A Loving Farewell

In Tribute To

Elder Dr. William T. Gladys

He Lead...He Loved...He Served

SATURDAY, JUNE 14, 2014
1:00 P.M.

Saint Bartley Primitive Baptist Church
3020 Belafonte Avenue
Huntsville, Alabama 35816
Dr. Bernard C. Yates, Officiating

Elder Kenneth A. Duke, Pulpit Coordinator
Pastor, New Jerusalem P. B. Church, Miami, FL
Vice-President, National P.B. Convention USA, Inc.

ELDER (DR.) WILLIAM THOMAS GLADYS

I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord beseech you to walk worthy of the calling which with you were called, with all lowliness, and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love, endeavoring to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace.

Ephesians 4:1-3

Pastor,

Preacher,

Teacher,

Leader,

Bible Expositor,

Writer,

Author,

Great Man of Faith

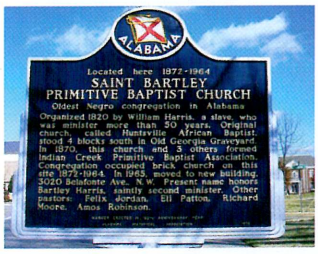
TWINS: Paralee (mother on the left), Mary Lanier (aunt on the right)

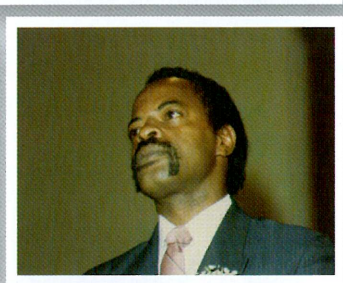
William Thomas Gladys *(affectionately called "Ba Bruh")* was born in Madison County, Alabama to the late Thomas and Paralee Gladys on March 5, 1949. He received his early education in Chattanooga, Tennessee, the Huntsville City and Madison County School Systems, and Alabama Agricultural and Mechanical University, Normal, AL. He received a B.S., MBA, and the Doctor of Theology degrees. He had done extensive work toward a Doctorate of Management and was currently enrolled in Andersonville Baptist Seminary.

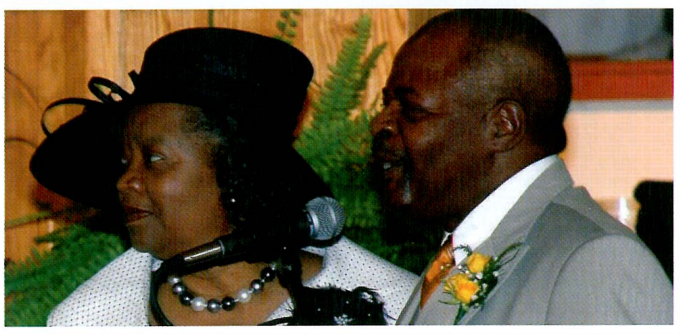
He accepted his calling into the ministry in December 1979 and preached his first sermon in 1980. He was licensed into the ministry in 1980 and ordained in 1981 by the Indian Creek Primitive Baptist Association.

In April 1987, he was called to serve as the eighth pastor of the oldest Primitive Baptist Church in the state of Alabama: the Saint Bartley Primitive Baptist Church founded in 1820 and currently located at 3020 Belafonte Avenue, Huntsville, Alabama 35816. He nurtured, fostered and led the people of God for over 26 years.

Pastor Gladys has served in many capacities in the Indian Creek Primitive Baptist Association. He has served as Vice-President of the Tri-State Primitive Baptist Convention (Alabama, Tennessee, and Mississippi) and was the current President. He served as President, Alabama State Primitive Baptist Convention; and a member of the F.L. Livingston Bible Institute of the National Primitive Baptist Convention USA, Inc. and was currently on the Board of Directors for the National Primitive Baptist Convention USA, Inc. He completed special religious studies in: The Historical Perspectives of the Primitive Baptist Faith; The Holy Spirit and The Church; What You Should Know about Prayer; The Gift of Tongues; The Blessed Beatitudes; Tithes and Offerings; and, The Peace of God.







His secular experiences include: serving in the United States Army (May 1969-January 1972), where he served as the Communications Chief; Contract Specialist, United States Army Missile Command; Contract Coordinator, Thiokol Chemical Corporation, Redstone Arsenal; and Computer Programmer, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

He was preceded in death by sister-in-law, Pinkie Mae Smith Gladys and brother-in-law, Reverend Melvon Ingram, Sr. On Tuesday, June 3, 2014, Elder Dr. William T. Gladys was called from labor to reward at Huntsville Hospital.

He leaves to cherish his memories: wife, Mother Bobbie J. Gladys of Harvest, Alabama; two sons, Elder Nicholas H. (Antionette) Gladys of Huntsville, Alabama and Christopher L. Gladys of Atlanta, Georgia; step-granddaughter, Reagan Pickett of Huntsville, Alabama; brother, Edward Gladys of Triana, Alabama; four sisters, Geraldine Turner of Madison, Alabama, Mary Jean (Marvin) Williams of Huntsville, Alabama, Patricia Shackleford – (Herbert) Gray of Chattanooga, Tennessee, and Annie Ruth (James) Pendleton of Huntsville, Alabama; mother-in-law, Mary Toney of Chattanooga, Tennessee; brother-in-law, Calvin Toney of Chattanooga, Tennessee; three sisters-in-law, Elaine Ingram of Harvest, Alabama, Mary Louise Toney and Carolyn Denson both of Chattanooga, Tennessee; and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives, the St. Bartley Primitive Baptist Church family and friends.

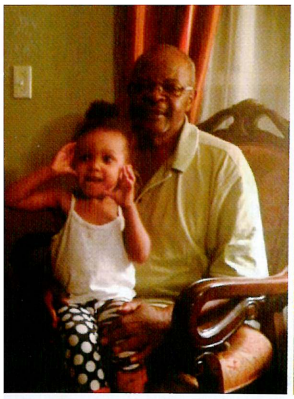
At Saint Bartley, Pastor Gladys would say, "There is a place for everyone." This is evident by the growth and unity of all. He organized effective ministries, committees, and outreach programs aimed at ministering to the total needs of the members and the community. Rev. Gladys' greatest legacy is his desire for St. Bartley to always be the leader in seeking and saving lost souls and providing for the needs of others.

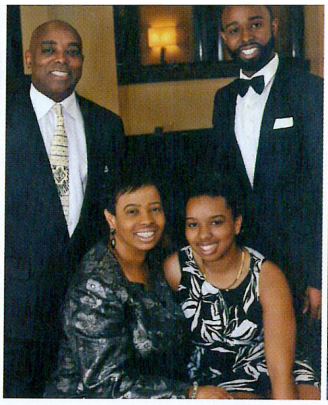
Order of Service

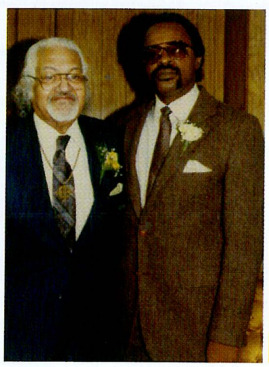
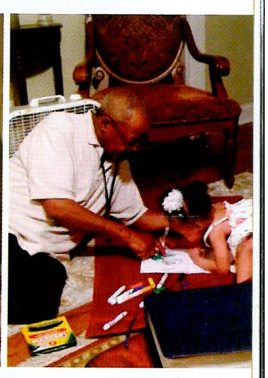
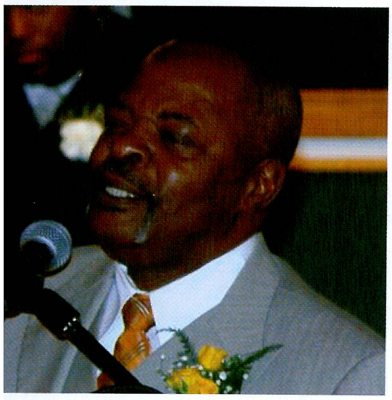
Prelude	
Processional	
Opening Prayer	Reverend Endia J. Scruggs *Pastor, Madkins Chapel C.P.C.A., Huntsville, AL*
Old Testament Scripture	Elder Terry Grayson *Associate Minister, St. Bartley P.B. Church*
New Testament Scripture	Reverend C. Jermaine Turner *Pastor, Pine Grove M. B. Church*
Selection	St. Bartley Combined Choir
Acknowledgements	Sister Emma Moore
Tribute	Sister DiAnn Wilkins & Deacon Rodney Milton
Selection	St. Bartley Combined Choir
Reflections	Dr. Oscar L. Montgomery, Sr., *Southern Region National P.B. Convention Vice-President* Elder Ronnie Russell, *Vice-President Tri-State P.B. Convention* Elder Benjamin Adams, *Board of Evangelism National P.B. Convention USA, Inc.*
Solo	Brother Kelvin Jones, Jr.
Reflections	Elder Kenneth Lankford, *Pastor, Fletcher's Chapel P.B. Church, Madison, AL* Elder Timothy Rainey, *Pastor, Indian Creek P.B. Church, Huntsville, AL* Rev. Dr. Eric Jackson, *Temple Baptist Church, Nashville, TN*
Selection	St. Bartley Combined Choir
Eulogy	Dr. Bernard C. Yates *Pastor, Zion Hope P.B. Church, Pensacola, FL* *President, National P.B. Convention USA, Inc.*
Mortician	Royal Funeral Home, Inc.
Closing Prayer	Deacon Ernest Hazzard *Royal Funeral Home, Inc.*
Recessional	

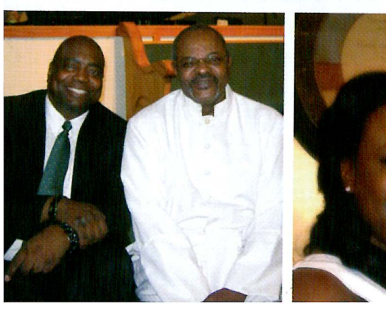
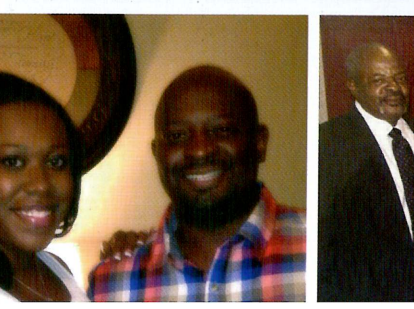
Entombment
Meadowlawn Garden of Peace
Garden of Tranquility
450 Mount Lebanon Road
Toney, Alabama 35773

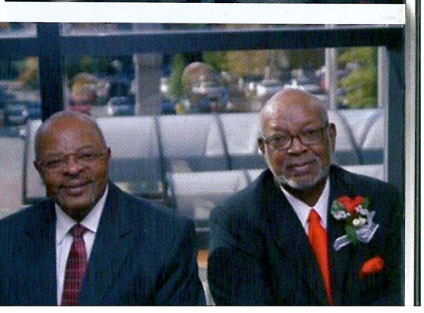
A repast will be provided in the St. Bartley P.B. Church Fellowship Hall after the entombment.







God's Garden

God looked around his garden
And found an empty place,
He then looked down upon the earth
And saw your tired face.
He put his arms around you
And lifted you to rest.
God's garden must be beautiful
He always takes the best.
He knew that you were suffering
He knew you were in pain.
He knew that you would never
Get well on earth again.
He saw the road was getting rough
And the hills were hard to climb.
So he closed your weary eyelids
And whispered, "Peace Be Thine".
It broke our hearts to lose you
But you didn't go alone,
For part of us went with you
The day God called you home.

My Dad

I know this man
Who is dear to my heart
Suddenly one day
It was torn all apart

This man taught me everything
That I needed to know
But I never really listened
Until he had to go

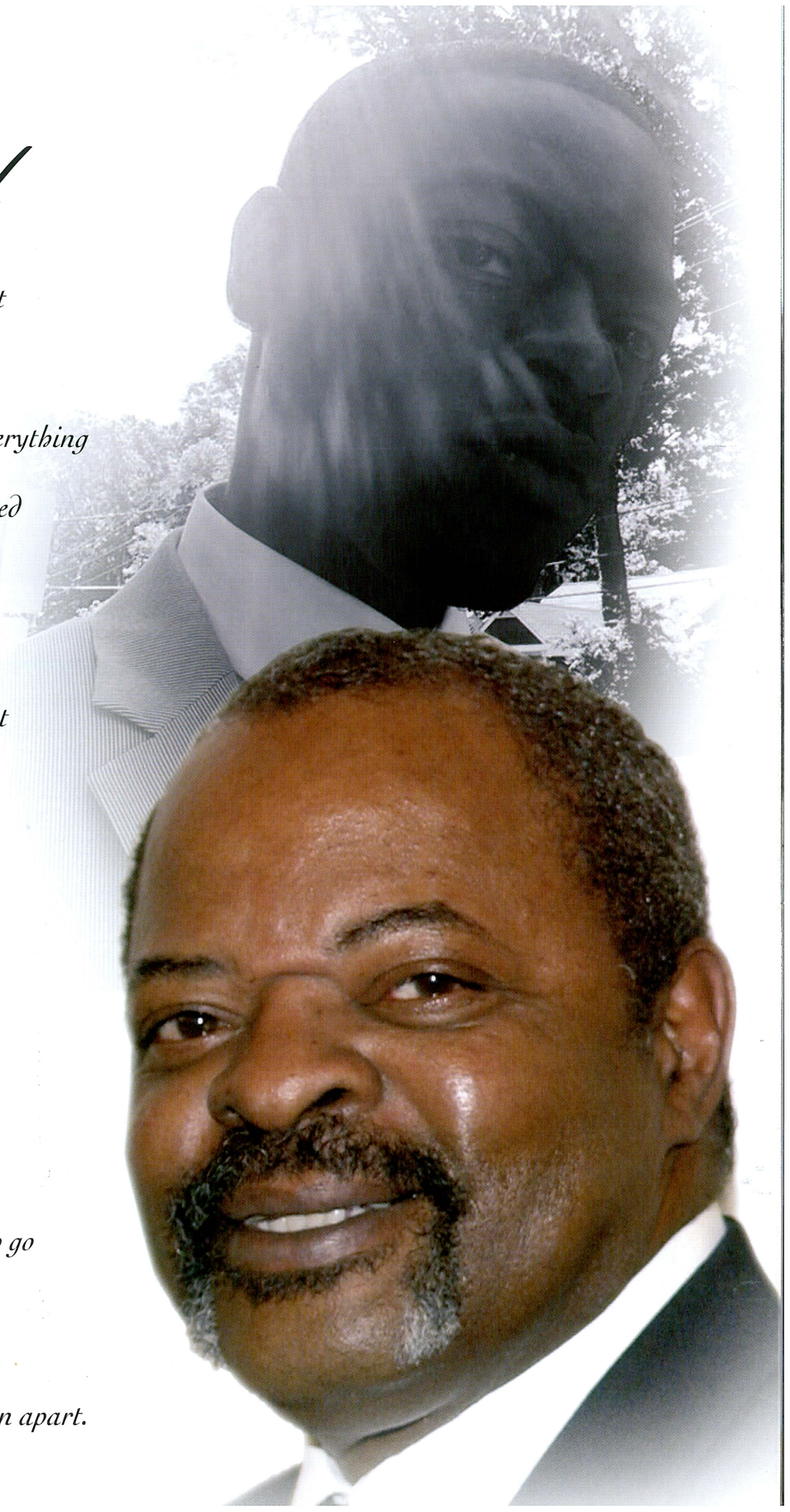
He gave me love
And touched my life
It's all over now
He no longer has to fight

He tried to teach me
Right from wrong
The day he left
I wasn't that strong

He is gone now
It is hard to believe
This man is my dad
Who I will never see

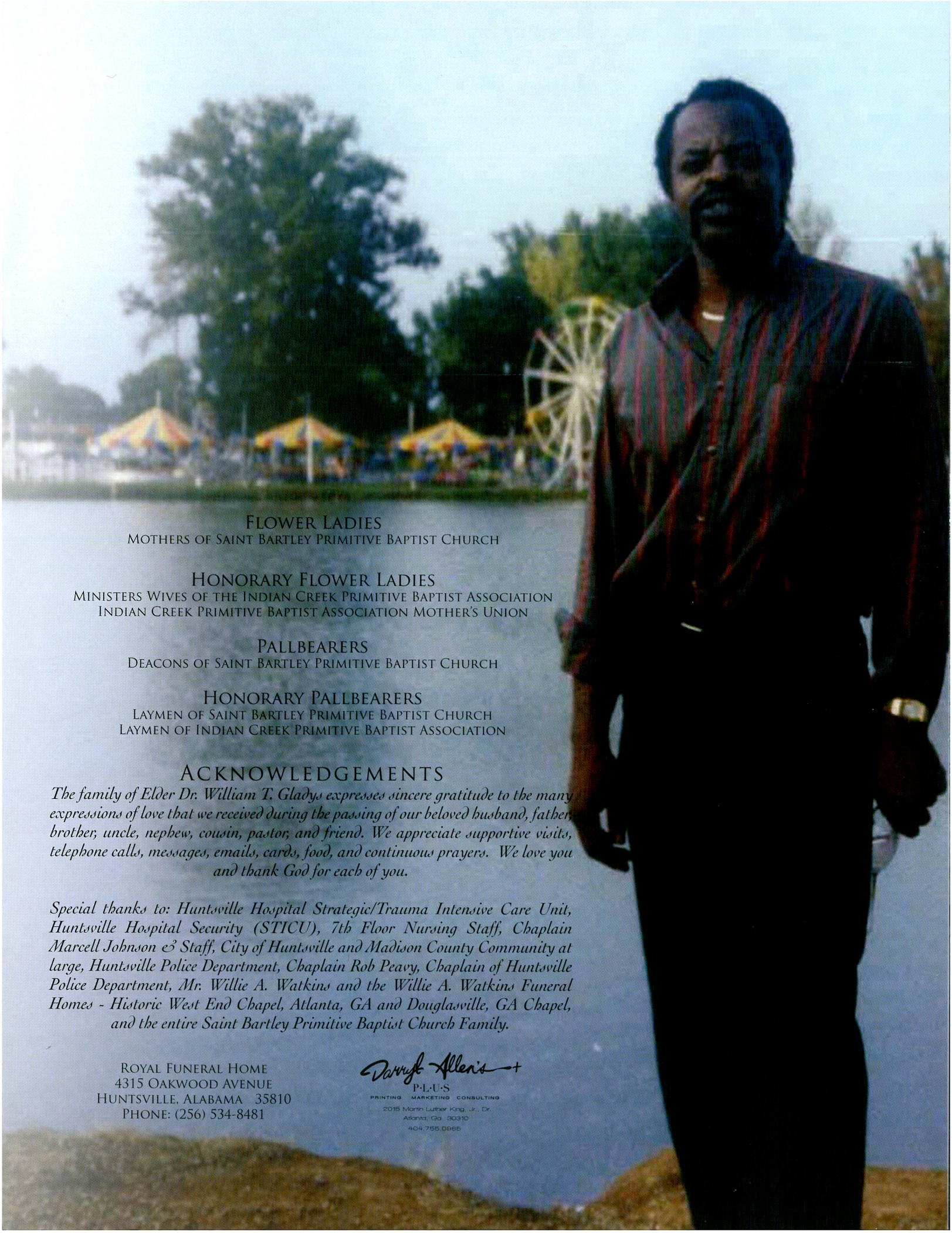
But I will see him again
This I know
The day will come
When it's time for me to go

So, I'll hold him dear
And close to my heart
Cause the day we meet
I know we'll never be torn apart.



My Dad My Angel

Your battle is now over, no more tears flowing down your cheek,
no more pain, no more suffering, now you are no longer weak.
I still do not understand why this had to happen to you,
but I am proud to say you are my dad, the greatest man I ever knew.
because my dad was able to see his son get married,
You were always there for me and never once made me cry,
until the day you closed your eyes and had to say goodbye.
Now you are my Angel, so spread your wings out wide,
please wrap them around me whenever you see me cry.
Our time together was memorable and God took you way too fast,
But the most precious thing to me was you being there for my first breath,
and me being there for your last.



Flower Ladies
Mothers of Saint Bartley Primitive Baptist Church

Honorary Flower Ladies
Ministers Wives of the Indian Creek Primitive Baptist Association
Indian Creek Primitive Baptist Association Mother's Union

Pallbearers
Deacons of Saint Bartley Primitive Baptist Church

Honorary Pallbearers
Laymen of Saint Bartley Primitive Baptist Church
Laymen of Indian Creek Primitive Baptist Association

Acknowledgements

The family of Elder Dr. William T. Gladys expresses sincere gratitude to the many expressions of love that we received during the passing of our beloved husband, father, brother, uncle, nephew, cousin, pastor, and friend. We appreciate supportive visits, telephone calls, messages, emails, cards, food, and continuous prayers. We love you and thank God for each of you.

Special thanks to: Huntsville Hospital Strategic/Trauma Intensive Care Unit, Huntsville Hospital Security (STICU), 7th Floor Nursing Staff, Chaplain Marcell Johnson & Staff, City of Huntsville and Madison County Community at large, Huntsville Police Department, Chaplain Rob Peavy, Chaplain of Huntsville Police Department, Mr. Willie A. Watkins and the Willie A. Watkins Funeral Homes - Historic West End Chapel, Atlanta, GA and Douglasville, GA Chapel, and the entire Saint Bartley Primitive Baptist Church Family.

Royal Funeral Home
4315 Oakwood Avenue
Huntsville, Alabama 35810
Phone: (256) 534-8481

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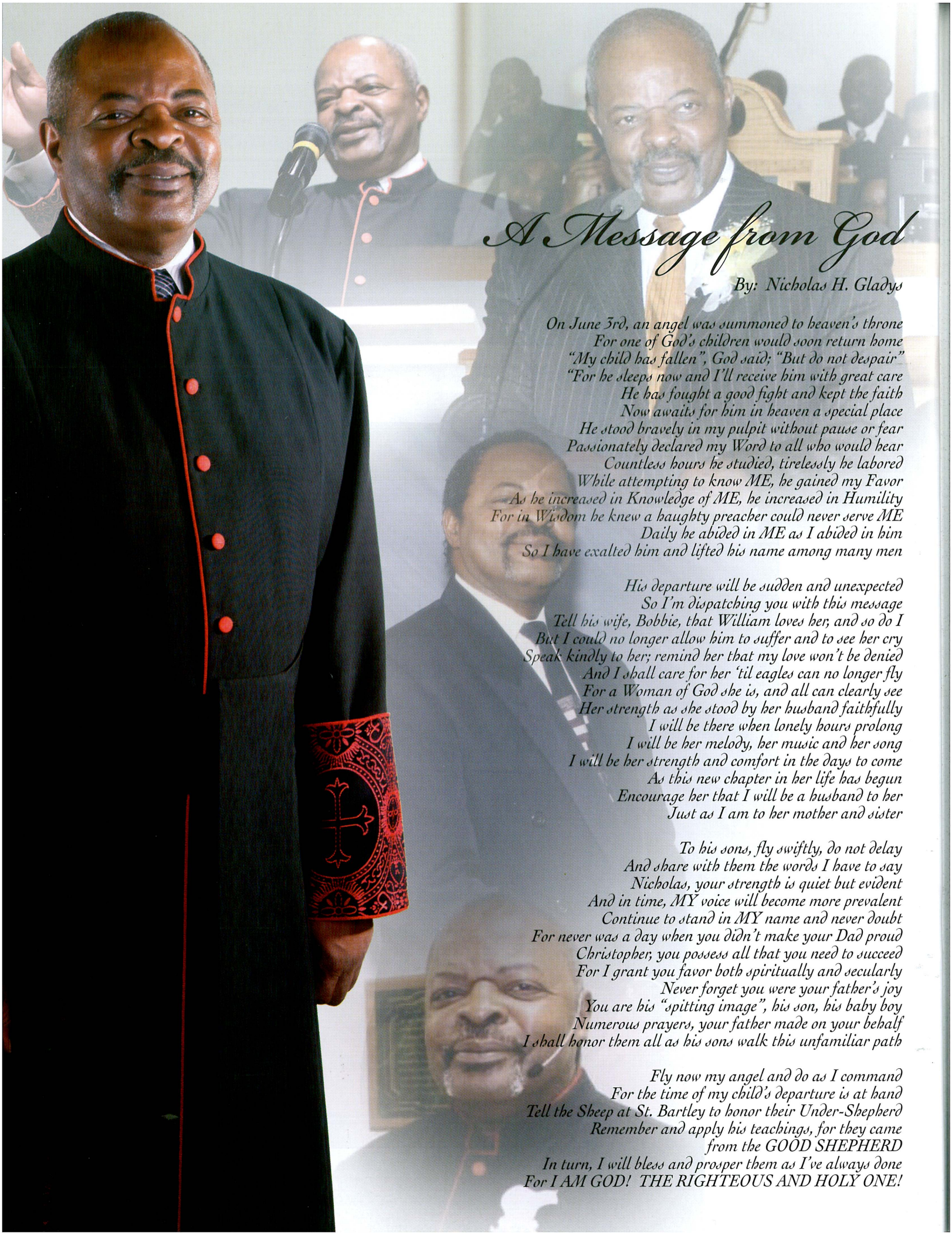

A Message from God

By: Nicholas H. Gladys

On June 3rd, an angel was summoned to heaven's throne
For one of God's children would soon return home
"My child has fallen", God said; "But do not despair"
"For he sleeps now and I'll receive him with great care
He has fought a good fight and kept the faith
Now awaits for him in heaven a special place
He stood bravely in my pulpit without pause or fear
Passionately declared my Word to all who would hear
Countless hours he studied, tirelessly he labored
While attempting to know ME, he gained my Favor
As he increased in Knowledge of ME, he increased in Humility
For in Wisdom he knew a haughty preacher could never serve ME
Daily he abided in ME as I abided in him
So I have exalted him and lifted his name among many men

His departure will be sudden and unexpected
So I'm dispatching you with this message
Tell his wife, Bobbie, that William loves her, and so do I
But I could no longer allow him to suffer and to see her cry
Speak kindly to her; remind her that my love won't be denied
And I shall care for her 'til eagles can no longer fly
For a Woman of God she is, and all can clearly see
Her strength as she stood by her husband faithfully
I will be there when lonely hours prolong
I will be her melody, her music and her song
I will be her strength and comfort in the days to come
As this new chapter in her life has begun
Encourage her that I will be a husband to her
Just as I am to her mother and sister

To his sons, fly swiftly, do not delay
And share with them the words I have to say
Nicholas, your strength is quiet but evident
And in time, MY voice will become more prevalent
Continue to stand in MY name and never doubt
For never was a day when you didn't make your Dad proud
Christopher, you possess all that you need to succeed
For I grant you favor both spiritually and secularly
Never forget you were your father's joy
You are his "spitting image", his son, his baby boy
Numerous prayers, your father made on your behalf
I shall honor them all as his sons walk this unfamiliar path

Fly now my angel and do as I command
For the time of my child's departure is at hand
Tell the Sheep at St. Bartley to honor their Under-Shepherd
Remember and apply his teachings, for they came
from the GOOD SHEPHERD
In turn, I will bless and prosper them as I've always done
For I AM GOD! THE RIGHTEOUS AND HOLY ONE!