



Mrs Veronica Aina Elizabeth Bankole

18th May 1946 - 17th October 2013



Funeral Mass

Thursday 31st October 2013

at

The Sacred Heart and Mary Immaculate Church, Mill Hill, London NW7 2RR



Success - Ralph Emerson
*To laugh often and love much;
To win the respect of intelligent persons
And the affection of children;
To earn the approbation of honest critics
And to endure the betrayal of false friends;
To appreciate beauty;
To find the best in others;
To give of one's self;
To leave the world a little better,
Whether by a healthy child,
A garden patch
Or a redeemed social condition;
To have played and laughed with enthusiasm
And sung with exultation;
To know that even one life has breathed easier
Because you have lived -
This is to have succeeded*

Order and programme of Requiem Mass
for
Veronica Aina Elizabeth Bankole (nee Agboh)
1946 - 2013

at The Sacred Heart and Mary Immaculate Church, Mill Hill, London
on Thursday October 31st 2013
at 11.00am



ORDER OF SERVICE

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| 1. Entrance Hymn
- Immortal Invisible God only wise | 19. Eucharistic Prayer |
| 2. Greeting | 20. Preface of the Dead |
| 3. Sprinkling with Holy Water | 21. Sanctus |
| 4. Placing of The Christian Symbols | 22. Memorial Acclamation |
| 5. Introductory Rites | 23. The Doxology and Great Amen |
| 6. Penitential Rites | 24. The Lord's Prayer |
| 7. Kyrie | 25. Rite of Peace |
| 8. Gloria | 26. Angus Dei |
| 9. Opening Prayer | 27. Communion |
| 10. First Reading | 28. Communion Hymns |
| 11. Responsorial Psalm | 29. Prayer After Communion |
| 12. Second Reading | 30. Final Commendation |
| 13. Gospel Acclamation | 31. Song of Farewell |
| 14. Gospel Reading | 32. Invocation |
| 15. Homily | 33. Recessional Hymn. |
| 16. Prayers of the Faithful | At The Grave Side |
| 17. Offertory | 34. Blessing of the Grave |
| 18. Prayer over the Gifts | 35. Bidding Prayer |

1. Hymn: Immortal, Invisible God only wise

¹ Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

² Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
thy justice like mountains high soaring above
thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.

³ To all, life thou givest, to both great and small;
in all life thou livest, the true life of all;
we blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,
and wither and perish, but naught changeth thee.

⁴ Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in light;
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
all laud we would render: O help us to see
'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee.

2. Greeting

3. Sprinkling With Holy Water

(The coffin is sprinkled with Holy water and incense)

On the day of her Baptism, Veronica Aina Elizabeth Bankole put on Christ.
On the day of Christ's coming, may she be clothed with glory. Amen.

4. Placing of The Christian Symbols

(The bible is placed on the coffin)

5. Introductory Rites

Priest: In the name of the Father, and the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

6. Penitential Rites

Priest: Brethren (brothers and sisters), let us acknowledge our sins,
and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries.

All: I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do, through my fault (Strike breast), through my fault, though my most grievous fault. Therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

Priest: May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

All: Amen.

7. Kyrie

Priest: Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: Christ, have mercy.

All: Christ, have mercy.

Priest: Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

8. Gloria

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will.
We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

9. Opening Prayer

Priest: Let us pray.

Priest: O God, who through the ending of present things opens up the beginning of things to come, grant, we pray, that the soul of Your servant Veronica may be led by You to attain the inheritance of eternal redemption. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever

All: Amen

10. First Reading - Revelation 21:3-7

And I heard a loud voice from Heaven saying “Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people. God himself will be with them and be their God. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.”

Then He who sat on the throne said, “behold, I make all things new” and He said to me “write, for these words are true and faithful”. And He said to me, “it is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts. He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be my son.”

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God

11. Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 42

¹ Athirst is my soul for God, the living God. When shall I go and behold the face of God?

*Response: Like a deer that longs for running streams
my soul longs for you, my God.*

² I went with the throng and led them in procession to the house of God, amid loud cries of joy and thanksgiving, with the multitude keeping festival.

*Response: Like a deer that longs for running streams,
my soul longs for you, my God.*

³ Send forth your light and your fidelity; they shall lead me on and bring me to your holy mountain, to your dwelling-place.

*Response: Like a deer that longs for running streams,
my soul longs for you, my God.*

⁴ Then will I go in to the altar of God, the God of my gladness and joy; then will I give you thanks upon the harp, O God, my God!

*Response: Like a deer that longs for running streams,
my soul longs for you, my God.*

12. Second Reading - 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus.

For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. For the Lord Himself will descend from Heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. Therefore comfort one another with these words.

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God

13. Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, Alleluia

“I am the Resurrection and the Life”, says the Lord, “he who believes in Me will live even if he dies, and everyone who lives and believes in Me will never die.”

Alleluia

14. Gospel

A reading from the Gospel according to John 14:1-6

Jesus said to His disciples: “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God still, and trust in me. There are many rooms in my Father’s house; if there were not, I should have told you. I am going now to prepare a place for you, and after I have prepared you a place, I shall return to take you with me; so that where I am, you may be too. You know the way to the place I am going.” Thomas said, “Lord, we do not know where you are going, so how can we know the way?” Jesus said, “I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one can come to the Father except through me.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord

All: Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ

15. Homily

16. Prayers of the faithful

Priest: We turn to Christ who gives rest to the weary, joy to the sad, and eternal life to all who believe in him. We pray for **Veronica Aina Elizabeth Bankole** who in baptism was given the pledge of eternal life, that she may now be admitted to the company of the saints. Lord hear us.

All: Lord graciously hear us.

Priest: We pray for our sister **Veronica** who ate the body of Christ, the bread of life, that she may be raised up on the last day. Lord hear us.

All: Lord graciously hear us.

Priest: We pray for our deceased relatives and friends and for all who have helped us, that they may have the reward of their goodness. Lord hear us.

All: Lord graciously hear us.

Priest: We pray for those who have fallen asleep in the hope of rising again, that they may see God face to face. Lord hear us.

All: Lord graciously hear us.

Priest: We pray for the family and friends of our sister **Veronica**, that they may be consoled in their grief by the Lord, who wept at the death of his friend Lazarus. Lord hear us.

All: Lord graciously hear us.

17. Offertory Hymn

Blest are You Lord God of All Creation

¹ Blest are you, Lord, God of all creation,
thanks to your goodness this bread we offer:
fruit of the earth, work of our hands,
it will become the bread of life.

Blessed be God! Blessed be God!
Blessed be God forever! Amen!
Blessed be God! Blessed be God!
Blessed be God forever! Amen!

² Blest are you, Lord, God of all creation,
thanks to your goodness this wine we offer:
fruit of the earth, work of our hands,
it will become the cup of life.

Blessed be God! Blessed be God!
Blessed be God forever! Amen!
Blessed be God! Blessed be God!
Blessed be God forever! Amen!

18. Prayer over the Gifts

Look favourably on our offerings, O Lord, so that your departed servant, **Veronica**, may be taken up into glory with your Son, in whose great mystery of love we are all united.

Through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

19. Eucharistic Prayer

Priest: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

Priest: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right and just.

20. Preface of the Dead

Priest: Father, all-powerful and ever-living God, we do well always and everywhere to give you thanks.

By your power you bring us to birth. By your providence you rule our lives. By your command you free us at last from sin. We as you return to the dust from which we came.

Through the saving death of your Son we rise at your word to the glory of the resurrection. Now we join the angels and the saints as they sing their unending hymn of praise:

21. Sanctus

All: Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of hosts. 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.

Priest: You are indeed Holy, O Lord, the fount of all holiness. Make holy, therefore, these gifts, we pray, by sending down your Spirit upon them like the dew fall, so that they may become for us the body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ.

At the time He was betrayed and entered willingly into his Passion, He took bread and , giving thanks, broke it, and gave it to His disciples, saying:

Take this, all of you and eat of it, for this is my body, which will be given up for you.

In a similar way, when supper was ended, he took the chalice and, once more giving thanks, He gave it to His disciples, saying:

Take this, all of you, and drink from it, for this is the chalice of my blood, the blood of the new and everlasting covenant, which will be poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in memory of me.

22. Memorial Acclamation

Priest: The mystery of faith.

All: We proclaim your death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.

23. The Doxology and Great Amen

Priest: Through him and with him, and in him, O God, almighty Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honour is Yours, forever and ever.

All: Amen

24. The Lord's Prayer

Priest: At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

All: 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.

Priest: Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil, graciously grant peace in our days, that, by the help of your mercy, we may be always free from sin and safe from all distress, as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

All: For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever.

25. Rite of Peace

Priest: Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your Apostles, Peace I leave you, my peace I give you, look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church, and graciously grant her peace and unity in accordance with your will. Who live and reign forever and ever

All: Amen

Priest: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

All: And with your spirit.

Priest: Let us offer each other a sign of peace.

26. Angus Dei

All: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.

27. Communion

Priest: Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

All: Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

28. Communion Hymns

I am the bread of Life

¹ I am the Bread of life,
He who comes to Me shall not hunger,
He who believes in Me shall not thirst.
No one can come to Me
Unless the Father draw him.

Chorus: And I will raise him up,
And I will raise him up,
And I will raise him up on
the last day.

² The bread that I will give
Is My flesh for the life of the world,
And he who eats of this bread,
He shall live forever,
He shall live forever,

Chorus

³ Unless you eat
Of the flesh of the Son of Man
And drink of His blood,
And drink of His blood,
You shall not have life within you.

Chorus

⁴ I am the Resurrection,
I am the Life,
He who believes in Me
Even if he die,
He shall live forever.

⁵ Yes, Lord, we believe
That You are the Christ,
The Son of God
Who has come
Into the world.

Chorus

Chorus

As the deer panteth for the water

¹ As the deer panteth for the water
So my soul longeth after Thee
You alone are my heart's desire
And I long to worship Thee

² You're my friend and You are my brother
Even though You are a king
I love You more than any other
So much more than anything

Chorus

Chorus:

You alone are my strength, my shield
To You alone may my spirit yield
You alone are my heart's desire
And I long to worship Thee

³ I want You more than gold or silver
Only You can satisfy
You alone are the real joy giver
And the apple of my eye

Chorus

29. Prayer After Communion

Priest: Let us pray.

Priest: Grant we pray, almighty God, that your servant **Veronica Aina Elizabeth Bankole** who has journeyed from this world, may by this sacrifice be cleansed and freed from sin and so receive the everlasting joys of the resurrection. Through Christ your Son, who is Lord forever and ever.

All: Amen

30. Final Commendation

Priest: Let us pray.

Priest: Our sister, **Veronica Aina Elizabeth Bankole**, has fallen asleep in the peace of Christ, we commit her with faith and hope in everlasting life, to the loving mercy of our Father and assist her with our prayers. In baptism she was made, by adoption, the child of God. At the Lord's Table she was sustained and fed. May she now be welcomed at the table of God's children in heaven and share in eternal life with all the saints. We also turn to the Lord on our own behalf. May we who mourn our sister's departure, be one day united with her. May we go forward together on that day to meet with Christ when he, or life, appears in glory.

All: Amen

31. Song of Farewell

Priest: Saints of God, come to her aid. Hasten to meet her, angels of the Lord!

Response: Receive her soul and present her to God the Most High.

Priest: May Christ, who called you, take you to Himself; May angels lead you to the bosom of Abraham.

Response: Receive her soul and present her to God the Most High.

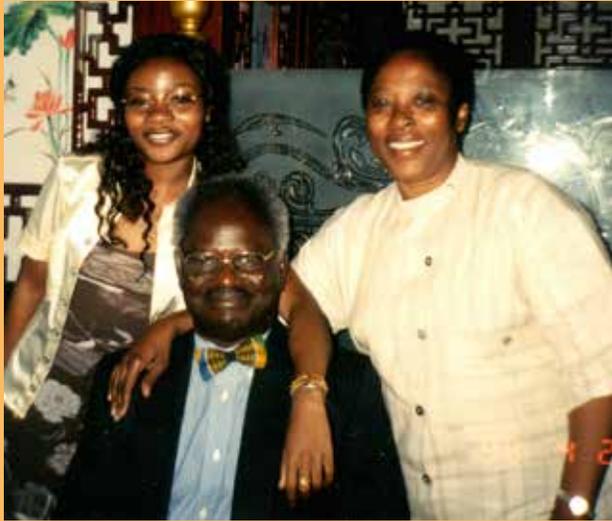
Priest: Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon her.

Response: Receive her soul and present her to God the Most High.

32. Invocation

Priest: Let us pray to our Lord Jesus for our sister, **Veronica Aina Elizabeth Bankole.**

Let us accompany our sister to her place of rest.



33. Recessional Hymn

In Christ Alone

¹In Christ alone my hope is found,
He is my light, my strength, my song;
this Cornerstone, this solid Ground,
firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
when fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My Comforter, my All in All,
here in the love of Christ I stand.

²In Christ alone! who took on flesh
Fulness of God in helpless babe!
This gift of love and righteousness
Scorned by the ones he came to save:
Till on that cross as Jesus died,
The wrath of God was satisfied -
For every sin on Him was laid;
Here in the death of Christ I live.

³There in the ground His body lay
Light of the world by darkness slain:
Then bursting forth in glorious Day
Up from the grave he rose again!
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me,
For I am His and He is mine -
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

⁴No guilt in life, no fear in death,
This is the power of Christ in me;
From life's first cry to final breath.
Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme of man,
Can ever pluck me from His hand;
Till He returns or calls me home,
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

At The Grave Side

34. Blessing of the Grave

Lord Jesus Christ, by the three days You lay in the tomb, You made holy the graves of all who believe in You, and even though their bodies lie in the earth, they trust that they like You will rise again. Give our sister **Veronica Aina Elizabeth Bankole** peaceful rest in this grave, until that day when the Resurrection and the life will raise her up in glory. Then may she see the light of Your presence. Lord Jesus in the Kingdom where you live forever and ever.

(The grave as well as the coffin is sprinkled with Holy Water and Incensed)

Since the Almighty God has called our sister Veronica from this life to Himself, we commit her body to the earth from which it was made. Christ was the first to rise from the dead and we know that he will raise up our mortal bodies to be like His glory. We commend our sister to the Lord. May the Lord receive her body on the last day through Christ our Lord.

(The coffin is now lowered into the grave)

Priest: Lord have mercy
Response: Lord have mercy

Priest: Christ have mercy
Response: Christ have mercy

Priest: Lord have mercy
Response: Lord have mercy

Priest: Our Father.....



35. Bidding Prayer

Let us pray for Veronica to our Lord Jesus Christ, who said "I am the resurrection and the life." The man who believes will never suffer eternal death.

P: Lord, you wept at the death of Lazarus your friend, comfort us in our sorrows, we ask this in faith.

R: Lord hear our prayer.

P: You raised the dead to life; give our sister Veronica eternal life. We ask this in faith.

R: Lord hear our prayer.

P: Our sister Veronica was washed clean in baptism and anointed with the oil of salvation; give her fellowship with all Your Saints. We ask this in faith.

R: Lord hear our prayer.

P: She was nourished with Your body and blood, grant her a place at the table in Your heavenly Kingdom. We ask this in faith.

R: Lord hear our prayer.

P: Comfort us in our sorrow at the death of our sister Veronica, let our faith be our consolation and eternal life our hope. We ask this in faith.

R: Lord hear our prayer.

All: Our Father.....

Let us pray

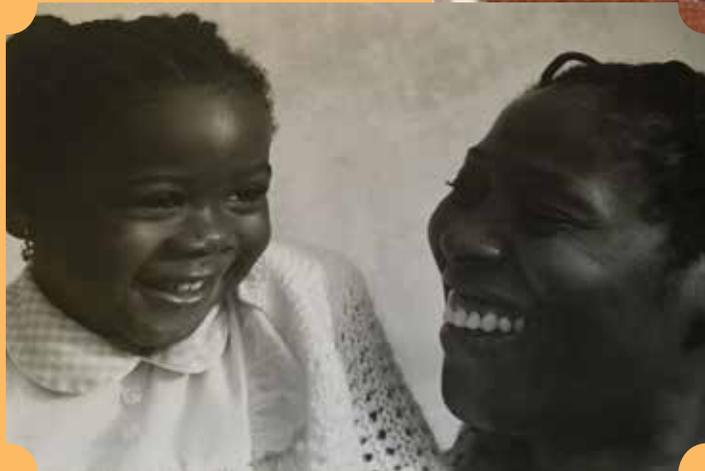
Lord listen to our prayers for our sister Veronica. As she always desired to do Thy will, so with Thy mercy forgive whatever she might have done. By her Christian faith she was united with all the believing people, in love and mercy give her a place with Thy Angels and Saints. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

R: Amen

P: Eternal Rest grant to her O Lord

R: And let perpetual light shine upon her

P: May she rest in peace



MY MUMMY



Mummy, I keep asking myself whether it is true that you are not physically here with me. I miss you terribly and it hurts so very much. It hurts. Bawo losele je wipe esin nibi pelumi.....eyin te je ibora mi?

Amidst this feeling of emptiness and despair, I give thanks to God for I also feel a sense of peace from the confidence that you are with God. May God bless you mummy for I believe that by His grace, you ran the course He set you well; giving the very best of yourself each and every day. I thank God for the privilege of being your daughter. Mummy, words cannot express how much of an inspiration you are to me. I pray for the strength to take forth your strong faith in God, loving and caring nature, gentleness, resilience, generosity, humility and strong work ethic.

Mummy thank you for loving me wholly and without restraint. I am in no doubt of your unconditional love for me; and just as it was a source of strength to me whilst you were here, it remains a source of strength to me now that you are gone. Mummy you always led by example, thank you for the values you instilled in me and thank you for being the great teacher that you are. I am so very proud of you mummy.

You would say to me, at least once, on a daily basis: "I love you very much but God loves you most". I really miss hearing your voice and I miss hearing those words. But I give thanks to God that I am able to say whole heartedly:" Mummy, I love you very much but God loves you most.....rest in peace my darling ma.

Father above, I thank you for my mother. Lord, she came from You, and I believe she has returned to You. I cannot thank You enough for giving us both to each other. Father thank You for giving her the strength and grace to be the person she is. I thank You for Your faithfulness over the years Lord. Father this is an extremely difficult time, but I know that You are with us all who are bearing the pain of mummy no longer being with us - thank you. Father please give us the strength with which to trust and hold on to You through this difficult time, and through each day of our lives help us to do our best by You. My mother would say - 'whatever you do, do it for God, and not for man' - Father help us to live this daily. I love You Lord and I thank You.

Omo Aina (Olawunmi)







BIOGRAPHY

Veronica Aina Elizabeth Bankole (nee Agboh) was born in Lagos on the 18th of May 1946, the first child of Mr and Mrs Agboh.

She attended our Lady of Apostles Convent School, Yaba, Lagos for her primary and secondary school education. She was an extremely bright pupil who excelled at the top of her class and, as a result, a lot of children within the neighbourhood often sought her out as a tutor. After completing her secondary school studies she worked for a while before proceeding abroad in order to further her studies as most aspiring Nigerians did in those days. She did her nurse training in England and excelled at it, becoming a state registered nurse. She proceeded to achieve further qualifications as a state certified midwife, family planning nurse practitioner and a health visitor.

At the insistence of her family she later returned to Nigeria and was appointed as nurse tutor at the then University of Ife (now Obafemi Awolowo University). At the university of Ife, through sheer determination and hard work she turned around the fortunes of the Enuwa Health Centre in Ife turning it into a satellite centre for the training of undergraduate doctors and nurses. Some of the people she trained in midwifery now occupy important positions such as Deans, Professors and even Governor of one of the States of Nigeria. She threw herself into academics obtaining a Master of Arts in Education and also embarked on a Ph.D.

Not long after her marriage to Professor Bankole the family moved to Lagos. They later both moved to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to work. Her diligence and attention to detail brought her to the attention of Royalty and she was head hunted to initiate and lead on a Health-Visiting Unit within the Royal household. She later returned to the UK. She worked initially in general nursing and then returned to what she loved most, Health-Visiting.

She was a wonderful daughter, sister, mother, niece, cousin, aunt, and friend. She valued family and was faithful in caring for her aged mother. She was a blessing to us all. Her kind and loving ways will not be forgotten. Her faith in God was her strength; and we believe it has guided her home.

We love you, Veronica Aina Bankole and we miss you terribly. Rest in peace. Amen.



*Eternal rest, grant unto her O Lord
and let perpetual light shine upon her.
May she rest in peace.*

