



AECST
FOUNDED 1792



John 3:16

**For God so loved the world
that he gave his
one and only Son,
that whoever believes in Him
shall not perish
but have eternal life.**



THE AFRICAN EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS • FIRST BLACK EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN THE USA
THE VERY REVEREND CANON MARTINI SHAW, 17TH RECTOR
6361 LANCASTER AVENUE • PHILADELPHIA, PA 19151 • (215) 473-3065
WWW.AECST.ORG • WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/AECST1792

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 11, 2021

10:00 AM

PARISH ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE HOURS:

Monday-Friday 9AM-4PM.

Please be advised that with social distancing still in effect:

1. No more than three (3) persons can visit the office at a time.
2. You must be masked to enter the building and must practice social distancing while present.
3. You must sanitize your hands upon entering the door.
4. Only entry to the entire property will be ONE DOOR, the Absalom Jones House ramp door.

IN-PERSON CHURCH SERVICE RE-ENTRY:

It is presently uncertain when we will return to worship in the church however planning is underway to assure that we are all able to safely worship upon our return. The Rector has appointed the following Committee to discern/guide the process and make recommendations to him and the Vestry. The Co-Chairs are Richard Jones, Rector's Warden, and Deborah Camp-Frye, Accounting Warden.

Please Be Advised:

The St. Thomas Thrift Shop is NOT taking donations at this time.

COMMUNITY JOB FAIR

April 14th 10 AM - 7 PM

at The Hospital Of the University of Pennsylvania
Cedar Avenue Atrium, 54th Street and Cedar Avenue.

They will be conducting onsite interviews, connections to clinical and non-clinical openings, and information about roles with Penn Medicine, Crothall Healthcare, Sodexo, and Public Health Management Corporation (PHMC). Registration online pennmedicine.org/cedar54jobs

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

is now being scheduled. If you are someone or know of someone who wish to be baptized, please go to our website www.aecst.org, go to "About The AECST" drop down and click on Holy Baptism. All the information about baptism and the electronic form can be found there.

THE CIRCLE OF PRAYER MINISTRY

Thank you Verger Lisa New, Susan Ben, Wanda Tarawaly, R. Seth Williams, Cynthia Muse, Elizabeth Derr, and the members and all others who continue to participate and support our weekly Circle of Prayer call. We look forward to our next prayer session on **April 12, 2021**. We start promptly at **6:30 am**.

You are encouraged to reach out to us at circleofprayer@aecst.org to submit prayer request or if you are interested in leading the Intercessory Prayer, the Prayers for the People, or a Meditation in Song. The teleconference call number is: **605-313-6361**: access code is **268105**

**ST. THOMAS
CIRCLE
OF
PRAYER MINISTRY**

**PLEASE JOIN
US WEEKLY FOR
MONDAY MORNING
PRAYER CALL**

AT 6:30 AM

**THE TELECONFERENCE NUMBER IS:
(605) 313-6361 CODE: 268 105**

**YOU ARE WELCOME TO SEND
AN INTERCESSORY PRAYER
REQUEST TO:**

CIRCLEOFPRAYER@AECST.ORG

**PHYLLIS B. CATER * DAPHNE GILSTRAP
FACILITATORS**

**THE VERY REV. CANON MARTINI SHAW
RECTOR**



THE AFRICAN EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS
6361 LANCASTER AVENUE PHILADELPHIA, PA 19151 215.473.3065

DAILY RECOMMENDED BIBLE READINGS

Readings For THE Second Sunday of Easter April 11th

First Reading: Acts 4: 32-35
Psalm 133

Second Reading: 1 John 1: 1-2:2
The Holy Gospel: John 20: 19-31

Week of 4/12/2021

Monday - John 14: (1-7) 8-17

Tuesday - John 14: 18-31

Wednesday - John 15: 1-11

Thursday - John 15: 12-27

Friday - John 16: 1-15

Saturday - John 16: 16-33

Readings For The Third Sunday of Easter April 18th

First Reading: Acts 3: 12-19
Psalm 4

Second Reading: 1 John 3 :1-7
The Holy Gospel: Luke 24: 36b-48

TUESDAY ZOOM BIBLE CLASSES

with Fr. Jay on Tuesdays at 7pm.

Please send your email to:

Fr. Collins at JayCollins@comcast.net or
267-634-6185 to be added to the list.



AECST
FOUNDED 1792

The African Episcopal Church
of
St. Thomas
Church School

Calling ALL AECST
Students K-12, Parents
and Teachers

JOIN US
FOR OUR
VIRTUAL CLASSES
EVERY
SUNDAY @ 12:00 NOON

KNOW JESUS.
CHANGE THE WORLD!

Registration required via email
To RSVP contact Supt. Dottie Archey
(215) 837-6941 or email at churchschool@aecst.org

Interested in becoming a Church School Teacher?
Contact Dottie Archey to learn more.

The Very Reverend Canon Fr. Martini Shaw, Rector

"Start children off on the way they should go,
and even when they are old, they will not turn from it"

Proverbs 22:6 (NIV)



PLEASE KEEP IN PRAYER

Recovering At Home:

Linda Holmes, Waltier Blocker, Rosalind Roberts Smalls, Kenneth Dow, Carl Dean, Verger Stephen Hannum, Suzanne Closson, Carl Dean, Joan Hall, Georgia Sawyer, Adinah Edwards, Tyrone Keller, William Edmonds, Isedora "Gwen" Francis, Francina Norris, Shirley Winkfield, Joseph Stevenson, William Edmonds, Judith Simpkins-Booth, Lisa Woodley, Joyce Jackson.

Rehab Facility:

Robert Brown

We Pray For:

Those who are Incarcerated and their families/loved ones, as well as those affected by their actions.

OUR CONDOLENCES AND PRAYERS TO:

the Bowens / Hines Family on the death of **Rupert Bowen**; husband to Sandra Bowen; father to Lena Hines; grandfather to Amia Hines; father-in-law to Ashley Hines. May Rupert's soul rest in peace and rise in glory. Please pray for the family.

THE ALTAR GUILD

is selling 2021 Liturgical Calendars for \$6.00 each.
You may purchase and arrange for pick up by calling
Clara Mae Daniels at 215-327-6168 or Freda Brockman at
609-841-4799 (after 3pm)

COVID-19 VACCINATION CLINIC LEADING US THROUGH THE WILDERNESS

During the COVID-19 pandemic, our Rector Father Martini Shaw has been our shepherd guiding us through the wilderness. Our church has always been “open.” People have received pastoral care. The needs of our families have been met. Sunday Services have occurred “virtually.”

Under his leadership, with the support of our partners at Main Line Health and Lankenau Hospital, St. Thomas hosted a COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic. His passion was featured in a recent Daily Pennsylvanian article titled Philadelphia organizations work to educate and provide vaccines to at-risk populations written by Brandon Anaya and Sheila Hodges. An excerpt of the article is provided below.

“My being vaccinated was hopefully to communicate to communities of color the importance of the vaccine, as well as the efficacy and safety of the vaccine,” he said in an interview with the DP. “Clergy are held to a certain standard within communities of color, and seeing a clergyperson receive the vaccine did relieve some of the hesitancy and fear that some may have been experiencing at the time.”

To read the entire Daily Pennsylvanian article, please visit <https://www.thedp.com/article/2021/03/philadelphia-vaccine-rollout-inequities-community-leaders-penn-experts>.

FROM THE JFA SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Attention St Thomas high school grads:

The Jesse F Anderson Sr Scholarship St Thomas Book Award applications are now available. These awards are given to graduates who are active members for at least one year and plan to attend an institution of higher learning in 2021.

Application deadline is May 17, 2021.

Please contact Paula Lamb 215-620-7250 for application.

WE NEED YOUR HELP TO GET THE WORD OUT!

Region 3 is excited to be able to support our community and each other by extending an opportunity to join this amazing FEMA team as a Local Hire in support of our amazing Vaccine Distribution mission.

Please share the link below as far and wide as possible so that we can provide even greater support (and relief!) to our team and the community we serve.

USAJOBS - Job Announcement -
Local Hire (Emergency Management Specialist 1
- Non-Medical Vaccine Support Staff)

If you have any questions on the Local Hire program, please reach out to the Admin Section at:
R03-RRCC-ASC@fema.dhs.gov.

CHOSEN 300

“Have a Heart for the Homeless / Hungry” Fundraiser

Our 2021 Fundraiser for Chosen 300 will continue in February, Heart month. In 2021, we will provide meals to be served at the Chosen 300 Spring Garden Street site and at the Lancaster Avenue site. Because of our steadfast support the challenges of COVID -19 did not deter us in 2020.

We continued service at both sites!

Checks for donations should be made payable to:

AECST Chosen 300 - with Chosen 300 on the memo line
Mail checks to: St. Thomas Church, 6361 Lancaster Avenue,
Phila. PA 19151. Attention: Chosen 300

Use the Givi app, Donate online at www.aecst.org/donations
Questions?: contact scmci@aol.com

FROM THE RECTOR:

There is still time for you to prayerfully submit your 2021 Faithful Giving Card. You may do so by several methods: mail, drop off in the office, on our website online: (aecst.org or Facebook)

If you have questions, please contact the Fiscal Administrator, Jeanette Jeffrey in the Fiscal Office from 10am-1pm Monday-Thursday.

Thanking you in advance for the many ways that you share your Time, Talents and Treasures toward the ministries of St. Thomas Church.

A MESSAGE FROM STEWARDSHIP:

Our theme for this year's Stewardship - "Our Doors Are Open"

2021 St. Thomas Offering Envelopes are now ready for pick up in Anderson Hall. You may pick them up during Parish Office Hours (M-F 9:00 AM - 4:00PM) by entering through the A.J. House entrance with the ramp.

Please don't forget your mask. If by chance you live in the same neighborhood of a church member who is unable to pick theirs up, perhaps you can pick theirs up and put it in their mail slot or between their doors.

If you have changed your address, home/cell phone number or email address, please send your changed contact information to Judy Tillman at: tillman_72@msn.com or the church email: 1792@aecst.org so that we can update the church records.

Thank you. "To whom much is given, much is required." Luke 12: 48

WAYS TO CONTINUE TO BE FAITHFUL TO GOD AND THE CHURCH THROUGH STEWARDSHIP

- 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 click the links below for the type of device you own to 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) Bring your check directly to the Parish Office during regular business hours (Monday - Thursday 9am-4pm). After business hours, drop your envelope in the door mail slot located on the front patio of the Absalom Jones House.

- 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, Church School, Chosen 300, 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.

A CHART TO ASSIST US WITH OUR FAITHFUL GIVING

**Holy Scripture commends a minimum tithe of
(10% of our earnings)**

**Where are you on your spiritual journey?
Annual Faithful Giving**

Yearly Income	2%	5%	10%
\$10,000.00	\$200.00	\$500.00	\$1,000.00
\$15,000.00	\$300.00	\$750.00	\$1,500.00
\$20,000.00	\$400.00	\$1,000.00	\$2,000.00
\$25,000.00	\$500.00	\$1,250.00	\$2,500.00
\$30,000.00	\$600.00	\$1,500.00	\$3,000.00
\$40,000.00	\$800.00	\$2,000.00	\$4,000.00
\$50,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$2,500.00	\$5,000.00
\$60,000.00	\$1,200.00	\$3,000.00	\$6,000.00
\$70,000.00	\$1,400.00	\$3,500.00	\$7,000.00
\$80,000.00	\$1,600.00	\$4,000.00	\$8,000.00
\$90,000.00	\$1,800.00	\$4,500.00	\$9,000.00
\$100,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$10,000.00
\$110,000.00	\$2,200.00	\$5,500.00	\$11,000.00
\$120,000.00	\$2,400.00	\$6,000.00	\$12,000.00
\$150,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$7,000.00	\$15,000.00
\$175,000.00	\$3,500.00	\$8,750.00	\$17,500.00
\$200,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$20,000.00

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 use the envelope from your packet or place Building Fund in the Memo section of your check.

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.

Please join us for service on the St. Thomas Website www.aecst.org or our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/aecst1792> every Sunday morning.

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 Fr Gerald Collins	
Associate Minister	The Rev Dr Thomas G Snowden	
Associate Minister	The Rev Dr Paul Bach	
Parish Vergers	Stephen Hannum	
	Lisa Steward-New	
	Karen Ragland	
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	webmanager@aecst.org
Property Chair	Deborah Harrison	215-473-3065

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	Albert S. Dandridge	Jonathan Muse
Patricia Bantom	Deborah Harrison	Darryl (Bobby) Tillman
Ronnie Collins	D. Lynn Joell	Judith Tillman
	Brenda Johnson Best	

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.
