



AECST  
FOUNDED 1792

**I am the living bread  
that came down from heaven.  
Whoever eats this bread  
will live forever.  
This bread is my flesh,  
which I will give  
for the life of the world.**

**John 6:51 NIV**



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 TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

**Sunday, August 15, 2021  
10:00 AM**

## **FROM THE RECTOR**

Whoever you may be and where you may find yourself experiencing life's journey, do know that you are always welcome at St. Thomas Church.

**SPREAD THE GOOD NEWS  
ST. THOMAS TO RESUME IN-PERSON WORSHIP!!!**

**DUE TO THE CONTINUED RISE OF COVID CASES** details regarding our Sunday Service are **TENTATIVE**. We will be monitoring CDC updates and following ALL city and Diocesan protocols from now until the planned date.

**September 12, 2021, at 10:00 AM  
(5 weeks or 34 days)**

If you live out of town, make your travel plans NOW.

**Masks are required for all in attendance.**

**WE REQUEST THAT ALL IN ATTENDANCE  
BE VACCINATED.**

Unvaccinated individuals are requested to watch the service via Live Stream.

**Saturday, September 11th**

Outdoor Physical Activities will include:  
Zumba, Low-Impact Cardio and Line-Dancing.

**Sunday, September 12th**

“Celebratory Service and Festive Outdoor Reception”  
More details to come.

Co-Chairs for the 2021 Homecoming are:

Albert Dandridge  
Monica Lewis Jones  
Catherine Stafford

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## **A PASTORAL NOTE FROM THE RECTOR**

Grace and Peace to you.

I pray that this communication finds you well.

Recent news reporting re: COVID19 has caused me great concern, especially for our dear brothers and sisters who have not been fully vaccinated against COVID19. If you are unvaccinated, I ask you to prayerfully consider being vaccinated ASAP. Please spread the word regarding the importance of being fully vaccinated.

Please receive this note as a symbol of my deep concern and love. And let us continue to pray for those infected with and affected by the virus.

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## **ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE/CHURCH SUMMER HOURS**

Monday - Thursday 9:00 AM-2:00 PM

Closed Fridays in July and August.

Have a safe, healthy and enjoyable summer!

## **LIVE VIDEO UPDATE**

Our new Live-Stream system has been fully installed. In the Fall, when we return to **in-person** worship, our parishioners, friends and visitors who cannot be in physical attendance will be able to continue to worship with us each week.  
To God be the Glory!

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## **SPEARHEAD EMAILS**

If you are not receiving the Spearhead emails, or have someone else you wish to receive, 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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## **CIRCLE OF PRAYER MINISTRY**

The Monday Morning Circle of Prayer  
will resume in September.

## **SUPPORT ST. JAMES' SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE**

St. James School in the Schuylkill Deanery  
School Supply Distribution:  
**August 21, 2:00 PM**  
6838 Woodland Avenue  
Philadelphia, PA 19142



St. Thomas Church will send your donation.

Make checks payable to:

St. Thomas Church.

Place "St. James School"  
on the memo line.

Drop checks off or mail to:

St. Thomas Church

6361 Lancaster Avenue  
Philadelphia, PA 19151

You can also use the online **GIVI App**.

If you don't already use the app and don't have an account,  
it's easy to obtain.

Please visit the GIVI site at: [getgivi.com](http://getgivi.com) 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. Please make donations  
by **August 16th**.

If you have any questions, please speak with  
**Deadra Cannon, 215-844-6115.**

## **THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM**

is now being scheduled. If you wish to be baptized, please go to our website [www.aecst.org](http://www.aecst.org), go to “About The AECST”. Use the drop down to click on Holy Baptism. All the information about the Sacrament of Holy Baptism and the **online application form** can be found there.

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## **PROPERTY UPDATE - GOOD NEWS!**

Major work has started on our entire roof, pointing of all exterior and interior stones, and ultimately the cleaning of the interior stones. If you have questions, please speak with our Vestry Property Chair, Ms. Deborah Harrison.

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## **PLEASE JOIN THE NEW ST. THOMAS KITCHEN COMMITTEE**

This ministry is a part of our Property Committee. It will NOT involve any food preparation. The purpose will be to assure that our kitchen is well organized, tidy and pristine looking at all times.

Please speak with one of the Co-Chairs, Deadra Cannon, Clare Mae Daniels or Dottie Archey immediately to join.

The proverb says: “cleanliness is next to godliness”.

## **DAILY RECOMMENDED BIBLE READINGS**

### **Readings For The Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost August 15th**

First Reading: Proverbs 9: 1-6

Psalm 34: 9-14

Second Reading: Ephesians 5: 15-20

The Holy Gospel: John 6: 51-58

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### **Week of 8/16/2021**

Monday - John 5: 19-29

Tuesday - John 5: 30-47

Wednesday - John 6: 1-15

Thursday - John 6: 16-27

Friday - John 6: 27-40

Saturday - John 6: 41-51

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### **Readings For The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost August 22nd**

First Reading: Joshua 24: 1-2a, 14-18

Psalm 34: 15-22

Second Reading: Ephesians 6: 10-20

The Holy Gospel: John 6: 56-69

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**2021 SUNDAY SUMMER SERIES**

All services can be viewed on our Facebook,  
Website or Youtube channels  
at 10:00 AM

These Sundays we will offer morning prayers, scripture  
and music officiated by our clergy and vergers.

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**TUESDAY ZOOM BIBLESTUDY**

will not meet

from **July 6, 2021** to **August 31, 2021**.

Bible Study will resume meeting on  
Tuesday following Homecoming Sunday  
via Zoom at 7:00 PM.

Have a most blessed respite.

Thank you for participating in our  
ministry of love for Holy Scripture.

**From Father Jay**

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The African Episcopal Church of Saint Thomas  
6361 LANCASTER AVENUE  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19151  
The Very Reverend Canon Martini Shaw, Rector

## PEW MEMORIAL PLAQUES



*THE FEAST OF ALL SAINTS*  
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2021  
DEDICATE A PEW PLAQUE  
IN MEMORY OF YOUR LOVE ONES

**\$500.00**

(Payment Deadline: October 10, 2021)

Checks or money orders can be made payable to: AECST.

You may pay also through the “givi” app.

Make certain to indicate your wish to purchase a  
Pew Memorial Plaque and include contact information.

Visit the Church’s website at <http://www.aecst.org/donations.htm>  
for other Payment options.

For additional questions or information contact:

**Victoria A. Mosley Rivers**

[victoria.rivers@verizon.net](mailto:victoria.rivers@verizon.net) or 215-878-3651



## **RECOVERING AT HOME**

Linda Holmes, Joseph Stevenson,  
Lisa Woodley, Rosalind Roberts Smalls.

## **PLEASE KEEP IN PRAYER**

Suzanne Closson, Shirley Caldwell, Carl Dean,  
Adinah Edwards, Francina Norris, Isedora "Gwen" Francis,  
Kenneth Dow, Shirley Winkfield, Robert Brown,  
Judith Simpkins-Booth, Stephanie Williamson,  
Ridart "Butch" Farmer, Georgia Sawyer, Joan Hall,  
Dr. Thomas Snowden, Leatrice Snowden.

## **WE PRAY FOR**

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

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## **OUR CONDOLENCES TO:**

the family of **Shirley Gadson** on her passing. Please pray  
for the family. Arrangements are pending.

Linda Watson and Clara Tracey Watson-Williams on the  
death of their mother, **Lovenia B. Watson** and uncle,  
**Jerome Bundy**. May their souls rest in peace and rise in  
glory. Please pray for the family.

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## **ST. THOMAS COLUMBARIUM INURNMENT**

If you have a loved one who has passed away in the  
last year and would like to schedule a St. Thomas  
Columbarium Inurnment, please contact the church office  
at 215-473-3065.

## **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 or Facebook/aecst1792.

If you have questions, please contact the Fiscal Administrator, Jeanette Jeffrey in the Fiscal Office from 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM, 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.

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## **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 - 2:00 PM**) 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 up their envelope, perhaps you can pick it up for them and put it in their mail slot or between their doors.

If you have decided to use the Givi App or Online Giving donation button and no longer want to receive offering envelopes please let me know by **Sunday, August 31st**. Please email me at [stewardship@aecst.org](mailto:stewardship@aecst.org) with your name and envelope number.

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](mailto:tillman_72@msn.com) or the church email: [1792@aecst.org](mailto:1792@aecst.org) so that we can update the church records. Thank you very much.

## **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 (In August, Monday - Thursday 9AM-2PM). 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.

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

# **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**

<b>Yearly Income</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>10%</b>
\$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

## **FINANCE OFFICE**

Mid-year Financial Reports have been mailed. If you have not received yours, please contact Jeannette in the Fiscal office ASAP. We ask that you please continue your financial support of our Parish ministries. Thanks for all your contributions to date.

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

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## 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	

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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.

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