Our HOPE is Alive

...those who Hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

Isaiah 40:31
AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM THE RECTOR

My Dearest Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Grace and peace to you.

I remain very concerned about your total health and welfare, as we navigate through these difficult uncharted waters of a pandemic. Listed below are a few immediate ways that our faith community is responding to help you remain spiritually fed and connected.

† - Effective IMMEDIATELY, the church and parish offices will be closed for entry until further notice. The staff however will be on the premises during regular parish office hours, Monday -Wednesday - Friday, 9:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M. to receive calls from parishioners who may be experiencing physical, emotional or spiritual challenges. Please contact us, email 1792@aecst.org or call 1792@aecst.org or call (215) 473-3065, if you need anything or have any concerns. We will direct you to the appropriate person, agency or organization.

† - Our “Reach Out and Touch Ministry” is engaged in reaching out to members who are shut-in or home bound by way of telephone calls.

† - The Clergy are available for telephone counseling. Please contact the Parish Office, (215) 473-3065.

† - Tuesday Evening Bible Study, led by Fr. Jay Collins, 7:00 P.M. - 7:30 P.M. will resume on April 21st. Please send your email address to Greg Allen at camdenmatters@aol.com and Father Jay at jcoll1906@gmail.com to be added to the list. Thanks to our Bishop Daniel G P Gutiérrez and the Episcopal Diocese of Pennsylvania, this will occur online using Zoom. Please watch your Spearhead email and Facebook posting for connection information.

Lastly, please remember to check-in on loved ones (family, friends, neighbors, etc.) during this time of uncertainty. And know that we “walk by a Faith” that assures us that we will get through these challenging times together.

May we remain both prayerful and faithful.

AECST GIVING

How Can I still give to the church when I am asked to stay indoors / maintain social distancing?

1) Mail in your check or money order to the church. Please use the following address:
   The Historic African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas
   c/o Fiscal Administrator
   6361 Lancaster Avenue
   Philadelphia, PA 19151

2) Use the Givi app. If you don’t already use the app and don’t have an account, it’s easy to obtain. Please download the Givi app (givi iOS App) for your Apple (iPhone, iPad, or iPod touch) or (Givi Android App) for your Android device. If you have any questions, please speak with Deadra Cannon, 215-844-6115.

3) Drop off a payment at the church anytime in the mail slot of the AJ House door on the patio.

4) Church website - Http://www.aecst.org/donations.htm (Simply select the button/s on the page that represents where you’d like your payment to be applied, i.e., your pledge, the AJ house, Easter, etc.

NOTE: Please remember to enter your envelope number in the Customer ID field, if you are a member of St. Thomas, when filling out your online giving information.)
SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER
April 19, 2020

Our condolences to Johanna W. Daye on the death of her aunt Tina Silverman, nee Billingsley. Please keep Johanna, the Billingsley, Silverman and Daye Families in your prayers. May Tina's soul and the souls of all the faithfully departed Rest In Peace and Rise In Glory. †

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Our condolences to Daryn Stewart on death of his aunt, Molly Lane. Please keep Daryn and the Lane & Stewart Families in your prayers. May Molly’s soul and the souls of all the faithfully departed Rest In Peace and Rise In Glory. †

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Due to concerns about the Coronavirus and church attendance the following events have been canceled / postponed / suspended:
- All meetings, activities at St. Thomas are suspended until further notice
- Lay Visitors and Clergy Visits suspended until further notice
Please see our Facebook page (facebook.com/aecst1792) or church’s website (aecst.org) for further information.

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If you are not receiving the Spearhead emails, please visit: http://eepurl.com/djyGiD to subscribe. Your information will NEVER be shared or sold and you can Unsubscribe at anytime by following the instructions provided at the bottom of every email message.

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CAPITAL BUILDING IMPROVEMENT CAMPAIGN
Thank you to all who have contributed to the fund. Everyone is asked to please make a minimum sacrificial gift of $40 per month. Please place Building Fund in the Memo section of your check.

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DAILY RECOMMENDED BIBLE READINGS

Week of 4/20/2020
- Monday - John 14:1-11
- Tuesday - John 17:12-19
- Wednesday - John 17:20-26
- Friday - Luke 3:15-22

Next Sunday’s Readings - 3rd Sunday of Easter
- First Reading - Acts 2:14a, 36-41
- Psalm - 116:1-3, 10-17
- Second Reading - 1 Peter 1:17-23
UPCOMING WEEK

DAILY VIRTUAL WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES
AT THE AECST

Sunday, April 19
10 AM - Morning Worship

Monday, April 20
7AM - Morning Music Meditation
9PM - Compline

Tuesday, April 21
7AM - Morning Music Meditation
7PM - Zoom Bible Class

Wednesday, April 22
7AM - Morning Music Meditation
9PM - Compline

Thursday, April 23
7AM - Morning Music Meditation
9PM - Compline

Friday, April 24
7AM - Morning Music Meditation
9PM - Compline

Saturday, April 25
7AM - Morning Music Meditation
12PM - Noonday Prayer
The African Episcopal Church of Saint Thomas is a Christ-centered community that welcomes all people. This community embraces and executes the core values of our founder, the Reverend Absalom Jones: leadership, morality, spirituality, equal rights, education, liberty, charity, justice, humanitarianism, self-determination, self-respect, and freedom.

St. Thomas is an open, Christ-centered community of faith in which the Gospel is taught, lived and spread.