

IN MEMORIAM

A CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE OF
KAREN SEALS GURY
APRIL 5, 1940–JANUARY 22, 2026



APRIL 11, 2026
THREE O'CLOCK IN THE AFTERNOON

ST. GREGORY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
100 NORTHEAST MIZNER BOULEVARD
P. O. BOX 1503
BOCA RATON, FLORIDA 33429-1503



St. Gregory's Episcopal Church
THE BURIAL OF THE DEAD - RITE II
KAREN SEALS GURY
APRIL 5, 1940-JANUARY 22, 2026

SATURDAY, APRIL 11, 2026
3:00 P.M.

THE ORGAN PRELUDE

All stand as able as the bells peal.

The following anthem is said in procession.

I am Resurrection and I am Life, says the Lord. Whoever has faith in me shall have life, even though he die. And everyone who has life, and has committed himself to me in faith, shall not die for ever.

As for me, I know that my Redeemer lives and that at the last he will stand upon the earth. After my awaking, he will raise me up; and in my body I shall see God. I myself shall see, and my eyes behold him who is my friend and not a stranger.

For none of us has life in himself, and none becomes his own master when he dies. For if we have life, we are alive in the Lord, and if we die, we die in the Lord. So, then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's possession. Happy from now on are those who die in the Lord! So it is, says the Spirit, for they rest from their labors.

THE COLLECT

CELEBRANT The Lord be with you.

PEOPLE ***And also with you.***

CELEBRANT Let us pray.

O God, who by the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ destroyed death, and brought life and immortality to light: Grant that your servant *Karen*, being raised with him, may know the strength of his presence, and rejoice in his eternal glory; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

The People are seated for

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF THE PROPHET ISAIAH

[25:6-9]

Grace Gury, Lector.

On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear. And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; he will swallow up death forever. Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken. It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the LORD for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

READER The Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE ***Thanks be to God.***

O LORD, you have searched me and known me.
 You know when I sit down and when I rise up;
 you discern my thoughts from far away.
 You search out my path and my lying down
 and are acquainted with all my ways.
 Even before a word is on my tongue,
 O LORD, you know it completely.
 You hem me in, behind and before,
 and lay your hand upon me.
 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it
 is so high that I cannot attain it.
 Where can I go from your spirit?
 Or where can I flee from your presence?
 If I ascend to heaven, you are there;
 If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.
 If I take the wings of the morning
 and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,
 even there your hand shall lead me,
 and your right hand shall hold me fast.
 If I say, 'Surely the darkness shall cover me, and
 the light around me become night.

A READING FROM THE REVELATION TO JOHN

[21:2-7]

Dennis Wedding, Lector.

I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them as their God; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away." And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life. Those who conquer will inherit these things, and I will be their God and they will be my children."

The People stand as able and sing together

THE GRADUAL HYMN 488

BE THOU MY VISION

SLANE

The People remain standing for the reading of

THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO JOHN

[14:1-6]

PEOPLE ***Glory to you, Lord Christ.***

Jesus said, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

GOSPELLER The Gospel of the Lord.

PEOPLE ***Praise to you, Lord Christ.***

All are seated for

THE HOMILY THE REVEREND ANDREW J. SHERMAN, RECTOR

The People stand and the Celebrant says

In the assurance of eternal life given at Baptism, let us proclaim our faith and say,

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. **AMEN.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Led by Maria Provost. The Leader says

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. For our *sister*, Karen, let us pray to our Lord Jesus Christ who said, "I am Resurrection and I am Life." Lord, you consoled Martha and Mary in their distress; draw near to us who mourn for Karen and dry the tears of those who weep.

PEOPLE **Hear us, Lord.**

You wept at the grave of Lazarus, your friend; comfort us in our sorrow.

Hear us, Lord.

You raised the dead to life; give to our *sister* eternal life.

Hear us, Lord.

You promised paradise to the thief who repented; bring our *sister* to the joys of heaven.

Hear us, Lord.

Our *sister* was washed in Baptism and anointed with the Holy Spirit; give *her* fellowship with all your saints.

Hear us, Lord.

She was nourished with your Body and Blood; grant *her* a place at the table in your heavenly kingdom.

Hear us, Lord.

Comfort us in our sorrows at the death of our *sister*; let our faith be our consolation, and eternal life our hope.

Hear us, Lord.

Silence is kept.

THE PEACE

CELEBRANT The peace of the Lord be always with you.

PEOPLE **And also with you.**

The Minister and People greet one another in the name of the Lord. All are seated.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

As The Holy Table is prepared, all stand, as able, and sing together

THE OFFERTORY HYMN 620

JERUSALEM, MY HAPPY HOME

LAND OF REST

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER A

The People remain standing as the Celebrant faces them and says

The Lord be with you.

PEOPLE **And also with you.**

CELEBRANT Lift up your hearts.

PEOPLE **We lift them to the Lord.**

CELEBRANT Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

PEOPLE **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

The Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who rose victorious from the dead, and comforts us with the blessed hope of everlasting life. For to your faithful people, O Lord, life is changed, not ended; and when our mortal body lies in death, there is prepared for us a dwelling place eternal in the heavens. Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

THE SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS QUI VENIT

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. *Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.*

The Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world. On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

The Celebrant and People then say together

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom. All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

CELEBRANT Alleluia, Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

PEOPLE **Therefore let us keep the feast, Alleluia.**

THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Facing the people, the celebrant says

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving

THE COMMUNION MEDITATION *Tim Brumfield, piano.*

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

After Communion, the People stand as able as the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Almighty God, we thank you that in your great love you have fed us with the spiritual food and drink of the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ, and have given us a foretaste of your heavenly banquet. Grant that this Sacrament may be to us a comfort in affliction, and a pledge of our inheritance in that kingdom where there is no death, neither sorrow nor crying, but the fullness of joy with all your saints; through Jesus Christ our Savior. AMEN.

THE COMMENDATION

CELEBRANT Give rest, O Christ, to your servant, *Karen*, with your saints,

PEOPLE ***where sorrow and pain are no more,
neither sighing, but life everlasting.***

The Celebrant continues

You only are immortal, the creator and maker of mankind; and we are mortal, formed of the earth, and to earth shall we return. For so did you ordain when you created me, saying, "You are dust, and to dust you shall return." All of us go down to the dust; yet even at the grave we make our song: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

PEOPLE ***Give rest, O Christ, to your servant, Karen, with your saints,
where sorrow and pain are no more,
neither sighing, but life everlasting.***

The Celebrant continues

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant, *Karen*. Acknowledge, we humbly beseech you, a sheep of your own fold, a lamb of your own flock, a sinner of your own redeeming. Receive *her* into the arms of your mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting, peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in light.

The Celebrant blesses the people.

The Deacon or other Minister dismisses the people.

PEOPLE Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

The Celebrant continues

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and giving life to those in the tomb.

The Sun of Righteousness is gloriously risen, giving light to those who sat in darkness and in the shadow of death.

The Lord will guide our feet into the way of peace, having taken away the sin of the world.

Christ will open the kingdom of heaven to all who believe in his Name, saying, Come, O blessed of my Father; inherit the kingdom prepared for you.

Into paradise may the angels lead you. At your coming may the martyrs receive you and bring you into the holy city Jerusalem. AMEN.

All remain standing and sing together

THE CLOSING HYMN 296

WE KNOW THAT CHRIST IS RAISED AND DIES NO MORE

ENGELBERG

The Procession retires during

THE ORGAN POSTLUDE

All are cordially invited to a reception in Harris Hall following this service.

PARTICIPANTS

THE REVEREND ANDREW J. SHERMAN *Rector, St. Gregory's Episcopal Church*

MR. WALTER JONES *Verger, St. Gregory's Episcopal Church*

MR. TIMOTHY J. BRUMFIELD *Organist, St. Gregory's Episcopal Church*

*The flowers gracing the altar are given in loving memory of Karen
by Pat and Walter Jones.*



Karen Seals Gury, age 85, passed away peacefully at Boca Raton Regional Hospital in Boca Raton, Florida, on Thursday, January 22, 2026. She was surrounded by her children and other beloved family members.

Karen was born on April 5, 1940, in rural Hoke County, North Carolina. She was the eldest of eight children born to Floyd McLean Seals and Nellie Strother Seals.

When Karen was 11, her family moved to Siler City in Chatham County, where her parents found work in the textile industry. In 1958, Karen graduated from Jordan Matthews High School, where she formed lasting friendships that she cherished throughout her life. After graduation, she attended the Woman's College of the University of North Carolina (then known simply as "Woman's College" or "WC," now UNC-Greensboro) for two years. Later in life, after moving to Florida, she earned a Bachelor of Arts in Art History from Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton.

In 1966, Karen's son, Dennis Wedding, was born at the Great Lakes Naval Base Hospital while his father, Gene Wedding, was serving in the U.S. Navy. After Gene's honorable discharge in 1967, the family returned to Greensboro, NC, to be near relatives. Gene and Karen later divorced.

In the spring of 1972, Karen married David Gury and moved to Pasadena, California, where she began her life with David and his two children, Jeannine and Sean. Karen embraced her role as a stay-at-home mom, actively raising her three children and supporting their school and extracurricular activities. The family became active in their local church community, St. Edmunds Episcopal Church in San Marino. She also began taking classes at Pasadena City College, where she discovered a love for photography. She completed her associate's degree and started her own photography business.

In 1985, after Dennis and Jeannine graduated from high school, Karen joined David and Sean in Florida, where David had begun a new job the year prior. They moved into their new home in Boca Raton and became active members at St. Gregory's Episcopal Church. Karen found deep meaning and connection there becoming a member of The St. Brigid of Kildare Chapter of The Daughters of the King. She also took on a leadership role as a trustee of the Duncan Conference Center in Delray Beach, a Christian retreat and meeting venue she cared for deeply.

Over the years, Karen developed a passion for genealogy. She loved researching not only her own family history but also the extended web of related families as her own grew and evolved.

Karen and David also shared a love for travel. Together, they visited Israel, Egypt, Ireland, Paris, China, and many other countries. Karen always made time to return to North Carolina to visit her mother and siblings. Mother's Day was her favorite time to be home, and she rarely missed that Seals family tradition.

Karen was preceded in death by her parents; her brothers Mike, Larry, and Don; her sister Carol; her nephews Berry and Jeff Jr.; and her niece Gloria.

She is survived by her children: Dennis Wedding (Catherine) of Bath, England; Jeannine Gury (Scott Peters) of Cleveland Heights, Ohio; and Sean Gury of Charlottesville, Virginia. She is lovingly remembered by her grandchildren: Cameron, Caleb, Aidan, Grace, Matthew, Joseph, and Andrew. Karen is also survived by her brother Jeff Seals of Charlotte, NC; her sisters Sharon Seals Brookbank of Snow Camp, NC, and Robin Seals James (Dirk) of Siler City, NC; and her half-brother Eric Ensley of Franklin, NC.

CLERGY AND STAFF

RECTOR *THE REVEREND ANDREW J. SHERMAN*
PASTORAL COUNSELOR AND CLERGY ASSOCIATE *THE REVEREND ELIZABETH PANKEY-WARREN*
CLERGY ASSOCIATE *THE REVEREND JEAN BRUNO*
CLERGY ASSOCIATE *THE REVEREND DR. EMILIO ROSOLEN*
CLERGY ASSOCIATE EMERITUS *THE REVEREND DR. R. CRAIG BURLINGTON*
CO-ORDINATOR FOR LITURGY AND THE ARTS,
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRY, ORGANIST AND CHOIRMASTER *TIMOTHY J. BRUMFIELD*
DIRECTOR OF OUTREACH AND PASTORAL SUPPORT *GENA VALLEE*
YOUTH MINISTRIES PROGRAM COORDINATOR *ANITA SHERMAN*
LAY MINISTRY ASSOCIATE FOR WORSHIP,
FORMATION AND TRANSLATION *CHRISTEL BRUNO*
SENIOR VERGER *JEFF MILLER*
PARISH ADMINISTRATOR *KRISTEN CHANEY*
MEALS WITH MEANING OPERATIONS MANAGER *ROSE VALLEE*
COMMUNICATIONS/MEDIA COORDINATOR *DAWN RAHICKI*
AUDIO/VISUAL COORDINATOR *LOUIS BIRRO*
FINANCIAL MANAGER *LEANDA ROBINSON*
OFFICE MANAGER *KAY HOLT*
FACILITIES MANAGER/SEXTON *STEVE DEMOREUILLE*

SUNDAY SERVICE SCHEDULE

8:00 AM Holy Eucharist
10:00 AM Choral Eucharist
9:45 AM Church School
6:00 PM Holy Eucharist, Evening Prayer, or Choral Evensong

WEEKLY SERVICE SCHEDULE

Morning Prayer, 9:00 AM (Tuesday and Wednesday, online and in-person; Monday, Thursday and Friday, in-person.)
Holy Eucharist every Tuesday and Thursday at 12 noon

*Transforming
Hearts and
Community
through
Jesus' Love*



SAINT GREGORY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH *The Cultural and Sacred Hub of Arts and Service*

100 NORTHEAST MIZNER BOULEVARD P.O. BOX 1503
BOCA RATON, FLORIDA 33429-1503

www.stgregorysepiscopal.org; email: office@st-gregorys.com

phone: 561-395-8285



Diverse
Traditional
Dynamic

