious vows, and, in the active role she played devotedly in participating in the life and mission of the SSND; proclaiming the Good News and, directing her entire life: her very being, love, faith, and hope, towards oneness with Jesus Christ by her life of making Christ visible to people. Indeed, she impacted on the lives of people in Nigeria, Kenya, Ghana, and beyond during her earthly life. May God welcome her to paradise to enjoy the fullness of oneness with Jesus Christ. Amen.

We are sending our heartfelt condolences and offering a sincere prayer for you, your Congregation, the biological family of Sr. Gloria, the SSND Associates and all other mourners, in the bereavement. May God grant all of us the fortitude to bear the death of Sr. Gloria. Amen!

Grant eternal rest to Sr. Gloria, O Lord! let your perpetual light shine on her. May she rest in peace! Amen!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Rev. Michael Ekwoyi Apochi,
Catholic Bishop of Otukpo.





**CONFERENCE OF MAJOR SUPERIORS
OF RELIGIOUS - GHANA (CMSR-GH)**

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Ref :.....

17th April 2024

THE PROVINCIAL LEADER
SCHOOL SISTERS OF NOTRE DAME (SSND)
PROVINCE OF AFRICA
PMB ACHIMOTA SCHOOL POST OFFICE
ACCRA

Dear Provincial Leader,

MESSAGE OF CONDOLENCE

The Conference of Major Superiors of Religious - Ghana (CMSR-Gh) and all Consecrated men and women mourns with you at the passing on of your beloved sister, a member of the Provincialate Community in Mayera-Dunyo, Accra,

SR GLORIA JACINTA OCHU ADOGA, SNND

We are saddened at heart for this great loss. Sister Gloria was so young, vibrant and joyous. The few times we came around during conference sessions in the community, we found her an attentive and helpful host. To loose someone at the prime of age, someone full of promise, could be so devastating, especially at such a short notice. The Lord himself is your consolation.

As we commiserate with you in this time of sorrow, it is our belief that our departed Sister will be raised on the day of resurrection. May the memories you shared with Sr Gloria give you strength in the days ahead and bring you comfort. May our faith I. Christ Jesus, Our Resurrection and Life bring healing to your hearts and to your community.

Kindly communicate our sympathies to the entire SSND Congregation, as well as her biological family. We pray that the Good Lord grants you closure and peace.

And may the soul of Sr Gloria Jacinta Uchu Adoga, find perfect rest in the Lord whom she had faithfully served in her life time. Amen.

United in prayers,

Rev Fr Paul Ennin, SMA

President



Nigeria Conference Of Women Religious

NCWR National Secretariat

MOTTO: UNITY FOR LOVE AND SERVICE.

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P.O. Box 2832
Iva Valley
Enugu 400001
Enugu State, Nigeria

April 22, 2024

Sr. Oyin-Oza Asishana,
Provincial Superior,
School Sisters of Notre-Dame,
Accra,
Ghana.

Dear Sister Asishana,

CONDOLENCE MESSAGE

On behalf of the Nigeria Conference of Women Religious, we extend our deepest condolences to you and the entire members of the Congregation of the School Sisters of Notre-Dame (SSND) on the passing unto eternal life of **Sister Gloria Jacinta Ochu Adoga, SSND.**

The separation caused by death is often real. Pondering on the sweet memories of life and events with **Sister Gloria Jacinta Ochu Adoga, SSND**, it is obvious that you will find it difficult and miss her absence every minute, especially her immediate community members. We are hopeful that our **Sister Gloria Jacinta Ochu Adoga, SSND**, run the race and the Lord will show her mercy. So, we enjoined you to take solace that she has gone to rest with the Lord who has promised Life eternal to all who died in Him.

As we pray for the soul of our beloved **Sister Gloria Jacinta Ochu Adoga, SSND**, may God grant her eternal rest, console her religious and biological family over the vacuum her loss might have created. You are now and will remain in our thoughts and prayers. We love her but God loves her the most.

Rest on in the Lord dear Sister Gloria!

Sr. Regina Oke, SSMA
President, NCWR

Sr. Patricia Nwamaka Nwafor, OP
Executive Secretary, NCWR

TRIBUTE BY SSNDs IN GHANA AREA

Sister Gloria entered the solemn season of Jesus' passion, death, and resurrection when she entered the hospital on Monday of Holy Week, March 25th. She endured her passion during Holy Week and into Easter week with God calling her to Himself on Thursday of the Second Week of Easter. Truly, she lived the paschal mystery.

From our vantage point, the Ghana Area SSNDs observed a woman religious dedicated to her God and Blessed Mary through her vows as a School Sister of Notre Dame. Her welcoming spirit, friendliness, hospitality bright smiles and organizational skills will forever be missed. She did not miss an Area meeting without a good reason and took her responsibilities seriously.

As treasurer, she kept the accounts up to date and was available to tutor anyone having difficulties with the accounting procedures. She initiated and facilitated the opening of the SSND Retreat and Conference Centre. This included advertising, giving tours, registering, purchasing needed supplies for conferences, and supervising ongoing meetings to be sure that all was running smoothly. Her technological skills were a great gift to all.

It is known that Sister Gloria reached out to the local outstation, Epiphany Church. There she witnessed to her faith and reached out in evangelization through Baptism, First Communion and Confirmation classes. She served as a lector, Eucharistic minister, and a member of the Liturgy Committee.

It comes easily and is truthful to say that Sister was a committed woman religious who was loved by her God and she, in turn, loved her God. She lived her vows, dutifully fulfilled her ministry obligations, and reached out to the parishioners at Epiphany Church. We are fortunate to have had her in the Ghana Area and as an important member of the Provincial House community. We do not doubt that Sister Gloria is with her God and will be an intercessor for the Province of Africa.

TRIBUTE FROM SSNDs IN NIGERIA AREA

Dear Sister Glo as many of us will always call you, the news of your demise came to us as a shock. Many of us were in denial for days but now we know that it is real. We are all left heartbroken and devastated. It is hard to believe that you are no more. What a life! Glo, you were such a gift to us, your Sisters, and humanity. A woman of deep faith, you were very knowledgeable and filled with wisdom. Your warm welcoming presence drew a lot of people to you. Your affectionate smile was heartwarming. Always willing to listen and make yourself available. You were a strong woman, firm, and gentle in spirit. Love was what motivated you to be you.

You were very resourceful and would go the extra mile for your Sisters. You were a good community member to those who lived with you and a real Sister to all of us. Oh, death what have you done to us? We never bargained for this. We have lost a great woman who believed in giving everyone the opportunity to be the best that they can be. Glo there was never a dull moment when we were around you. You shared with us any opportunity that will enhance our lives. Who will fill this vacuum you have left in each of us, your Sisters? Whose leg will fit in the shoes you have left? Who will be that person you were for us now that you have gone? You were one of a kind. There can never be another Gloria even if we try. We will pick a leaf from your tree and continue to build your legacy.

Thank you for the life you shared with us. Thank you for influencing each of us positively. Thank you for all the sacrifices you made for the love of your Sisters. Thank you for allowing us to share life with you. Dear Sr. Glo, we love you and will greatly miss you. Goodbye until that resurrection morning when we meet to part no more. Farewell! Good night servant of God. Sleep and take your rest.



TRIBUTE FROM SSNDs IN THE GAMBIA

osing a sister in a religious congregation is one of the most heart-wrenching experiences any religious family can face. The pain and emotions can be overwhelming, but it is essential to remember that despite the sorrow, there is a unique opportunity to honour the memory of a sister we loved so deeply.

Sr. Gloria was a devoted Christian and a religious sister who was very close to the E/eucharist and cherished everything as a religious. She was very hospitable to all without discrimination.

She was the kind of person who would give without expecting anything in return. Her heart was a boundless ocean of love and kindness. Her compassion knew no boundary. She had a way of making people feel seen, heard, and valued. Her presence was like a warm embrace, a safe place where one could find solace and peace. She was not just a sister but a pillar of strength, a reservoir of love, and a fountain of wisdom. She had an uncanny ability to sense when someone was in distress, and she would go out of her way to lend a listening ear, a comforting shoulder, and words that healed like balm on a wounded soul. In her responsibility as a bursar in the Province, Sr. was a beacon of excellence. She took her duty with a zeal that inspired many around her. Her dedication and perseverance were a testament to her belief that with hard work and determination, one could achieve anything.

She was the keeper of secrets, the sharer of joys, and the shoulder to lean on in times of sorrow. She was a loving, understanding sister who had mutual respect and compassion for humanity. She could speak words, that could soothe the troubled mind and ignite the spark of hope in the heart of the despair.

Amidst the tears and the heartache, we find comfort in the knowledge that Sr. Gloria's spirit lives on. Her legacy is one of love, a love that transcends the boundaries of time and space. She was a rare bloom, a flower that spread fragrance wherever she went. As we bid her farewell, let us remember her not with tears, but with smiles. For in our hearts, she blooms eternally, a beacon of love, joy, and light, guiding us through the journey of life.



Sr. Gloria, you were a voice of love, a voice of kindness, a voice of friendship, and an ocean of smiles. You were a beacon of light in a world that sometimes seems too dark. You were a sister and friend. As we say goodbye, we do so with heavy hearts, but with the belief that your spirit lives on, in the love you shared, in the lives you touched, and in the memories that will forever bloom in the garden of our hearts.

As St. Paul says in his Second Letter to Timothy 4:7, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith". Sr. Gloria, you will ever be remembered for keeping the faith to the end. Goodbye Sr. Gloria, we hope to meet again. Rest in peace, dear Sister Gloria.

TRIBUTE FROM SSNDs IN KENYA AREA

Our dearest Sister Gloria, We the School Sisters of Notre Dame in Kenya Area, your friends, co-workers and the many people whose lives you touched through your ministry in Kenya mourn you, a great woman. Words alone cannot express the pain we feel, dear Sister Gloria. We received the news of your demise with utter shock and disbelief.

Your jovial smile and cheerfulness will greatly be missed. You have greatly touched the lives of many people through your welcoming spirit and generosity. You are very much remembered in Kenya, especially by those who encountered you in the diocese of Homa Bay and beyond. Death has indeed robbed us of a gentle soul, a leader and a community builder. We thank God for the gift you have been to our congregation, our area and all loved ones. "Asante Sana" for sharing your gifts with us, and for your dedication to the service of God's people with a joyous smile.

Our faith in Christ gives us hope that those who believe in Jesus Christ, share in his resurrection and eternal life. May you find peace in the one who has loved you from the beginning of all ages.

Eternal rest grant unto our dear Sister Gloria Oh Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her. May she rest in peace. AMEN.



TRIBUTE TO OUR DEAR SR. GLORIA ADOGA, SSND

In loving memory of our dear sister, friend and classmate, let us honour her remarkable life. Sr. Gloria was insightful, always offering wisdom beyond her years. Her contagious smile illuminated every heart, igniting connections and establishing networks effortlessly. With a purposeful spirit, she dedicated herself wholeheartedly, demonstrating unwavering commitment and boundless energy in all she pursued. Her love for God, the Church and our Congregation was the source of her unfailing charity. Such was for us a guiding light, inspiring us all in faith and community spirit. Sadly, today she is no more in this world.

Gloria, words cannot express how we feel as your sisters. Our hearts are broken by your sudden departure to eternity. We prayed for a miracle to happen so we could have you with us longer, but the ways of the Almighty God are unfathomable. While you were on earth, you were a sister to everyone. You maintained contact with us and would always make an effort to reach out to our families and share in their joys and sorrows. You were always available and ready to help anyone who needed your help. Your legacy of love and devotion will forever be cherished in our hearts, inspiring us the more in our continuous service to God and humanity.

Though it is not easy for us to say goodbye to you, we believe that you are now in perfect union with Jesus Christ whom you loved and served. Rest on the faithful servant of Christ! Pray for us to remain faithful to Christ on our journey until we join you and the host of angels, in eternal contemplation of the beatific vision. Thank you for the life you shared with us. May the good Lord grant you eternal rest. Amen.

Profession class of 2011: Sr. Judith Sambu, Sr. Mercelline Anyega, and Sr. Magdalene Akpan.

A TRIBUTE TO OUR LATE SISTER GLORIA ADOGA

From SSNDs, Sierra Leone Area

Our sister Gloria was like a dew sent to our congregation to energize and refresh everyone who came across her but as the daylight broadened, she vanished from our eyes, leaving us gazing upward, with all kinds of questions issuing from our mouths. A beautiful soul with a beautiful smile, quiet but full of humour. Sister was quite reflective and articulating, prayerful, loving, and caring, and had a great value for community life.

Sister Glo Glo as we fondly called her was a friend of all who knew her. She was very vibrant, energetic, strong, enterprising, and full of ideas on how to get things working. Sister loved SSND her whole life and was ever radically ready to do whatever the Master said. Thank you, dear sister, for being a sister to every one of us. The sweetness of your good nature will linger in our taste buds for all eternity. Rest peacefully in the arms of the Beloved. Thank you for sharing this short but fully packed, joyful and memorable life with us. Fare the well sister!
Untill we meet you on the resurrection day.

TRIBUTE TO OUR DEAREST BELOVED OLD STUDENT REV. SR GLORIA ADOGA, SSND.

You are the light that brightened the hearts of all. While you were here. You lighted up your school with your beautiful little smile even more as you slept out of school. We appreciate and are deeply grateful for your frequent calls to the school and meaningful contributions to the school.



We are very proud of you. We love you but God loves you more. Shine, shine our beloved sister to eternity. Goodbye Sister.

By Sr. Grace Adikwu (SON) Principal of St. Monica's Girls Sec. Sch. Otukpo, Benue State, Nigeria. (Sr. Gloria's Alma Mater.)



GRATITUDE TO GOD FOR OUR SR. GLORIA

From Srs. Carolyn, Dorothy, Ejura, Mary and Mara

The deep feelings all of us, from the Province of Africa in Rome, are experiencing, as we accept and mourn S. Gloria's unexpected death, truly speak to us of our great appreciation of and love for S. Gloria. Some of us knew her better and some less. However, each of us knew and has good memories of her and her joyful spirit. We feel her death with deep sadness and a sense of significant loss. Some of us have spoken with sisters of other congregations who have experienced Gloria's kindness, hospitality, generosity and wonderful, joyful spirit at our Provincial House or elsewhere. They have sent messages of condolences and solidarity to us in our loss and have promised prayer.

Sr. Gloria had a lot of energy and lived her commitment as an SSND with joy and a sense of service. She gave her all with enthusiasm and extended her love to others in many helpful ways. Her beginning with us as our liaison with the Province Assembly gave us a feeling of connectedness as she initiated sharing with us and so much desired to meet with us as soon as we could get a date. Her calls and emails made us feel a part of the province even though we are far away. We so regret losing her and her gracious, positive spirit inviting "to make one."

May her spirit live on now and her new work begins as she prays for our congregation and, most carefully, for the Province of Africa. May her spirit and total self-gift inspire us also to be faithful to our calling to "make ONE" among ourselves and in our world as we live into our being prophetic witnesses of universal communion.

**AFRICAN SISTERS EDUCATION COLLABORATIVE
(ASEC)/SISTERS LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT
INITIATIVE (SLDI)**

African Sisters Education Collaborative
Institute For Formators
Du, Jos, Plateau State, Nigeria,
West Africa.



Our Ref _____ Your Ref _____ Date 20/04/2024

The School Sisters of Notre Dame
Province of Africa,
Ghana.

Dear Sr. Oyin-Oza Asishana, SSND,

**HEARTFELT CONDOLENCES ON THE TRANSITION OF
REV. SR. GLORIA ADOGA, SSND**

With heavy hearts and profound sorrow, we extend our deepest condolences to you and the entire School Sisters of Notre Dame community on the passing of our beloved Sister Gloria Adoga, SSND.

Sister Gloria was a radiant presence among us, embodying the virtues of cheerfulness, hard work, and unflinching friendliness. Her love for nature reflected the beauty and grace she brought into our lives each day. As an HESA Alumni from Veritas University, Class of 2020, her dedication to her education and service shone brightly, inspiring us all.

Though Sister Gloria's physical presence may no longer grace our earthly realm, her spirit remains eternally cherished in our hearts. May the memories of her warmth and kindness provide solace during this difficult time.

We join you in prayer, asking our merciful God to grant Sister Gloria eternal rest and peace. May His comforting embrace surround her biological and religious families, friends, and all who were touched by her life.

In this time of mourning, may we find strength in each other's support and love, knowing that Sister Gloria's legacy of love and service will continue to inspire us all.

On behalf of all of us at African Sisters Education Collaborative.

With heartfelt condolences,

Sr. Veronica Fatoyinbo, SNDdeN

Country Director, ASEC Nigeria

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PERSONAL TRIBUTE FROM SR. MARY KERBER

The first words that come to me when I ponder the short, but fruitful life of Sr. Gloria Adoga, are *“Do not say, 'I am too young. ' You must go to everyone I send you to and say whatever I command you. (see Jer. 6:1-8?)* S. Gloria entered our congregation at a young age. But this never daunted her from accepting in faith and trust, and perhaps a little risk, what she felt God was calling her to. After her profession, our then District, now Province, called her to leave her home country of Nigeria to go to Nyalieng'a in Kenya and minister in our rather new ministry dedicated to reaching out to orphans. Sr. Gloria willingly accepted. She was not specifically trained for that ministry, but she went with an open heart and a spirit willing to learn along the way. And indeed, she did do that. She assisted in the ever-challenging task of seeking support for the financial needs of such a project. She loved the children, and I believe that love impelled her to do all she could for them and their future. Perhaps she wasn't completely ready for that ministry, but God was most certainly ready for her.

Later, still at a very young age, she was asked to become the Province Treasurer – a very heavy and serious responsibility. Once again, she took it up with courage and faith, ready to learn and to lean on God's grace and the support of her community. She has offered our Province a tremendous service. Her dealings with us were both professional as well as loving and kind.

We miss her deeply – as our sister, our friend, our servant. At the same time, she leaves us with a powerful legacy. No matter how young or how inadequate we may feel when being asked to consider an invitation that seems so far beyond us, like Gloria, we are called to trust, to risk and to dare all for the sake of God's reign.



AFRICA- US SISTERS' TRIBUTE TO SR GLORIA ADOGA

Sr. Gloria exuded joy for her ministry. Reminiscing about her first encounter with Gloria, one Sister said, "Gloria, your sudden passing from this earthly life has left us in shock". When you first arrived in our community in Mkar, Nigeria, you quietly observed and discerned if our SSND community was the right place for you; once you became convinced, nothing changed that decision."

Gloria's dedication to her calling was evident in her faithfulness to her religious life. Some attributes of Sr Gloria are dedicated service, attentiveness to the needs of others, compassion, and generosity in many ways. Her talents, commitment, and efficiency in ministry will be missed. She is remembered fondly as a woman of deep faith. She is described in these words, "Commitment and dedication were her watchwords." She loved the congregation and the sisters and would not fail to connect with each person. The love for the sisters always made her available to help and to see that things work wherever she was. She attended to tasks promptly. As one of the 'At Large Delegates,' she communicated to us promptly. Gloria was insightful and full of vigour. We will forever miss her. May Jesus Christ, whom she served so well, grant Sr. Gloria eternal rest. Amen.

From Sisters Grace Okon, Rosanne Rustemeyer, Eti-ini-Udom, Millicent Achieng, Magdalene Akpan, Petronilla Lumati.



TRIBUTE FROM THE MISSIONARY SISTERS OF THE HOLY ROSARY

We have just received the shocking news of the death of Sr Gloria Adoga. As you recall, we stayed at your Centre in Accra for our extended leadership meeting in 2022. She was very kind and hospitable to us. By our human standards, she is too young for Home. I know you did your best for her. God knows best. We pray for her family and for you all at this sad time. May she rest in eternal peace with the God she served so well. Our deep condolences to you to your sisters. Holy Mass will be offered for her eternal repose.



Franca Onyibor, Congregational Leader, Missionary Sisters of the Holy Rosary

23, Cross Avenue, Blackrock, Co Dublin, Ireland.







TRIBUTE BY EPIPHANY CATHOLIC CHURCH, MAYERA-DUNYO TO THE LATE REV. SR. GLORIA ADOGA

The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away; blessed be the Lord's name. (Job 1: 21)

*When I hear that death is a Price
Each human has to Pay,
Who put it on Sale?*

This I asked our Sister.

*When one thinks of Death
Happiness becomes so Dim
What's the need for Struggles.
When all ends in a Subtle.*

EpiphanY Catholic Church on 11th April 2024, lost a true and genuine Rev. Sister Gloria Adoga who was a member of the School Sisters of Notre Dame. That fateful day was a black Thursday for the SSND, the Adoga family, and the people of Epiphany Catholic Church. Children, women, men, young and old, Catholics and non-Catholics, wept bitterly upon hearing the sad news that we have lost a gentle soul.

Sr. Gloria, you were a living Saint who walked the earth's surface. You were recognized and loved by everyone because your presence was felt, and your footprint was left behind wherever you went. Your bright smile and warm approach make you friendly to anyone who comes your way. You were so charitable with your time, talents, and resources to everyone, and you were always ready to help anyone who needed it. You, like our dear Mother Mary, nurtured your pain in silence and reflected on it so that you could share in the pain of others. Whenever the Epiphany Church think of Catholic Liturgy your name readily comes to mind, you ensure that things are done rightly in the Church regarding the Liturgy. When you joined the church in December 2019 you offered yourself as a dedicated Lector, you have interest in the church music especially the Catholic hymns, and you served as a member of Liturgical Committee and



in recent time you made time out of your busy schedule to teach the catechumens.

You had a special love and care for your pupils, as any loving mother would; you knew each one by name and called them by their parents' names as well. You knew each pupil's weaknesses and strengths, and you never gave up on the weak, but instead helped them grow.

Sr. Gloria, you promised us that the passion plays which could not come on this year will be staged next year, why do you leave us so soon? the scripts are still with us the characters, who will direct us? Hmmm!

You gave everything you had to help the Church. Thank you for the life you lived and for the lives you inspired. You live on in the hearts of all the Church Community, in the hearts of the pupils you adored. Everyone is somebody to Sr. Gloria.

We absolutely love you, but God cherishes you even more. Rest in Perfect Peace until we meet again. Damirifa Due! Gen Velaa! Dzudzor le Nutifafa Me



Hymns

Processional Hymn: CH. 308

1. O Christ, the glory of the angel choirs! Author and ruler of the human race! Grant us one day to climb the happy hills, And see your blissful face.

2. And oh, you Raphael, physician blest, Send down to us from your celestial height, To heal our soul's diseases and direct, Our life-long course aright.

3. You too, O Mary, Mother of our God! And happy Queen of Angels, hither speed, Drawing with you the army of the Saints, To help us in our need.

4. This grace on us bestow, O Father blest, And you O Son by an eternal birth; With you, from both proceeding, Holy Ghost! Whose glory fills the earth.

Responsorial Psalm: CH 34

Psalm 131, Antiphon-My soul is longing for your peace, Near to you, my God

1. Lord, you know that my heart is not proud, And my eyes are not lifted from the earth.

2. Lofty thoughts have never filled my mind, Far beyond my sight all ambitious deeds.

3. In your peace I have maintained my soul, I have kept my heart in your quiet peace.

4. As a child rests on his mother's knee, So I place my soul in your loving care.

5. Israel, put all your hope in God, Place your trust in him, now and evermore.

CH 62

1. Wondrous gifts the Word who fashioned, All things by His might divine Bread into his Body changes, Into His own Blood the vine. What though sense no change discovers, Faith, admires, adores, believes.

2. He who once to die a victim, On the cross did not refuse. Day by day upon the altar, That same sacrifice renews. Through His holy priesthood power, Faithful to His last command.

3. While the people all uniting, In the sacrifice sublime, Offer Christ to His high Father, Offer up themselves with Him; Then together close united, On the living victim feast.



CH 235

1. Jesus, my Lord, my God, my all,
How can I love you as I ought?
And how revere this wondrous
gift, So far surpassing hope or
thought? Sweet Sacrament, we
you adore; Oh make us love you
more and more.

2. Had I but Mary's sinless heart,
To love you with, my dearest King,
Oh, with what burst of fervent
praise, Your goodness, Jesus;
would I sing! Sweet Sacrament,
etc.

3. Ah, see! within a creature's
hand, The vast Creator deigns to
be, Reposing, Infant-like, as
though, On Joseph's arm, or
Mary's knee. Sweet Sacrament,
etc.

4. Your body, soul, and Godhead,
all; O mystery of love divine! I
cannot compass all I have, For all
you are and have are mine; Sweet
Sacrament, etc.

5. Sound, sound his praises higher
still.. And come, you angels to our
aid; 't is God, 't is God, the very
God, Whose power both man and
angels made. Sweet Sacrament,
etc.

CH 245

1. How sweet the name of Jesus
sounds In a believer's ear! It
soothes his sorrows, heals his
wounds. And drives away his
fear.

2. It makes the wounded spirit
whole, And calms the troubled
breast; It's manna to the hungry
soul, And to the weary, rest.

3. Dear name! the rock on which
I build, My shield and hiding-
place, My never-failing treasury
filled, With boundless stores of
grace.

4. Jesus! my shepherd, brother,
friend, My prophet, priest, and
King, My Lord, my life, my way,
my end Accept the praise I
bring.

5. Weak is the effort of my
heart, And cold my warmest
thought; But when I see you as
you are,
I'll praise you as I ought.

6. Till then, I would your love
proclaim, With every fleeting
breath; And may the music of
your name, Refresh my soul in
death.



APPRECIATION

The School Sisters of Notre Dame, wish to express their profound gratitude and appreciation for your love, prayers and support to them during their time of sorrow.

Thank you for joining them to celebrate the entrance to eternity of their dear
Rev. Sr. Gloria Jacinta Ochu Adoga, SSND.

May God Richly Bless you all.

