



AECST
FOUNDED 1792

He is not here. He has Risen!

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

EASTER SUNDAY
THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD
April 4, 2021
9:00 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.

The Church and Parish Offices will be closed on Friday, April 2nd and Monday, April 5th. **Happy Easter**

Resurrection Sunday

April 4, 2021

9:00 AM

Virtual Worship (Facebook, Website or YouTube)

11:00 AM

Holy Communion Distribution; Easter Blessing;
Gift bags to all children



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HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SUNDAY

GOOD FRIDAY

April 2nd, Noon

Stations of the Cross

Service can be viewed virtually only
(website, Facebook or YouTube).

EASTER SUNDAY (RESURRECTION SUNDAY)

April 4th

Following the 9:00 AM Virtual Worship on our Facebook, Website or YouTube channels, come 11:00 AM- Noon to receive both Holy Communion distribution and a special Easter Blessing at the altar of our Lord. Parishioners and friends will enter the church at the direction of the Greeters.

EASTER HUNT 2 GO

On Easter Sunday, all children will receive gift bags filled with candy and goodies at Easter Hunt 2 Go.

Sponsored by the Vergers Ministry.

A MESSAGE FROM THE RECTOR AND STAFF:

We wish you a very blessed, safe and healthy Eastertide.

**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

THE CIRCLE OF PRAYER MINISTRY

Thank you Verger Lisa New, Jenelle Johnson, Carla Spates, Joyce Adams, 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 5, 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

COVID-19 VACCINATION CLINIC LEADING US THROUGH THE WILDERNESS

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>.

DAILY RECOMMENDED BIBLE READINGS

Readings For Resurrection Sunday

April 4th

First Reading: Isaiah 25: 6-9

Psalm 118: 1-2, 14-24

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15: 1-11

The Holy Gospel: Mark 16: 1-8

Week of 4/5/2021

Monday - Mark 16: 1-8

Tuesday - Mark 16: 9-20

Wednesday - Matthew 28: 1-16

Thursday - Matthew 28: 16-20

Friday - Luke 24: 1-12

Saturday - Mark 12: 18-27

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

TUESDAY ZOOM BIBLE CLASSES

with Fr. Jay will resume on

April 6, 2021 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 TO:

The Tucker Family (Joe, Alycia and Devon) on the death of Joe's mother, **Opal Tucker**.

May the soul of Opal rest in peace and rise in glory. Please pray for the family. Opal's service can be viewed on Zoom the meeting ID:836 489 9228 Password: Terry

We are deeply saddened to announce the passing of of our own, **G. Alfred Burton** who was a part of the St. Thomas Music Ministry. He ministered at most of our funerals for the past 17 years and played for the St. Thomas Voices of Comfort. He will be dearly missed by us all. Arrangements for Alfred will be the following:

Monday, April 5, 2021; 9AM - 11AM Visitation; 11AM - Service.
Cannon Funeral Home 2315 N. Broad Street.

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 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)

Please Be Advised:

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

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.

EASTER LILLIES IN LOVING MEMORY AND THANKSGIVING

The High Altar Arrangement

is given to the glory of God and in Thanksgiving for:
**The Honorable Charles H. Cuffeld, Diane Hughes,
Edward E. Hughes, Elizabeth Rayann Hughes**
given by Ronnie H. Collins

The Easter Lilies

are given to the Glory of Almighty God and In Memory of:
Ethel Bailey, Eline Francis, Nora Brown,

Pauline Parkinson, Ettiemay Scott by Karen & Landon Leys

The departed members of the **Watson and Daniels**
Families by Clare Mae Watson-Daniels

**Kevin Michael Davis Jr, Dennis and Margaret Robinson,
Brenda Robinson** by Patricia R. Akins

**Lloyd Davis, Patricia Davis, Duane Davis, Andy Davis,
Dawn Bellamy-Hicks** by Stacey N. Davis

**Catherine Holmes, Rosalie Cross. Edith Goodwin,
James T. Lowe, Sr, Patricia Johnson Carmen M. Brown
Pastor S. Mitchell, Charles T. Mitchell, Jr.,
Lucinda G. Harper, The Stridiron Family, The Gordon
Family,** by Charlene Mitchell Wiltshire

**Edward L. Muse, Jestene Muse, Peale Dillard, Ruth Fields
Robinson by Cynthia R. Muse**

Andre R. Seay, given by Brianna, Gabrielle & Cathy Seay

Matilda "Tillie" & Bernard Smith by Paul Wright & Keith Smith

**Beatrice Tomlinson, Eva Dellimore, Edith Cole
by Norman & Nikki Franke**

**Robert Washington, Mayme & Marion Nathaniel & Bernice
Tillman by Bobby, Judy & Teri Tillman**

In Thanksgiving For:

**Thomas Armstrong, Beatriz Armstrong, Amir Armstrong,
Ahmad Armstrong, Carmen Bey by Jean Rider Armstrong**

**Deborah Seay, Gertrude Baker, Mercedes Sadler,
Pearl Henderson, Madeline Henderson,
Jean Rider Armstrong**

Norma Smaltz, Dorothy Lundy by Norman & Nikki Franke

For the Glory of God

**Sister Cheryl Stiles, Sheila and Carl Stubbs,
Tobias Jenkins, Carl (CJ) Jordan and Rebecca O Stubbs by
Cynthia R. Muse**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY
to all those celebrating Birthdays in April

- 4/1 Justin Lyon
4/2 Linda Watson
4/3 Brandon Stiff, Nicola Knight
4/4 Edwin Santaa
4/5 Bryan Guglielmi
4/8 Benes Lawrence, Shirley Winkfield
4/9 Deborah Sartin, Ladon Leys
4/10 Jeffrey Chapman, Barry Frye
4/11 Irenda Gates
4/12 Barbara Wiley, India Lyon
4/13 Nicole Stanley
4/14 Debbie Harrison, Dorothy Willis
4/15 Gloria Moses, Alexia Wells, Karen Ragland,
Judy Tillman
4/16 Lynette Edwards, Rhonda Wilson,
Carmen Randolph, Shelly Stewart
4/18 Darryle Tillman, Elaine Young
4/19 Rashanda Stiff
4/20 Theresa Bramwell, Katisi Henderson
4/21 Tim Barksdale, Julia Williams
4/22 Lemont Johnson
4/23 Muriel Clifford, Richard Jones, Jr.
4/24 Judy Simkins Booth
4/25 Wanda Wood
4/26 Simone Jeffers
4/28 Albert Dandridge, Tracy Jones
4/29 Tynecia Wilson
4/30 Shakerra Blair

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 is on 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 - Kevin 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.
