

There are hermit souls that live withdrawn In the place of their self-content; There are souls like stars, that dwell apart, In a fellowless firmament; There are pioneer souls that blaze the paths Where highways never ran- But let me live by the side of the road And be a friend to man.

Let me live in a house by the side of the road Where the race of men go by- The men who are good and the men who are bad, As good and as bad as I. I would not sit in the scorner's seat Nor hurl the cynic's ban- Let me live in a house by the side of the road And be a friend to man.

I see from my house by the side of the road By the side of the highway of life, The men who press with the ardor of hope, The men who are faint with the strife, But I turn not away from their smiles and tears, Both parts of an infinite plan-Let me live in a house by the side of the road And be a friend to man.

I know there are brook-gladdened meadows ahead, And mountains of wearisome height; That the road passes on through the long afternoon And stretches away to the night. And still I rejoice when the travelers rejoice And weep with the strangers that moan, Nor live in my house by the side of the road Like a man who dwells alone.

Let me live in my house by the side of the road, Where the race of men go by-

They are good, they are bad, they are weak, they are strong, Wise, foolish - so am I. Then why should I sit in the scorner's seat, Or hurl the cynic's ban? Let me live in my house by the side of the road And be a friend to man.

by Sam Walter Foss (1858-1911)



"In Gratitude"

To all who touched our hearts, lifted our spirits, offered prayers, uttered words of encouragement, gave gifts, sent cards, made phone calls, participated in the Worship, traveled across the miles and shared in any way, we thank you. We are equally grateful for the outpour of love. May the blessings of the Lord be upon each of you.

The Family

Service of Comfort Provided by:
GREGORY FUNERAL SERVICE, INC.
601 North York Street
Gastonia, North Carolina 28052 | 704-867-4364
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CELEBRATION OF LIFE

"Well done, good and faithful servant!"
Matthew 25:23

Bishop

OSCO E. GARDIN, SR.

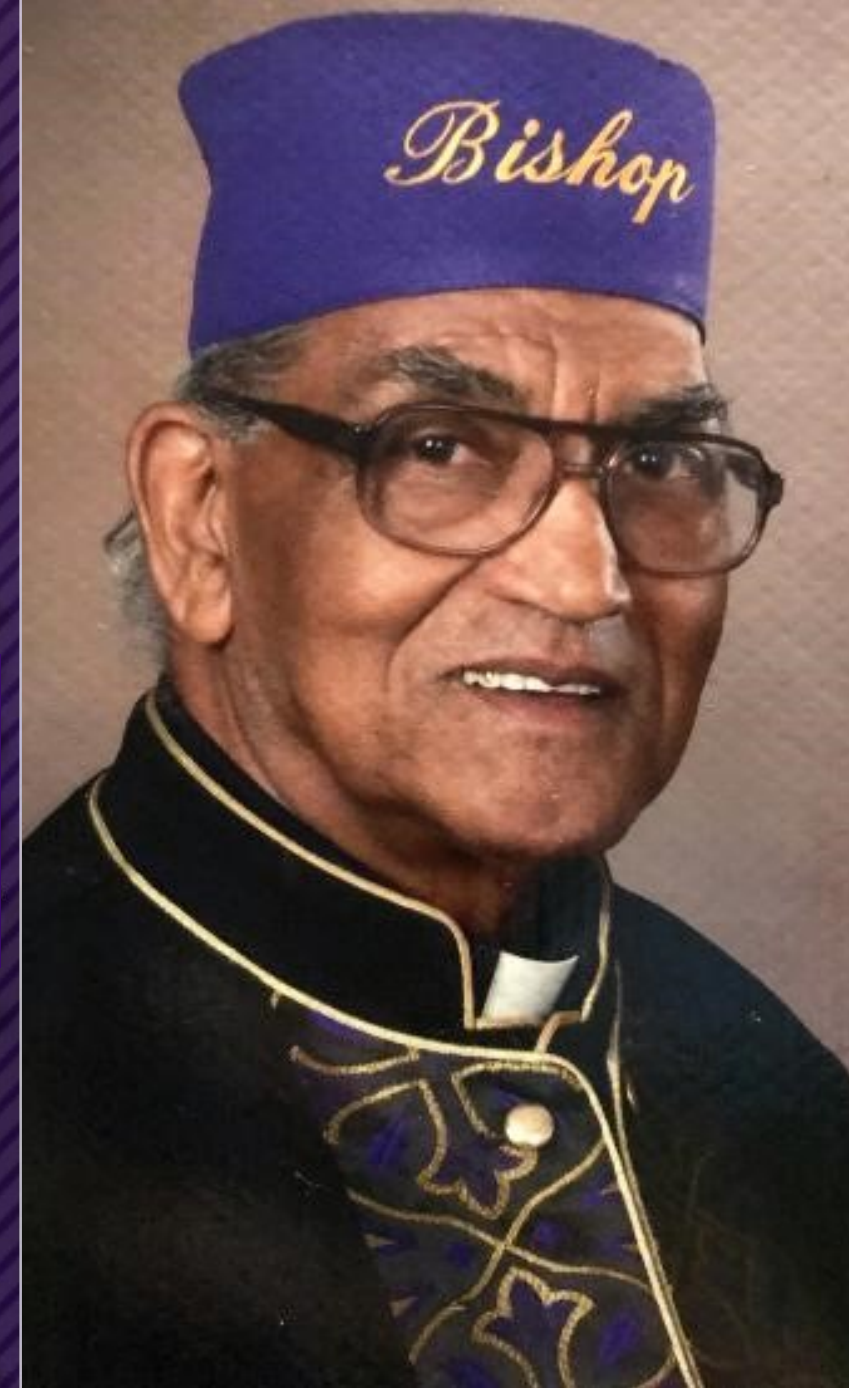
SUNDAY
FEBRUARY 6, 2022
1:00 POST MERIDIEM

First Antioch
Interdenominational Church
822 Floyd Lane | Gastonia, NC
Officiating:
Pastor Celina Curry
Bishop Osco E. Gardin, Jr.

SUNRISE
OCTOBER 18, 1936



SUNSET
JANUARY 29, 2022



Order of Service

Sunday, February 6, 2022
1:00 Post Meridiem

Prelude	
Processional	The Gardin Family
Greetings	Pastor Celina Curry Bishop Osco E. Gardin, Jr.
Invocation	Pastor Celina Curry
Musical Selection	Family and Friends
Old Testament	Reverend William Gardin, Jr.
New Testament	Reverend Charles June
Prayer of Comfort	Bishop Walter Ellerbe
Dance Tribute	Grandchildren
Acknowledgements	Melia Floyd
Obituary	Melia Floyd
Solo	Shameia Crawford
Remarks	Representing the Community Representing the Church Representing the Family Ralph Jiggetts Deacon William Sims Charles Floyd
Musical Selection	Family and Friends
Eulogists	Pastor Celina Curry Bishop Osco E. Gardin, Jr.
Benediction	Bishop Osco E. Gardin, Jr.
Postlude	

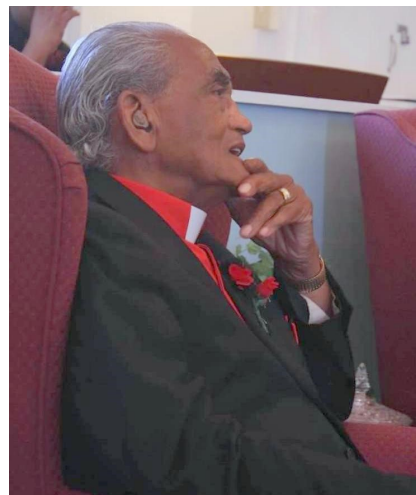
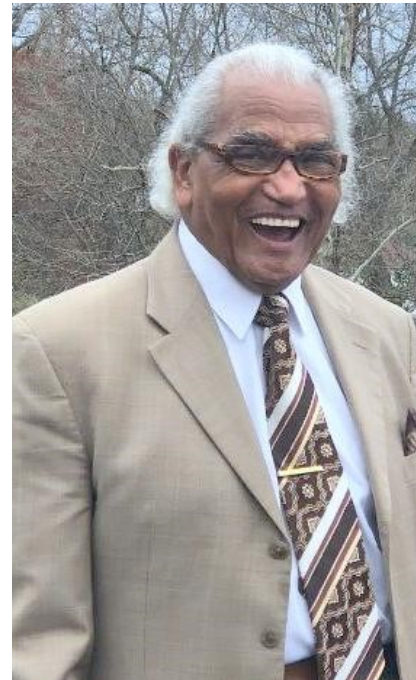
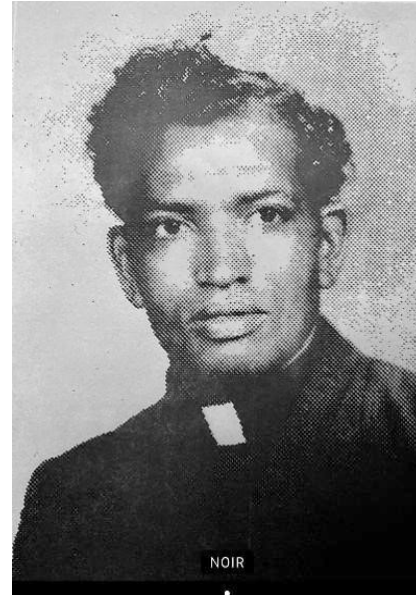
Interment
Gaston Memorial Park
Gastonia, North Carolina

Pall Bearers, Grandsons
Floral Bearers, Granddaughter





The Bishop



Obituary

October 18, 1936 - January 29, 2022

Bishop Osco Eugene Gardin, Sr. was born on October 18, 1936 in Ranlo, North Carolina. Surrounded by his family, he transitioned from this life on January 29, 2022, 3:59 pm at CaroMont Regional Medical Center.

As a strong, vibrant, and uniquely bold young man, Bishop Gardin, Sr. gave his life to Christ at the age of 19 and never looked back. After moving to Canton, Ohio with his wife and only child at that time, Bishop Gardin, Sr. served faithfully at the Mt. Nebo United Holy Church of America in Canton, Ohio.

After accepting his ministerial calling, Bishop Gardin, Sr. was licensed to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ and ordained to the work of the same in 1970, by the authority and order of the United Holy Church of America in Cleveland, Ohio. As a student of the word of God, Bishop Gardin, Sr. received his theological training from Wayne College and the Evangelical Training Association (ETA) Bible Institute.

Bishop Gardin, Sr. was consecrated to the office of Bishop in 1976. Under the continuing manifestation and will of the Triune God, he established Mt. Athens UHC, Akron, Ohio, Rock of Ages UHC, Canton, Ohio and First Antioch Interdenominational Church, Gastonia, NC where he faithfully served as overseer for 38 years.

A bi-vocational pastor, Bishop Gardin, Sr. was an entrepreneur, and after starting his own Refuge Truck business, he quickly became known as an astute, prompt, and very well-organized businessman. Bishop Gardin, Sr. was also a builder, and as such he specialized in complete residential and commercial renovations. And, with his very own hands, he built First Antioch's existing church structure.

Bishop Gardin, Sr. was preceded in death by Hiram and Beatrice Gardin (parents), Martha Lucille, Watkins (sister), Margaret Burris (sister), Annie Mae Minter (sister), Mildred Diew (sister), James Robert Gardin (brother).

Bishop Gardin leaves to cherish his memories, First Lady, Mother Geneva Gardin, his wife of 66 years. From this union six children, Jacquelyn Marie of Gastonia, NC; Bishop Osco Eugene, Jr. (J. Latricia) of Monroe, NC; Kenneth Luther of Greenville, SC; Andella Denise of Gastonia, NC; William Anthony (Andrea) of Huntersville, NC; and Pastor Celina (Ronald) of Gastonia, NC; John Elliott Boyce (Cathy); two brothers, Charles, and Lamar Gardin, both of Gastonia, NC, and one sister, Evelyn Massey of Newark, NJ. eighteen grandchildren, twenty-four great-grandchildren and two great-great grandchildren; spiritual children Bishop and Pastor Ellerbe, Dana Jackson, and Perry Davis; First Antioch Interdenominational Church Family and a host of nieces, nephews, relatives, and friends.



A LIFE WELL LIVED