



The Diocese of Southwark

9 September 2023

The Bishop of Southwark

The Rt Revd Christopher Chessun

Trinity House
4 Chapel Court
Borough High Street
London
SE1 1HW
t 020 7939 9420

e bishop.christopher@southwark.anglican.org
<https://southwark.anglican.org>

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The Rt Revd Dr Karowei Dorgu, Bishop of Woolwich

It is with great sadness that I write to inform you of the death of Bishop Karowei Dorgu. Bishop Karowei died peacefully after a long struggle with his health on Friday 8 September in the presence of his family at King's College Hospital.

There will be a time for proper tributes to be paid in due course - but for now I wish to convey my deepest sympathy to his wife Mosun, son Timi, twin sister Collette and the whole family. I express my gratitude for Bishop Karowei's friendship and inspirational ministry - latterly as Bishop of Woolwich - where he brought much joy in his passion for the Gospel and loving encouragement to all whom he encountered. It was a privilege to join the family at his bedside and anoint him in his last hours, and I am grateful that the Archbishop of Canterbury came to pray with the family. We have lost a dear friend, brother and colleague and we will miss him greatly. I commend Bishop Karowei and his family to your prayers. May he rest in peace.

I commend the following prayer, written by the Very Revd Andrew Nunn, for use in parishes - particularly in the Woolwich Episcopal Area - on Sunday:

Loving God,
who brings us to birth, holds us in life
and takes us through death to new life in you;
embrace our brother Karowei,
your child and servant, our brother and bishop,
who has died in you and lives for your eternity.
Comfort his family, especially Mosun, Timi and his twin sister Collette;
hold us in our grief
and give us thankful hearts
that we have known and loved
one who followed you
with humble thankfulness
and a generous spirit
and showed us the pilgrim path to heaven
which he now treads with Jesus Christ,
your risen Son, Our Lord.
Amen.

Southwark Cathedral will stay open for a short vigil of prayer this evening between 6pm and 7.30pm.

Details of Bishop Karowei's funeral will be shared with you all in due course. In the meantime, please continue to hold Mosun, Timi, Collette and all who grieve for him in your prayers.

Please feel free to contact Archdeacons Jonathan and Alastair, who are available to offer support and advice.

With my prayers and good wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Christopher Southwark". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'C'.

The Rt Revd Christopher Chessun
The Bishop of Southwark