



AGE

61

**CYRILLUS VANDYKE  
MENSAH**

**A.K.A ATTA KAKRA**

JUNE 1963 - DECEMBER 2024





## **Burial Service For The Late Cyrillus Vandyke Mensah**

### **OFFICIATING MINISTERS**

Very Rev. Father Lawrence Kwesi Krah.

Rev. Father Francis Baffoe Daws.

Rev. Father Enoch Abaidoo .

Rev. Father Dr. Thomas Macarthy.

### **IN ATTENDANCE**

St. Cecilia Singing Band

Organist – Micheal Aidoo

Conductor – Simon Apetorgbor

### **PART I: BURIAL SERVICE.**

Processional Hymn - (CH-210).

Introit -(CH 212).

Kyrie – Mass of St Martha.

Opening Prayer.

### **LITURGY OF THE WORD.**

First Reading –

Responsorial psalm – (CH-34 )

Gospel Acclamation –

Gospel Reading –

Homily –

Prayer of the faithful –

Collection- Midley of songs

### **LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST**

Preparation of Gifts –

Offertory Hymn – ( CH-61)

Sanctus – Mass of St Martha

Proclamation of Faith –

### **COMMUNION RITE**

The Lord's Prayer –

Agnus Dei – Mass of St Martha

Communion Hymnals - (CH 235,  
304, 231 )

Post Communion – (Anthem;  
And I saw a new Heaven)

Recessional Hymn – (CH - 305)

### **BIOGRAPHY AND FALLING PASS**

#### **PART II: FINAL COMMENDATION**

Song – Kyere'm kwan

Sprinkling / incensing

# *Reading Of Biography*

## Biography of the late Cyrillus Vandyke Mensah

Cyrillus Vandyke Mensah was born on, in Takoradi to Gaberial A. Mensah (deceased) and Mame Kraba Eshun. He was baptised into the Star of the Sea Catholic Church in Takoradi. He is the third born with a twin sister, out of six Children. His Father the late Gabriel Mensah worked with the Takoradi Air Force Garrison as a Chief driver and his mother traded in firewood in Takoradi Amanful near the Cape Coast station.

Kakra Vandyke and all his siblings were born in Takoradi, and he attended Wiaoso Road Experimental School from 1969 -1975 at Esikafoambatem number one Takoradi. He continued his education at the Tanokrom Middle "C" School (TAMSCO C) from 1975 and completed in 1980.

After his schooling he preferred to become a Fridge Mechanic, so he started his apprenticeship with his senior brother who is a Fridge Mechanic. He later travelled to seek greener pastures at Gabon where he stayed for about 10 years before returning home. After he settled down, he married his wife and had 2 children with her.

In 2015, he unexpectedly fell sick and settled down at Anomabo for treatment. despite his sickness he did not give up on the work of God and dedicated his time to the church.

He came to Takoradi in November to fully heal and was showing signs of full recovery till death laid its icy hands on him barely a month after on 18th Dec 2024. Brother Damrifa Dua, Dua ne Amanibunu.



# Reading Of Tributes

## Tribute by Mother

Psalm 46:1-10: "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble" It has been several weeks now. Even as we've held funeral meetings for you, I still can't believe that you're gone, Kakra. I keep looking at the door, hoping that at any given moment you'd walk right in and ask me, "Maame wo ho tseden?". I miss you Kakra.

Sixty-one years ago, you were placed in my arms. my third born and my second son. truly, a perfect gift from God.

You were self-motivated and had self-driven qualities, which in my opinion, you were endowed with by God. You were a "people's person" and was easily admired and loved by all who came your way

Many would testify to your kindness, your sacrificial love, and your immense devotion to the cause of the church. You loved the Catholic Church and served in it diligently Whenever I had a concern, you would dutifully look after me and care for me with all your heart.

You were and remained a man of faith, in spite of your ill health. You remained motivated and fought on with dogged determination in the pursuit of good health. We grew closer in the last months I spent by your side as you held on to life. Indeed no mother should live to bury her child. Kakra, you should have lived, and honoured me with a befitting burial as you always said. Sadly, you said your last words and your last breath in my arms. A mother's worst pain.

Yet, I'm consoled, that you are finally at peace and free from all the pain you have had to endure and glad you spent your last days by my side.

Ampa !! Obra pa gya Owura kwan.

Ayekoo Kakra !! Wo tsir ye osiand me nyim d3 Nyame agye wo. Nyame nfa wo sei yie. daakye ye bɛhyia biom.

Da yie, Kakra.



# Reading Of Tributes

## Tribute by Children

Daddy Cyrillus Vandyke Mensah

'To everything there is a season, a time for every purpose under heaven: A time to be born and a time to die; a time to plant and a time to pluck what is planted.' (Ecclesiastes 3: 1-2)

We have gathered here to bid you fare thee well as a father and a friend and it's so hard to accept that you are no more here with us. Coming down on holidays to Ghana was supposed to be a big surprise for you but your sudden departure has turned out to be shocking, weeping and sorrow for all of us.

Though you are gone, your exit would always bring us hope because you remain in our hearts. Yes, death is inevitable but the loss of loved one, especially father can be very painful. A father's love is divine. To the world he was one person but to me he was my world. He always provides all necessary provision for me with the little he had; he left a legacy worth much more. He taught me love, patience, endurance, courage, and hard work. Daddy taught me to love God and through his example we learnt perseverance.



# *Reading Of Tributes*

## Tribute by Siblings

Lamentations 4:1-2

How the gold has lost its luster, the fine gold become dull. The sacred gems are scattered at the head of every street. How the precious sons of Zion, once worth their weight in gold are now considered as pots of clay the work of a potter's hands.

Isaiah 57:1-2

The righteous perish, and no one ponders it in his heart. Devout men are taken away, and no one understands that the righteous are taken away to be spared from evil. Those who walk uprightly enter into peace; they find rest as they lie in death.

As our dear brother Vandyke, a fortunately called (Rev. Father) has returned to his maker we have lost a great brother that his memories will always be in our mind, he will forever be remembered. He is gone for ever those of us still alive let accept Christ as our personal saviour to direct our path Brethren without Jesus Christ we are nothing. Bible says what shall it profit a man when he gains the whole world and loses his soul. We brought nothing into the world, and we will send nothing. Seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Yesterday is gone sweet Jesus' tomorrow may never be mine just give me the strength to do everything one day at a time.

# Reading Of Tributes

## Tribute by Friends

Today, we remember and cherished family friend whose warmth kindness, and contributing to the group which we shared together the word of god on our whatsapp platform. You went extra mile whenever you could and genuinely cared for everyone. The lights have dimmed on all of our lives now that you are no longer here but you are still keeping us all going, knowing that you would tell us to carry on and stay strong. Cyril may rest in perfect peace. Amen.

### MHB 679

1: PLEASANT are Thy courts above,  
In the land of light and love;  
Pleasant are Thy courts below,  
In this land of sin and woe.  
O, my spirit longs and faints  
For the converse of Thy saints,  
For the brightness of Thy face,  
For Thy fullness, God of grace!

4: Lord, be mine this prize to win,  
Guide me through a world of sin;  
Keep me by Thy saving grace;  
Give me at Thy side a place.  
Sun and shield alike Thou art;  
Guide and guard my erring heart:  
Grace and glory flow from Thee;  
Shower, O shower them, Lord, on me!

2: Happy birds that sing and fly  
Round Thy altars, O most High!  
Happier souls that find a rest  
In a heavenly Father's breast!  
Like the wandering dove that found  
No repose on earth around,  
They can to their ark repair,  
And enjoy it ever there.

3: Happy souls! Their praises flow  
In this vale of sin and woe;  
Waters in the desert rise,  
Manna feeds them from the skies.  
On they go from strength to strength,  
Till they reach Thy throne at length,  
At Thy feet adoring,  
Who hast led them safe through all.

# *Reading Of Tributes*

## Tribute By Archdiocese Of Cape Coast

### **Catholic Men Fellowship Anomabo Chapter**

"Today, we gather to pay tribute to an extraordinary individual, Mr. Cyrillus Vandyke Mensah, whose passing leaves a gaping hole in our Men's Fellowship community. Mr. Vandyke was more than just a member; he was a pillar, a pioneer, a mentor, and a shining example of what it means to live a life of faith, service, and compassion. He was the father of the fellowship, Anomabo Chapter.

With his infectious smile, warm demeanor, and generous spirit, Mr. Vandyke touched the lives of everyone of the fellowship. He had a unique ability to make each person feel seen, heard, and valued. His humility, kindness, and empathy inspired us all to be better versions of ourselves.

As an active member of Archdiocese of Cape Coast, Catholic Men Fellowship, Anomabo Chapter, Mr. Vandyke was always willing to lend a helping hand, offer words of encouragement, and provide guidance whenever needed. His wisdom, gained from years of walking with the Lord, was a treasure trove of inspiration and strength for us all.

Mr. Vandyke's love for the Lord was evident in everything he did. He lived out his faith with authenticity, integrity, and passion. His love for the fellowship was amazing. His legacy will continue to inspire us to deepen our relationship with God, to love our neighbors as ourselves, and to serve our community with humility and joy.

As we say goodbye to this remarkable man, we take comfort in the knowledge that his spirit lives on. We will miss him dearly, but we will continue to celebrate his life, his legacy, and the indelible mark he left on our hearts. Rest in peace, dear Mr. Vandyke. Your memory will be a blessing to us all."  
Amen



**CH 34**  
**MY SOUL IS LONGING FOR YOUR PEACE.**

Antiphon:

1. My soul is longing for your peace, Near to you, my God
2. Lord, you know that my heart is not proud, And my eyes are not lifted from the earth.
3. Lofty thoughts have never filled my mind, Far beyond my sight all ambitious deeds.
4. In your peace I have maintained my soul, I have kept my heart in your quiet peace.
5. As a child rests on his mother's knee, So I place my soul in your loving care.
6. Israel, put all your hope in God Place your trust in him, now and evermore.

**CH 61**  
**THE SOLEMN SACRIFICE BEGINS**

1. The Solemn Sacrifice begins The Lamb is offered for our sins He lies upon his altar throne High Priest and victim both in one
2. His sacrifice of love divine Renewed in veils of bread and wine Glory to your great name we sing For this most precious offering
3. We too upon this altar lay Our humble offerings today We give our love though weak and small Our simple heart, ourselves, our all
4. These gifts, dear Saviour, deign to bless, And pardon our unworthiness, While glory to your name we sing, For your own precious offering.

**CH 231**  
**JESUS, THE VERY THOUGHT OF YOU**

1. Jesus, the very thought of you With sweetness fills my breast; But sweeter far your face to see, And in your presence rest.
2. No voice can sing, nor can heart frame, Nor can the memory find. A sweeter sound than your blest Name, O Savior of mankind!
3. hope of every contrite heart, O joy of all the meek, To those who fall, how kind you are! How good to those who seek!
4. But what to those who find? Ah! this Nor tongue nor pen can show; The hove of Jesus, what it is, None but His lovers know.
5. Jesus, our only joy be Thou, As Thou our prize wilt be; Jesus be Thou our glory now, And through eternity.

**CH 235**  
**JESUS, MY LORD, MY GOD, MY ALL.**

1. Jesus, my Lord, my God, my all, How can I love you as I ought? And how revere this wondrous gift, So far surpassing hope or thought? Sweet Sacrament, we you adore, Oh make us love you more and more.
2. Had I but Mary's sinless heart, To love you with, my dearest King, Oh, with what burst of fervent praise, Your goodness, Jesus; would I sing! Sweet Sacrament, etc.
3. Ah, see! Within a creature's hand, The vast Creator deigns to be, Reposing, Infant-like, as though, On Joseph's arm, or Mary's knee. Sweet Sacrament, etc.
4. Your body, soul, and Godhead, all; O mystery of love divine! I cannot compass all I have, For all you are and have are mine; Sweet Sacrament, etc
5. Sound, sound his praises higher still And come, you angels to our aid; 't is God, 't is God, the very God, Whose power both man and angels made. Sweet Sacrament, etc.

**MH 304**

**DEAR ANGEL, EVER AT MY SIDE.**

1. Dear angel, ever at my side, How loving you must be. To leave your home in heaven to guard, A sinful child like me!
2. But when, dear Angel, I kneel down, Both morn and night to prayer, Something there is within my heast, Which tells me you are there.
3. Yes when I pray you do pray too; Your prayer is all for me; But when I sleep you do not sleep, But you watch patiently.
4. How very lovely they must be, Whom God has glorified! Yet one of them, O sweetest thought, Is ever at my side!

**305**

**HARK HARK ANGEL MY SOUL ANGELIC SONGS ARE SWELLING**

1. Of that new life when sin shall be no more! Angels of Jesus, angels of light, Singing to welcome the pilgrims of the night!
2. Onward we go, for still we hear them singing, Come, weary souls, for Jesus bids you come; And through the dark, its echoes sweetly ringing, The music of the gospel leads us home. Angels of Jesus, angels of light, Singing to welcome the pilgrims of the night!
3. Far, far away, like bells at evening pealing, The voice of Jesus sounds o'er land and sea; And laden souls, by thousands, meekly stealing, Kind Shepherd, turn their weary steps to you. Angels of Jesus, angels of light, Singing to welcome the pilgrims of the night!
4. Rest comes at length, though life be long and dreary; The day must dawn, and darksome night be past; All journeys end in welcome to the weary, And heaven, the heart's true home, will come at last. Angels of Jesus, angels of light, Singing to welcome the pilgrims of the night!

5. Angels, sing on! Your faithful watches keeping: Sing us sweet fragments of the songs above: While we toil on, and soothe ourselves with weeping Till life's long night shall break in endless love. Angels of Jesus, angels of light, Singing to welcome the pilgrims of the night!

**CH 313**

**FOR ALL THE SAINTS WHO FROM THEIR LABOURS REST**

1. For all the saints, who from their labors rest, who you by faith before the world confessed, Your Name, O Jesus, be forever blessed.

Alleluia, Alleluia!

2. You were their Rock, their Fortress and their Might; you, Lord, their Captain in the well fought fight; you, in the darkness drear, their one true Light.

Alleluia, Alleluia!

3. blest communion, fellowship divine! we feebly struggle, they in glory shine; Yet all are one in You, O Lord sublime.

Alleluia, Alleluia!

4. The golden evening brightens in the west; soon, soon to faithful warriors cometh rest; sweet is the calm of paradise the blest.

Alleluia, Alleluia!

5. But lo! there breaks a yet more glorious day: the saints triumphant rise in the bright array; the King of glory passes on his way. Alleluia, Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

ONE  
WEEK

OBSERVATION

61

OF THE LATE

MR.  
Cyrillus  
Vandyke—  
MENSAH

DATE

Tuesday, 7th January,  
2024

VENUE

@ Star of The Sea  
Cathedral - Takoradi

TIME

6:00am prompt

ALL FRIENDS AND SYMPATHIZERS ARE CORDIALLY INVITED





## CALLED TO GLORY

OF THE LATE



AGED  
**61**

# MR. CYRILLUS VANDYKE MENSAH

A.K.A ATTA KAKRA

### FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS ARE AS FOLLOWS :

**There will be no wake keeping:**

**Pre Burial Service**

Saturday, 8th February 2025

Star of the Sea Cathedral  
Takoradi.

7:00am - 8:00am

**Interment:**

New Amanful Cemetery

**Funeral Rites:**

Star of the Sea Cathedral, Takoradi  
Park

**Thanksgiving Service:**

Sunday, 9th February 2025

Star of the Sea Cathedral, Takoradi  
10:00am

**Final Funeral Rites:**

Effia-kuma T.T.I near the Total  
Filling Station

**CHIEF MOURNERS:** Abusua panyin Egya Nyankom and Kwaku Morison, Egya Sah, Badu, Mr. James Eshun, Kweku Mensah, Kwaku WAMCO, Papa Yalley, Obaapanyin Mame Kraba, Mrs. Rehbecca Ayree, Auntie Alice, Efua Asikwansah, Star of the Sea Cathedral-Takoradi, Mary Immaculate Conception Catholic Church- Anomabo: and the entire family Anana Abusua of New Amanful and Elimina announces the sudden death of their beloved Cyrillus Vandyke Mensah (a.k.a Atta Kakra)

**MOTHER:** Mame Kraba

**CHILDREN:** Gabriel Mensah, Cyrillus Mensah, James Vandyke Mensah

**BROTHERS & SISTERS:** Charles Kwamena Mensah, Anthony Kweku Mensah (New Amanful), Mrs. Cecilia Owusu (Takoradi), Florence Baidoo (Kumasi) Mrs. Emelia Dowuona.

**COUSINS:** Mame Duku, Eygakuma Eshun, Kwesi Ayree, Kingsley Eshun, Vincentia Eshun, Pual Eshun, Auntie Maggi

**NIECES & NEPHEWS:** Agnes Mensah, Amos Mensah, Gifty Honey Mensah, Ernest Owusu Kwarteng, Juliana Mensah, Adelaide Appiah, Louis Appiah, Beatrice Mensah

**DRESS CODE - Saturday (Black & White), Sunday (Black & White)**

**All friends and sympathizers are cordially invited**

**PART III**

**AT GRAVE-SIDE**

Opening Hymn: Ch. 364

Blessing of Grave

Internment/Committal: Ch 190

Laying of wreaths

Vote of thanks

Benedictions/Closing

Hɛn Eɣya Christ w'edzi konyim.