

Statement from the Diocese of Southwark:

The Bishop of Southwark, The Rt Revd Christopher Chessun, has announced with great sadness the death of his colleague, The Rt Revd Dr Karowei Dorgu, Bishop of Woolwich.

Dr Karowei Dorgu was buried in the Cathedral of St Dunstons, London, on Friday September 8 in the presence of his family at King's College



Bishop Christopher said: "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."

The Most Revd and Rt Hon Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury, said: "Bishop Karowei was a truly holy man, full of the Spirit and of grace, who simply radiated the joy of Christ.

"To be in his presence was to know a little of that joy, and so he was adored everywhere.

"The Church will be much poorer for his loss. However, he leaves us with a great legacy.

"May we continue to be inspired by his passionate commitment to evangelism and his passion for nurturing and developing new leaders. We know that Christ mourns with us, as we hold his family and all who loved him in our prayers."

"This is a sad day for our Diocese and for the Church," added Diocesan Secretary Nicola Thomas, "Bishop Karowei's love of God and his passion for evangelism and nurturing new leaders have been so blessed to know and work with him."



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