GOD - THE CREATOR OF THEUniverse
How Great Thou Art
How Great is Your Love

Almighty and merciful Lord, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us and keep us. Amen.
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.

† - The Church and Parish Offices will not be open 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 if you need anything and you will be directed with your concerns to the appropriate person, agency or organization.

† - Clergy are available for telephone counseling. Please contact parish office.

† - Tuesday Evening Zoom Bible Study, led by Fr. Jay Collins, Tuesdays 7:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M. Please send your email to Greg Allen at camdenmatters@aol.com to be added to the list.

† - St. Thomas has been identified as one of the Testing Sites for COVID-19. The date will be announced soon.

† - St. Thomas is proud to partner with the following two organizations to address community needs during the Pandemic: Overbrook West Neighbors (OWN) and Project Isaiah began lunch distribution for Philadelphia's Seniors, those with pre-existing illnesses and vulnerable families on Friday, April 24th here at St. Thomas, meals will be distributed a few days a week.

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.
THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER
April 26, 2020

Our condolences to Nikki and Norman Franke on the death of Nikki’s mother, Beatrice Tomlinson. Please pray for the Franke and Tomlinson families. May Beatrice’s soul rest in peace and rise in glory. †

Our condolences to Vivian Ray on the death of her beloved husband, Artis Ray. Please pray for Vivian and her family. May Artis’ soul rest in peace and rise in glory. †

Our condolences to Dr. & Mrs. Walter and Patricia Bantom on the death of Walter’s aunt Veronica Rich and his cousin Yvonne Boyd. Please pray for the Bantom, Rich and Boyd families. May Veronica and Yvonne’s souls rest in peace and rise in glory. †

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.

ATTENTION 2020 ST. THOMAS HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

Book Awards from the JFA, Sr. Scholarship Committee for the year 2020 are available. To be eligible students must be a member of St. Thomas Church and also have participated in a Youth Activity sponsored by the church for a minimum of one year. Interested students may contact Barbara Douglass at 215-480-2441, email-barbd6920@msn.com or Thomasina Hack at 215-901-2773. An application will be sent to you, which must be completed and returned to Barbara Douglass by May 25, 2020. Thank you and God Bless you.

-Jesse F. Anderson, Sr. Scholarship Committee
DAILY RECOMMENDED BIBLE READINGS

Week of 4/27/2020
Tuesday - Luke 4:31-37
Wednesday - Luke 4:38-44
Friday - Luke 5:12-26

Next Sunday’s Readings
- 4th Sunday of Easter
First Reading - Acts 2:42-47
Psalm - 23
Second Reading - 1 Peter 2:19-25
Gospel - John 10:1-10

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.)

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. Mail in your check or money order to the church. Please use the following address listed above under AECST GIVING.
ONLINE MEDITATIONS/ EVENING PRAYER SCHEDULE

Sunday, April 26
10 AM - Morning Worship

Monday, April 27
7AM - Morning Music Meditation
9PM - Compline

Tuesday, April 28
7AM - Morning Music Meditation
7PM - Zoom Bible Class

Wednesday, April 29
7AM - Morning Music Meditation
9PM - Compline

Thursday, April 30
7AM - Morning Music Meditation
9PM - Compline

Friday, May 1
7AM - Morning Music Meditation
9PM - Compline

Saturday, May 2
7AM - Morning Music Meditation
12PM - Noonday Prayer
VOTING IN THE PRIMARY AND GENERAL ELECTIONS
It is extremely important that we vote in the upcoming election on June 2nd and November 3rd. But will it be safe to do so? Pennsylvania has voting by mail for both the June Primary and the November 3rd General Elections this year.

How do you I get a mail ballot?
Go to votespa.com and click the “Apply Online” button. Applications MUST be received by the County by 5pm on May 26th. Mail in ballots MUST be received by 8pm on June 2nd.

Please don’t hesitate, go online and get your ballot. There are no excuses for not voting!

THE VESTRY
Rector’s Warden- Richard C Jones
Accounting Warden- Deborah Camp-Frye
Clerk of the Vestry- Johanna W. Daye
Treasurer- Kelvin Johnson

Alister Allman      Deborah Harrison      Steven Lewis
Patricia Bantom    D. Lynn Joell         Jonathan Muse
Ronnie Collins     Brenda Johnson-Best    Darryl (Bobby) Tillman
Albert S. Dandridge

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: Monday - Friday 8:30 am - 4:00 pm
6361 Lancaster Avenue • Philadelphia, PA 19151
Phone: 215.473.3065 • Emergency: 215.627.1606
e-mail: 1792@aecst.org • www.aecst.org • www.facebook.com/aecst1792

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.
MINISTRY STAFF

Bishop The Rt Rev Daniel G P Gutierrez
Rector The Very Rev Canon Martini Shaw rector@aecst.org
Assistant to the Rector
Associate Priest The Rev Dr Sadie S Mitchell
Associate Priest The Rev Fr Gerald Collins
Associate Minister The Rev Dr Thomas G Snowden
Associate Minister The Rev Dr Paul Bach
Parish Vergers Stephen Hannum
Karen Ragland
Lisa Stewart
Executive Assistant to the Rector Gladyce DuBrey 1792@aecst.org
Fiscal Assistant to the Rector Deadra Cannon
Investments Advisor to the Rector Albert S. Dandridge, III, Esq
Fiscal Administrator Jeannette Jeffrey fiscal@aecst.org
Sexton LaDon Elliott
Asst Sexton James Brown
Rector’s General Counsel Joe Tucker, Esq 215.875.0609
Chancel Choir Master Jay Fluellen, D.M.A. drjfluellen@gmail.com
Gospel Choir Master Waltier Blocker
Jazz Ensemble Director Joe Stevenson
Church School Superintendent Dottie Archey 215.474.2815
Memorial Flowers Alfreda Brockman
Baptism Co-Chairs Gail H Harris 215.450.9312
Patricia Walker-Ellison 215.643.7223
Ed Muse Photography Ministry William Edmonds 302.502.6375
Dale Williams
Social Media Manager Gregory J Allen, PhD 215.477.2672
Scout Pack 133 Arlene Gray bsapack0133@gmail.com
Sound Ministry Joe Stevenson
Transportation Ministry J Reggie Kimble 610.585.8053
William Burke Ushers Ministry Brenda Johnson Best
Parish Webmaster Gail H Harris 215.450.9312