



AECST
Celebrating
THE
JESUS MOVEMENT



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

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

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.

† - 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

Monday - Luke 4:14-30

Tuesday - Luke 4:31-37

Wednesday - Luke 4:38-44

Thursday - Luke 5:1-11

Friday - Luke 5:12-26

Saturday - Luke 5:27-39

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](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
Patricia Bantom
Ronnie Collins
Albert S. Dandridge

Deborah Harrison
D. Lynn Joell
Brenda Johnson-Best

Steven Lewis
Jonathan Muse
Darryl (Bobby) Tillman
Judith Tillman

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