



THE SEAL OF THE BISHOP

CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST

“Servant of God Well Done”



The Right Reverend Frank Otha White

April 1, 1940

January 20, 2017

The National Homegoing Celebration
for

The Right Reverend Frank Otha White

Prelate, New York Eastern Third Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction
General Board Member, Emeritus
Church Of God In Christ, Inc.

Tuesday, the Thirty-first day of January

Eleven O'Clock in the Morning

Two Thousand Seventeen

Anno Domini

The Upper Room Christian World Center

722 Deer Park Road

Dix Hills, New York 11746

The Right Reverend Anthony D'Onofrio, Bishop

Officiants

The Most Reverend Charles Edward Blake, Sr.
Presiding Bishop and Chief Apostle

The Right Reverend Philip Aquilla Brooks
First Assistant Presiding Bishop

The Right Reverend Jerry Wayne Macklin
Second Assistant Presiding Bishop

with

The Right Reverend Sedgwick Daniels
The Right Reverend Lawrence Marcellus Wooten
The Right Reverend George Dallas McKinney
The Right Reverend Nathaniel Wyoming Wells, Jr.
The Right Reverend John Drew Sheard
The Right Reverend Brandon Burdett Porter
The Right Reverend Ted Thomas, Sr.
The Right Reverend Darrell Lynn Hines
The Right Reverend Matthew Williams

Obituary

Bishop Frank Otha White

Doctor of Sacred Theology, Doctor of Divinity

CLERGYMAN | THEOLOGIAN | EDUCATOR |
STATESMAN | PHILANTHROPIST

It is recorded in I Samuel that Hannah went up to the house of Shiloh. It was there she said, "For this child I prayed; and the Lord hath given me my petition which I asked of him: Therefore also I have lent him to the Lord; as long as he liveth he shall be lent to the Lord." After enduring the deaths of five sons at birth, on April 1, 1940, Margaret White laid her sixth son upon her heart and there she prayed. She uttered her promise to God. If He would sustain the life of her son, she would give him back to Him for His service. Jake and Margaret White named their one and only surviving son Frank Edmond.

Though unaware of the commanding impact he would leave upon the world, Jake and Margaret White raised Frank in the fear and admonition of God, protected by the affluent farmland of Goose Creek, South Carolina. However, amidst the rising tensions of the Jim Crow South, that protective shelter was eventually threatened, inciting Jake White to move his wife, daughter Ruth and small Frank to New York.

The family settled upon Freeport, New York during the emergence of black-owned businesses and established Margaret's beauty shop and Jakes' landscaping business. They made the Church of God in Christ Little Zion, 19 Helen Avenue, their church home and the place to reinforce their faith first professed back in South Carolina.

"I did not have the ability to choose my own wife - God did it for me."

Frank White and Juliet Lillian Brown wed on June 4, 1960, in New York City at the home of Bishop O. M. Kelly. The announcement of their marriage was met with the headline, "Bishop O. M. Kelly's spiritual son embarks upon day one of a glorious journey with his lovely and talented bride." The young royal couple complimented each other stunningly, matched by their widespread success in soul-winning across the Tri-State area singing "To the Utmost, Jesus Saves." It was a beautiful

union. The following year, 1961, the couple was blessed by the birth of their first and only son, Frank Anthone.

"Lord, You made me what I am."

offering in the community to build better Faithful and energetic Frank White completely devoted himself to the vision and leadership of the late Bishop O. M. Kelly, State Bishop of New York and Pastor of the Church of God in Christ Little Zion. Observing how sharply and vividly he was maturing into an intuitive and capable leader, Bishop Kelly appointed Elder White Assistant Pastor of Little Zion. By this time, Frank and Juliet's family had grown, welcoming the births of Sherri Julienne, Otha Miema (named in Bishop Kelly's honor) and Chakira Onese.

Never ceasing to give his all to the task of bringing Bishop Kelly's vision into reality, Assistant Pastor Frank White mobilized the saints, led the work and delivered the results! Bishop Kelly's "son" had skillfully executed the construction of the new Church of God in Christ Little Zion at 312 Grand Avenue, Freeport, NY. On opening day, November 26, 1972, Bishop Kelly passed the mantle and charged his spiritual son to lead God's people "Onward to Victory!"

"I'm your Pastor, you just don't know it yet!"

Under Pastor White's leadership, innovative programs were instituted which included an outreach ministry for the relief of the homeless, drug-addicted and economically disadvantaged; a hospital ministry for the care of the ailing; in-touch initiatives for the elderly and shut-in; a counseling department to service individuals and families in social and emotional crisis; the establishment of the O. M. Kelly Religious Training Institute to empower those seeking systematic theological training and the satisfaction of the church's mortgage.

Though his ministry was flourishing, few things pulled at the heart of Pastor White more tenderly than his love for his family. As a Production Engineer and Unit Manager for Texas Instruments by day, professional landscaper on weekends, evangelist on the field by night and champion golfer in-between, every day was filled with adventure. His profound fatherly love was expressed in his pronouncement of destiny over each of

his children's lives. Within the sanctity of his home, Juliet was the apple of his eye. Anthone was his pride and joy-groomed to carry his mantle. Sherri was his jewel of jurisprudence. Otha was his shining, gifted, gracious and anointed artist. Chakira was his precious and brilliant business-minded "heart-string" and practically from the day she was born, Yashima was his perfectly ingenious, no-nonsense executive.

Pastor White and Juliet's emphasis on education was enthusiastically embraced by their children—each of them achieving and, in fact, excelling in their respective career paths. Their high-level records of accomplishment were inspired by his matriculation at Hofstra University majoring in Business Management and subsequently, his graduation from the United Christian College earning a Doctor of Sacred Theology and Doctor of Divinity.

"A great God deserves great praise!"

The homegoing of the late Bishop F. D. Washington in 1988 enlisted the historic gathering to select a successor as Prelate of New York Eastern Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction. At the famed Washington Temple, the announcement was delivered, bold and clear, resounding from every corner of the five boroughs: Dr. Frank White, Superintendent of the South Central District, shall lead the newly established Third Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction, Eastern New York as its Prelate—and it was so.

At the 81st International Holy Convocation, Dr. Frank White was consecrated Prelate at Cook Convention Center in Memphis Tennessee under the Episcopal Name "Bishop Frank Otha White" as a tributary memorialization to the legacy of Bishop White's spiritual father and mentor, Bishop Otha Miema Kelly. Bishop White's ecclesiastical lineage shall forever be enraptured with apostolic affection for the distinction of being the very last bishop upon whom the late Chief Apostle and Presiding Bishop James Oglethorpe Patterson, Sr. administered the laying on of hands.

Bishop White became the recipient of countless proclamations, citations and civic awards, among which are: the prestigious Dr. Martin Luther King Award from the Freeport Human Relations Committee; the Church of God in Christ's highest tribute—the Bishop Charles Harrison Mason Award

from the Religious Workers Guild and the Frederick Douglass Award from the Long Island Council of African Americans. Bishop White also held the distinction of Lifetime Member of the NAACP. From the seat of civic government, Bishop White was named Honorary Deputy Mayor of the Incorporated Village of Freeport and in 1993 became Founding President of the Long Island Conference of Clergy.

“I’m not building for my generation, I’m building for future generations.”

Bishop White’s established the Cedarmore Corporation which elevated the Church’s mission of providing targeted programs for the advancement of youth achievement and development including: the Big Brothers Basketball Association, the Ready, Set, Know Program, Young Entrepreneurs Program, Freeport Community Farmer’s Market and the After School Enrichment Program.

On September 8, 2001, Bishop White welcomed well-wishers from across the region to witness the ceremonial groundbreaking for the new Church edifice. The Capital Campaign project was spearheaded by Mother Lena Smith and his oldest daughter, Sherri. On Labor Day weekend, September 4, 2004, Bishop White led the march from Zion’s temporary location to the newly erected, regal and magnificently towering \$4.5M edifice, appropriately named Zion Cathedral. A season of glorious celebrations followed the Grand Opening, commencing with the renaming of Lakeview Avenue to “Bishop Frank O. White Avenue.” The festivities culminated with the Service of Dedication on Saturday, March 12, 2005, officiated by the Church of God in Christ Chief Apostle and Presiding Bishop G. E. Patterson.

“I stand with my leader.”

Over the career of his prelacy, Bishop White served at the side of Bishop J. O. Patterson, Sr., Bishop L. H. Ford, Bishop Chandler D. Owens, Bishop G. E. Patterson and Bishop Charles Edward Blake, Sr. His distinguished record of service includes: Executive Committee, General Assembly; Saints Academy Review Board; National Holy Convocation Site Relocation Committee; Fiscal Officer for Pontotoc Place LLC; Chairman, Eastern New York Council

of Bishops; Program Committee, International Holy Convocation, as well as providing ecclesiastical oversight over numerous jurisdictions at the order of the Presiding Bishop. As the Financial Secretary, Bishop White began the first investment portfolio for the Church of God in Christ starting with \$700K and grew its investment portfolio with Dean Witter to over \$3.5M.

One of the most significant acknowledgments of Bishop White’s devotion to the National Church was his appointment by Bishop L. H. Ford to the office of Interim Financial Secretary in 1991. Bishop White was subsequently elected by the General Assembly to serve in this office, followed by being overwhelmingly re-election for a total of four full terms. In this eminent executive capacity, Bishop White completely revolutionized its day to day operations with the creation and implementation of the Financial Forms (F1, F2 and F3) which are yet in practice today. After serving 17 years as Financial Secretary, Bishop White was elected to serve on the General Board. Under the leadership of Presiding Bishop Charles E. Blake, Bishop White’s highest appointment was fulfilled in his service as Assistant Secretary of the General Board.

On the occasion of his General Board Emeritization at the 109th International Holy Convocation, Bishop Charles E. Blake and the General Board officially announced the naming of the Financial Administrative Offices at Mason Temple Church of God in Christ, 930 Mason St, Memphis, Tennessee - THE BISHOP FRANK OTHA WHITE EXECUTIVE FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION ANNEX.

“Death doesn’t have the last word!”

Bishop’s amazing personality, charming smile and warm fatherly touch shall never fade into oblivion, but will forever be felt flowing through the life of his loving and devoted wife of 56 wonderful years, Juliet; his five accomplished children: Frank Anthone, Sherri Julienne (James), Otha Miema, Chakira Onese (Brian) and Yashima Devendra (Emmanuel); his pride and joy--his five

grandchildren: Jykolyn (Jasmine), James III, Margaret, Trinitee and Malachi; one sister, Genevieve Ruth McKelvey; two sister-in-laws, Vivian Berkley and Vernetta Brantley; brother-in-law Marius Region; three nieces: Miriam, Jacquetta and Beverly; five nephews: Joe Luther, David, Calvin, Arnold and Anise Diab; god-son Michael Jamison; a dear and precious cousin, Mrs. Willie Mae Rivers; The Executive Board and the entire Third Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction and his lifelong heartbeat--his beloved Zion Cathedral Family.

Thanks be unto God for granting Mother Margaret White her miracle—a son whom she gave back to the Lord. He enriched all our lives through his powerful, rightly divided delivery of God’s Word, each sermon entitled with conviction: A Trip to Job’s House, The Ultimate Concern of Our Prayers, Strengthening the Things Which Remain, Treasures of Darkness, Come Out From Among Them, Let the Church be the Church, Is There A Prophet in Town?, Regardless of Life’s Circumstances—Go On! We Are More Than Conquerors, The Danger of an Unanointed Shield, It’s In the Blood and his magnum opus, the anointed masterpiece, The Unchangeable Isness of God.

At last, thanks be unto God for giving to us, for 76 extraordinary years, the gift of a hero, a champion, a warrior, a builder, a visionary, a scholar, a theologian, a Gospel preacher, a Christian apologist, a cosmopolitan leader, a defender of the faith, a father to hundreds, an inspiration to thousands, a friend to just about everybody-everywhere, the genuine, magnetic, engaging, caring, compassionate, humorous, approachable and priceless charismatic People’s Prelate—Bishop Frank Otha White—absolutely, unquestionably one of a kind—indeed, one of the greatest men who ever lived.

Tell the righteous it shall be well with thee!

Order of Homegoing Celebration

Tuesday, January 31, 2017 ~ 11:00 A.M.

+Where indicated, please stand.

ORGAN PRELUDE

+THE PROCESSIONAL

The Assistant Adjutant General
The Presiding Bishop
The First Assistant Presiding Bishop
The Second Assistant Presiding Bishop
The General Board
The General Secretary
The Chairman of the General Assembly
The Chairman of the Board of Bishops
The Board of Bishops
The Visiting Bishops
The Jurisdictional Pastors and Elders
The Visiting Clergy
The White Family

THE SEALING OF THE BIER

THE OPENING SENTENCES The Right Reverend
General Board Member

+THE HYMN OF COMFORT The Choir and Congregation
"We'll Understand Better By and By" (pages 6-7)

INVOCATION The Right Reverend
General Board Member

+THE OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE The Right Reverend
Isaiah 40:28-31 (page 8) *General Board Member*

THE CHORAL RESPONSE The Choir
"The Hallelujah Chant"

+THE NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE The Right Reverend
I Corinthians 15:51-58 (page 9) *General Board Member*

+THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH The Right Reverend
(page 10) *General Board Member*

THE SELECTION The Choir

THE NATIONAL TRIBUTES

The Department of Women Mother Willie Mae Rivers
General Supervisor, Department of Women

The General Council of Pastors and Elders The Reverend Michael Eaddy
Chairman, General Council of Pastors and Elders

The Board of Bishops The Right Reverend John Henry Sheard
Chairman, Board of Bishops

The General Assembly The Right Reverend Lemuel Floyd Thuston
Chairman, General Assembly

THE SELECTION The Choir
Featuring The Right Reverend Marvin Louis Sapp

THE NATIONAL RESOLUTIONS

The General Church The Right Reverend Joel Harley Lyles, Jr.
General Secretary

The General Board The Right Reverend Sedgwick Daniels
Secretary, General Board

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE EULOGIST The Right Reverend Philip Aquilla Brooks
First Assistant Presiding Bishop

SERMONIC SELECTION The Choir
Featuring Ms. Audrey DuBois Harris

THE EULOGY **HIS EMINENCE, THE MOST REVEREND
CHARLES EDWARD BLAKE, SR.**
Presiding Bishop and Chief Apostle, Church Of God In Christ, Inc.

+THE RECESSIONAL

We'll Understand It Better By and By

I will pray with the understanding . . . also, I will sing with the understanding . . .

I Corinthians 14:15

C. A. Tindley

C. A. Tindley



1 We are of - ten tossed and driv'n on the rest - less sea of time, Som-ber
2 We are of - ten des - ti - tute of the things that life de-mands, Want of
3 Tri - als dark on ev - 'ry hand, and we can - not un-der-stand, All the
4 Temp - ta - tions, hid - den snares of - ten take us un - a - wares, And our



1 skies and howl - ing tem - pests oft suc - ceed a bright sun - shine, In that
2 food and want of shel - ter - thirst - y hills and bar - ren lands, We are
3 ways that God would lead us to that bless - ed Prom - ised Land; But He
4 hearts are made to bleed for many a thought - less word or deed, And we



1 land of per - fect day, when the mists have rolled a - way, We will
2 trust - ing in the Lord, and ac - cord - ing to His word, We will
3 guides us with His eye and we'll fol - low till we die. For we'll
4 won - der why the test when we try to do our best. But we'll



Refrain: how we've o - ver - come; For we'll

un - der - stand it bet - ter by and by. By and by
by and by.

un - der - stand it bet - ter by and by.

when the morning comes, When the saints of God are gathered home, We'll tell the sto - ry



Isaiah 40:28-31

**Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God,
the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not,
neither is weary? there is no searching of his understanding.**

**He giveth power to the faint;
and to them that have no might he increaseth strength.**

**Even the youths shall faint and be weary,
and the young men shall utterly fall:**

**But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength;
they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run,
and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.**

I Corinthians 15:51-58

**Behold, I shew you a mystery;
We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,**

**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.**

**For this corruptible must put on incorruption,
and this mortal must put on immortality.**

**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.**

O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?

The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law.

**But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory
through our Lord Jesus Christ.**

**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.**

The Affirmation Of Faith

(+Where Indicated, Please Stand)

+The Leader: *We affirm our faith in the Bible.*

+The Congregation: We believe the Bible to be the inspired and only infallible written word of God.

+The Leader: *We affirm our faith in God.*

+The Congregation: We believe that there is one God eternally existent in three persons, God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

+The Leader: *We affirm our faith in the Blessed Hope.*

+The Congregation: We believe in the blessed Hope, which is the rapture of the Church of God, which is in Christ, at His return.

+The Leader: *We affirm our faith in Repentance and Salvation.*

+The Congregation: We believe that the only means of being cleansed from sin is through repentance and faith in the precious blood of Jesus Christ. We believe that regeneration by the Holy Ghost is absolutely essential for personal salvation.

+The Leader: *We affirm our faith in Jesus Christ.*

+The Congregation: We believe that the redemptive work of Christ on the cross provides healing for the human body in answer to believing prayer.

+The Leader: *We affirm our faith in the Holy Ghost.*

+The Congregation: We believe that the baptism in the Holy Ghost, according to Acts 2:4, is given to believers who ask for it.

+The Leader: *We affirm our faith in Sanctification.*

+The Congregation: We believe in the sanctifying power of the Holy Spirit, by whose indwelling, the Christian is enabled to live a holy and separated life in this present world.
Amen.

Honorary Pallbearers

*The General Board
The Board of Bishops
Church Of God In Christ, Inc.*

*Active Pallbearers
The National Adjutant Overseers*

*Floral Bearers
The National Adjutant Sisters*

Acknowledgement

The Family of the late Right Reverend Frank Otha White wishes to acknowledge with deep appreciation, the many comforting messages, floral tributes, prayers, and other expressions of kindness and concerns evidenced in thought and deed.

Entombment

*Pinelawn Memorial Park
2030 Wellwood Avenue
East Farmingdale, NY 11735
(613) 249-6100*

Ministry of Comfort Entrusted to:

*The Carl C. Burnett Funeral Home
456 S. Franklin Street
Hempstead, NY 11550
Office: (516) 489-4492
Fax: (516) 489-0212*

The General Board

THE MOST REVEREND CHARLES EDWARD BLAKE, SR., *Presiding Bishop and Chief Apostle*

The Right Reverend Phillip Aquilla Brooks, *First Assistant Presiding Bishop*

The Right Reverend Jerry Wayne Macklin, *Second Assistant Presiding Bishop*

The Right Reverend Sedgwick Daniels, *Secretary*

The Right Reverend Lawrence Marcellus Wooten, *Assistant Secretary*

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The Right Reverend John Drew Sheard

The Right Reverend Brandon Burdett Porter

The Right Reverend Ted Thomas, Sr.

The Right Reverend Darrell Lynn Hines

The Right Reverend Matthew Williams

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The Right Reverend Wilbur Wyatt Hamilton

The General Secretary

The Right Reverend Joel Harley Lyles, Jr.

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The Right Reverend Clarence Lewis, III, *Assistant Adjutant General*

The Right Reverend Robert Louis Perry, Jr., *Assistant Adjutant General*

The Reverend Lawrence Champion Blake, *Adjutant Apostolic*

