



Bernadette Pierre Mills

June 24, 2026

Bernadette “Bunny” Pierre Mills (Feb. 27, 1955–June 24, 2026) of New Orleans devoted her life to faith, family and public service. The eldest daughter of Theodore M. Pierre Sr. and Rita Pierre, she graduated from Xavier University Preparatory School and the University of New Orleans (B.A. in Sociology; M.P.A.). Bernadette held roles with the City of New Orleans—including the Department of Welfare, Office of Manpower and Economic Development, City Council Research, Intergovernmental Affairs and the City Attorney’s Office—then led Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Greater New Orleans, served as Community Relations Coordinator for Freeport McMoRan, and worked with Loyola University’s Twomey Center for Peace through Justice. As a management consultant and trainer, she supported nonprofits, government and private-sector organizations in strategic planning, partnership building, diversity and conflict resolution. A devoted wife, mother and grandmother, she delighted in her five grandchildren and loved baking. Her faith guided her work as an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion at Holy Name of Mary Church and local care facilities. Preceded in death by her parents and several relatives, she is survived by husband Charles Mills Sr.; daughter Leslie (Darnell) Mills Wagstaffe and son Charles Mills Jr.; grandchildren Lyndon, Charlotte, Charles III (Chaz), Donovan and Madeleine; sister Julie (Wayne) Jacobs; extended family and many friends. Her spirit, tenacity and kindness will be deeply missed. Relatives and friends of the family are invited to attend a Funeral Mass at Holy Name of Mary Catholic Church, 500 Eliza St. New

Orleans, LA 70114 on Saturday, July 11, 2026 at 11:00 a.m. Visitation will begin at 9:00 a.m. Arrangements by D. W. Rhodes Funeral Home, 3933 Washington Ave. Please visit www.rhodefuneral.com to sign the online guestbook.

Cemetery Details

Private

Upcoming Events

Visitation

JUL 11. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Holy Name of Mary Catholic Church
500 Eliza St.
New Orleans, LA 70114

Funeral Mass

JUL 11. 11:00 AM (CT)

Holy Name of Mary Catholic Church
500 Eliza St.
New Orleans, LA 70114

Tribute Wall

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“ *The Singletons purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Bernadette Pierre Mills.*



The Singletons - 38 minutes ago