



Rev. Gloria J. Randolph



Reverend Gloria J. Randolph grew up on the south side of Chicago with her parents, her sister and two brothers. She and her husband Reese are residents of Hazel Crest, Illinois. They have a blended family of six children and seven grandchildren.

Gloria received the Master of Arts in Christian Ministries from Northern Baptist Theological Seminary. She earned the Master of Arts Degree in Education from Governors State University. Her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Education was earned from Chicago State University, formerly known as Chicago Teachers College.

As an educator in the Chicago Public School System, Gloria has touched the lives of two generations of students in the far south side Fernwood neighborhood. She was called from the classroom in order to share her expertise with teachers, through staff development and program planning, as Coordinator for Chicago Public Schools. In May of 2003, Gloria retired from the Chicago Public School system after 34 years of dedicated service.

Rev. Gloria is first and foremost a servant of God. She is a member of Covenant United Church of Christ where she serves as the Grief Ministry Leader. She is an ordained minister and founder of Giving God the Glory Ministries, Inc. (GGG Ministries, Inc). Under this not-for-profit ministry, Gloria facilitates and organizes bereavement programs and support groups as well as mentoring programs for teens and women. She is a Trophy Board Member of The Society of Mannequins and a founding member of CLEAR II Inc. (Clergy Ladies Experiencing Affirming Relationships). Rev. Gloria is also a motivational speaker for churches, Christian conferences, organizations and schools throughout the city and state. Her faith is the foundation of all that she does; therefore, whatever task she takes on, be it professional, religious, personal or social, becomes a real ministry.

In October of 1989, Gloria's oldest son, Sean Cater, was murdered at age 21. She turned this tragedy into triumph as she co-founded R.A.Y. (Reclaim A Youth) in 1991 with a friend, Addie Mix, whose 18 year old son had also been murdered. Her youngest son, John Cater Jr., an award winning Journalist, died in January of 2010 at age 32. This was 6 months after he won the prestigious Emmy Award for Excellence in Reporting. In 2015, Rev. Gloria honored the memory of her two deceased sons by adding the "My 2 Sons: John/Sean Memorial Scholarship Program as a new component to GGG Ministries. Rev. Gloria feels her real healing came from helping others deal with their pain and grief, and by helping young people to succeed.

Rev. Gloria has received numerous honors and awards for her professional excellence, including the following citations and honors:

- 2023 – Inducted into The Ezra Project's Sankofa Index of Legendary Christians, a database designed to highlight African Americans whose lives have been a testament to Christians
- 2023 – The recipient of the 2023 Aime Price- Flagg Leadership Award for outstanding community service presented by Ellana Boutique
- 2019 – The recipient of the 2019 Chicago Defender Women of Excellence Award celebrating local African-American women who inspire others through vision and leadership, exceptional achievements and participation in community
- 2019 – The recipient of the Rebuilders, Repairers, Restorers Award presented by the Operation Put It Back/Advocates of Change Organization for exemplary service in making a difference in the lives of youths and adults
- 2018 – The Ervin Carter Torchbearer Award for Church Leadership, presented by The EZRA Project in recognition of 35 years of service to the church and community
- 2018 – Selected as one of 50 Newsmakers making a difference in the community by WBBM News Radio, in celebration of its 50th anniversary as News Radio
- 2017 – The Black Women of Covenant Who Rock Legend Award, presented by the Women's Ministry of Covenant UCC, for her ongoing contributions and influences in the church community and the community at large
- 2017 – The National Council of Negro Women's President's Award, presented by the South Suburban Chicago Section, for supporting the vision of Mary McLeod Bethune advocating for African American women, youth and families
- 2017 – The TLOD Orchid Award, presented by Top Ladies of Distinction South Suburban Chapter, for outstanding community service
- 2017 – The Humanitarian Award, presented by RAY of Illinois, for Founder and Executive Director of Giving God the Glory Ministries and the My 2 Sons: John/Sean Memorial Scholarship Awards
- 2016 – The Margaret Burroughs Legacy Award in recognition of Women's History Month, presented by the DuSable Museum Women's Board for her positive impact on the African American community and people of all nationalities
- 2016 – C.F. Stradford Award in recognition of African American History Month, presented by the Cook County States Attorney's Office for her commitment and dedication to the African American community
- 2014 – The Impact Award from the Theta Mu Lambda Charitable Foundation of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, in recognition of her outstanding contribution to the community
- 2014 – Honored by Creativity United for enhancing the lives of others through her field of expertise and charitable commitment
- 2014 – Honored at the 85th Anniversary Celebration of Iota Phi Lambda Sorority Alpha Chapter for her commitment to her field of study, her commitment to the community and her desire to improve the lives of our young people
- 2012 – Consecration Recognition Award presented by New Zion Ministries for extraordinary service to others

- 2011 – Crescent Moon Award in the area of Ministry presented by Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc, Upsilon Sigma Alumni Chapter National Recipient of the 2009 Lola M. Parker Outstanding Business Woman of the Year Award presented by Iota Phi Lambda Sorority Inc.
- 2009 – Central Region Outstanding Business Woman of the Year presented by Iota Phi Lambda Sorority Inc., because of her total involvement and commitment to community service
- 2007 – Woman of Worth Award in acknowledgement of extraordinary service and visionary leadership in education, ministry, and community work, presented by The Working On Wholeness Ministry
- 2006 – Crown Jewel of the Year Award – Saluting Women in Clergy for Outstanding Community Service, presented by The Lincoln Park Chapter of Top Ladies of Distinction Inc.
- 2006 – Listed in Who's Who Among America's Teachers 2006, 2005 & 1998
- 2005 – The Award of Merit in recognition of outstanding community service, presented by the South Suburban YMCA
- 2004 – The Society of Mannequins – 3rd Award: Ten Best Dressed African American Women Award presented to impeccably groomed African American women who are exemplary role models and outstanding leaders in their fields and communities
- 2003 – The Society of Mannequins – 2nd Award: Ten Best Dressed African American Women Award presented to impeccably groomed African American women who are exemplary role models and outstanding leaders in their fields and communities
- 2003 – Dr. Martin Luther King Award for dedication, work, service and acts of kindness to humanity, presented by Cathedral of Joy Baptist Church
- 2003 – Special recognition for distinguished service of the CPS United Negro College Fund Campaign, presented by Chicago Public Schools
- 2002 - The Society of Mannequins – 1st Award: Ten Best Dressed African American Women Award presented to impeccably groomed African American women who are exemplary role models and outstanding leaders in their fields and communities
- 1999 – Inducted into The Premier Englewood High School Hall of Fame
- 1997 – Recipient of the Echoes of Excellence Award for distinguished service, presented by Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. – Joliet Area South Suburban Alumnae Chapter
- 1996 – Kizzy Award for professional achievement, community service, and being a positive role model to America's youth, and an inspiration to other women
- 1995 – First Place: Outstanding Teachers Award, Fernwood Elementary School

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