



AECST
FOUNDED 1792

Second Sunday of Advent

We light a second candle
as a symbol of
Christ the Way.

May the Word
sent from God
through the prophets
lead us to
the way of salvation.

*Christ...
The Way*

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

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
December 10, 2023

“WELCOME TO THE MOTHER CHURCH”

“Enter His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise. Give thanks unto Him and bless His name”.

Psalm 100:4

Grace and Peace to you from God on this the
Second Sunday of Advent

On behalf of the Clergy, Wardens, Vestry, and People of God, welcome to the historic African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas, founded in 1792 as the first Black Episcopal Church in the U.S.A. The first rector of this historic parish, The Rev. Fr. Absalom Jones was also the first Black Episcopal priest in the nation.

Our parish boldly proclaims the reconciling Gospel of Jesus Christ. We are an active, mission-minded, and growing church family. Whomever you are and wherever you may find yourself on your spiritual journey of faith, you are always welcomed at St. Thomas' Church, where we are joyfully and enthusiastically committed to Jesus' message of love, hope, prayer, acceptance, and faith. Today, as you worship in this place, may you experience and feel the presence of the Lord, and may you leave feeling renewed, refreshed, and revived.

Faithfully,
The Very Rev. Canon Martini Shaw,
17th Rector and Dean of the Schuylkill Deanery

Please click on the link provided
for the [Order of Service](#) for this Sunday

Important Note from the Rector:

Please help us to end the year without a deficit by completing your 2023 financial pledge by **December 31st, 2023**. If you are unsure of your balance, please contact Jeanette in the Fiscal Office.

Any Group, Guild, Ministry, or Fellowship wishing to have a flyer placed in the bulletin will have to provide the copies to the office no later than Wednesday for insertion in the Sunday bulletin.





OUR CONDOLENCES TO:

Lisa Woodley and Irving Stevenson and their families on the death of their father, **Joseph Stevenson**, director of the St. Thomas Jazz Ensemble. His service will be here at St. Thomas on **Wednesday, December 13, 2023**. The viewing will be from 9:00-11:00 AM and Requiem Mass at 11:00 AM. May the soul of Joseph rest in peace and rise in glory. Please pray for the family.

Toni and Amber Goss and their families on the death of **Mary Tindley**. Her service will be here at St. Thomas on **Wednesday, Dec. 20, 2023**. The viewing will be at 10:00 AM and the Requiem Mass at 11:00 AM. May the soul of Mary, rest in peace and rise in glory. Please pray for the family.

MEMBER INFORMATION FORMS

In an effort to get correct member information, we are asking **EVERY** parishioner to fill out a Member form. The church has received many returned mailings because of bad addresses. We would appreciate your new address, phone number, and email address. Please fill out the [form](#) and return it to the [church office email](#). Please fill out 1 form for each adult member of your family, children may go on one of the forms. Thanks so much for your help with this.

WELCOME!
Luna Marie Quetant was blessed
and met her new church family.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR
Festive Christmas Eve Service
The Christ Mass
Sunday, December 24th 7:00 PM

ENORMOUS THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE SUBMITTED THEIR 2024 FAITHFUL GIVING CARD!!!!!!!!!!!!

Is your name listed? If not, submit yours now by using the [link](#).

2024 Faithful Giving Cards

Enormous thanks to these individuals who have submitted their 2024 Faithful Giving cards. Is your name included? Please submit yours today.

Patricia Akins	Barbara Douglass	Rene Hayes
Alister Allman	Kenneth Dow	Quentin Heyward
Constance Anderson	Vernette S. Dow	Erica Hill-Yates
Dorothy Archey	Andrew & Lisa Renee Dumas	Ashley & Lena Hines
Jeanne J. Arnold	William & Quincina Edmonds	Angela Holloway
Rev. Paul Bach	Carol Etlén	Patricia Holmes
Walter & Patricia Bantom	Erkia Etlén	Merle Hopson
Dr. Timothy Barksdale	Fr. Daren Evans	Fleta Howell
Brenda Battle	Rashid & Christie Faisal	Robert Hugh
Jennifer Bell	Larry & Deidre Farmby	Donald & Patricia Hunt
Susan Ben	Loretta Ferguson	Diana Hutchins
Deborah Billups	Thomas & Meredith Fitzpatrick	Kim Hyde
Walter Blocker	Marcekiene Fitzwilliam	D. Lynn Joell
Dr. Naomi Johnson Booker	Marcia Forde	Bobby Johnson
Deborah Booker-Mathews	Angela Foster	Calvin Johnson
Guy Booth	Stephen & Donna Foster	Dr. Frank Johnson
Ricardo Bostic	Wendela Fox	Kelvin & Pamela Johnson
I. Page Bowser	Norman & Nikki Franke	Lemont Johnson
Michelanne Bradwell	Barry & Deborah Frye	Sheryl Johnson
Theresa Bramwell	Irenda Gates	Brenda Johnson-Best
Conchetta Brewer	Edita Gauthney	Bettie Jones
Lorita Brockington	Edward & Kathryn Geiger	Donna Jones
J.R. & Alfreda Brockman	Elaine Gillison	Monica Lewis Jones
Carmen Brown	Barbara L. Glenn	Richard Jones
Marilyn Brown	Swanie Goldsmith	Robert & Joyce Jones
Robert & Jayne Brown	Eugene & Marie Golson	Clarence Jones, Jr.
William H. Brown, III	Jessica Golson	Sheila Jones-Smith
Sandra Bryant Miller	Chad & Toya Gordon	Marie Jordan
Sharon Bullock	Josephine Graham	Winsome Josephs
Kenneth Bundy	Clarice Grant	Tyrone Keller
William Burke, Jr.	Arlene Gray	Reggie & Sherilynn Kimble
Yvonne Caldwell White	Linda Greaves Street	Jurdina Koiler
Cornelia Camp	Carole W. Green	John Kortue
Deadra Cannon	Michele Green	Paula Lamb
Charlotte Card	PJ Grier	Gwendolyn Langford
Phyllis B. Cater	Thomasina Hack	Nancy Lee
Eleanor Chestnut	Joan Perry Hall	Doris Levin
Suzanne Closson	Lisa Sharon Harper	Joyce Levin
Lynada Coleburn-Bryant	Sharon Harper	Steven & Jameela Lewis
Ronald Coleman	Carole Townsend Harrell	Karen Leys
The Rev. Fr. Gerald Collins	Roosevelt, Sr. & Gail Harris	Landon Leys
Ronnie H. Collins	Thomas & Lynn Harris	Michelle Lofton
Tracy Collins, M.D.	Walter & Nicole Harris	Adrienne Logan
Gwendolyn Cottman	Katrina Harris Marshall	C. Adjoa Love-Dorsey
Albert Dandridge, III	Deborah Harrison	James Lowe
Clare Mae Daniels	Joyce B. Harrison	Gregory Lyles
Carl & Mary Dean	Richard & Gwenda Hart	Patricia Lynch
Dr. Rollo Dillworth	Gregory Hayes	Constance Lyons
Musu Doe	Maurice Hayes	Katrice Mathurin

John Maxwell	Arlene Singletary
Sheila Sawyer McCullough	Velva Daniels Smalls
Denise McDaniel-Henderson	Anita Smith
Cheryl McIntosh	Cary Smith
Michael McIntosh	Dorothy Smith
Denise McKinney	Ted Smith
Denise McKinney-Gibson	Catherine Stafford
Laura McNeill	H. Lyn Starr
Regina Meacham-Devero	Daryn Stewart
William Meek	Joyce Ann Stewart
Deidre Milanes	Shelly & Ann Stewart
Colin Mitchell	Brandon Stiff
Donald & Dorothy Roberts Moore	Arthur & Michele Sudler
Elsie Moto	Carolyn Summers
Cynthia Muse	Lynda Tapper-Smith
Jonathan Muse	Dr. Monica Taylor
Mueni Mwanzia	Rosita Taylor
Vincent & Lisa Napoleon	Cheryl Taylor Stiles
Francina Norris	Gloria Thomas
Deborah Otey	Calvin Thompson
Carolyn Paige	Darryle & Judy Tilman
Samuel & Deidre Patterson	Teri Tillman
Andrea Petrocelli-Fields	Harold Townsend, III
Eugene Phillips	Arnott Trotman
Kim Phillips	Justin & Lee Ann Trotman
Mary Ann Phillips	Louise Trotman
Simone Pollard	Elizabeth Trulear
Stephen Pugh	Joe Tucker & Alycia Horn
Audrey Pyles	Inez Turner
Michael Pyles	Robin Vann-Lynch
Karen Ragland	Karen Vaughn
Ella Randall	Evelyn Washington
Dolores Redmond	Joe & Alexcia Wells
Clarence Rice	Barbara Wiley
Caryn Rivers	Michelle Wilkinson
Victoria Rivers	Julia Williams
Shonalie Roberts	R. Seth Williams
Rosalind Roberts Smalls	Stephanie Williamson
Julio Rodriguez & Alexandra	Dorothy Willis
McFadden	Jenelle Wilson-Johnson
Dr. Cassandra Ruffin	Charlene Wiltshire
Yvonne Ruiz	Denise Wing
Mercedes Sadler	Diane Winkfield
Edwin & Sarahn Santana	Shirley Winkfield
Georgia Sawyer	Edgar Wise
Deborah Seay	Wanda Wood
Stephanie Seay Wood	Lisa Woodley
Nancy Jean Sewell	Khalita Wright
The Rev. Fr. Martini Shaw	Paula Wright
Leah Sheppard	I. Bernadette Wyche
Kayma Sherman-Knuckels	Alice Young
Judith Simkins	M. Elaine Young

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

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

THE CHRIST-MASS

Sunday, December 24, 2023, 7:00 PM

**Festive Music and Dance;
Inspiring preaching;
Distribution of Holy Communion.**

Hot Cider served following service



THE AFRICAN EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS • FIRST BLACK EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN THE USA
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Pictures from the First Sunday in Advent December 3, 2023







More pictures may be found on our [Facebook](#) page.

STEWARDSHIP:

During Stewardship Month please pray about your Faithful Giving for 2024. We need strong support for our budget and many endeavors and outreach projects at St. Thomas. You'll be able to either complete your Faithful Giving Card by going on our website, Spearhead, Facebook page, or this [link](#). You can also mail your Faithful Giving Card or bring it to the Altar at Church.

IMPORTANT: Please make sure your name, number, and amount are placed on your offering envelope. This is very important to keep bookkeeping accurate. If you're unsure of your number, please don't hesitate to [contact](#) me. We appreciate your help with this.

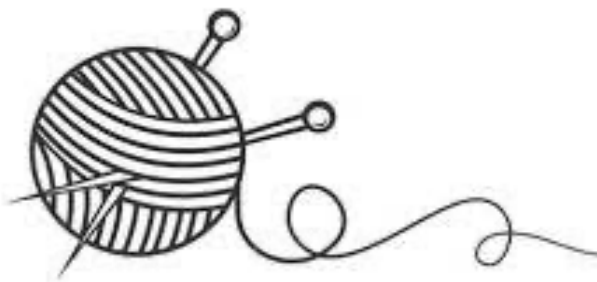
The Anti-Violence Legislative [Campaign](#) Letter for November, the [QR Code](#) for State Representatives, and a [flyer](#) for a Day of Prayer and Action: Harrisburg Rally Agenda & Hotel Information can be found on the table in the back of the church or please see Phyllis Cater for more information.

SHARE YOUR SPECIAL GIFT!!!

The O.V. Catto Voter Education Ministry is in search of individuals who are **COMPUTER SAVVY**. Are you proficient in Microsoft Word, Excel, Google Drive, etc.? Are you familiar with constant contact, mail chimp or other email list services? **CATTO MINISTRY NEEDS YOU!!** Responsibilities include data entry, assisting with Zoom meetings, event flyers, and other small tasks. Please consider sharing your special gift with the Catto Ministry.

2024 U.S. Election Year

As our country prepares for the upcoming 2024 elections, please consider joining our own St. Thomas O. V. Catto Education Ministry. For more information, please speak with Wendella Fox, Ernestine Johnson, or Ted Smith.



KNITTING CLUB:

Is back in the Absalom
Jones House on
Tuesdays from **10:00 AM - Noon.**
Bring your yarn, and patterns
and join in on the fun!



**A REMINDER TO ALL GUILDS, ORGANIZATIONS,
MINISTRIES, AND INDIVIDUALS:**

ANY and **ALL** Activities using the church facilities (ie; Anderson Hall, the Undercroft, the church) or the Absalom Jones House **MUST** be scheduled and approved by the Parish Administrator: [Gladyce DuBrey](#) or call (215-473-3065) and **NOT the SEXTON** beforehand.

It is **VERY IMPORTANT** that all activities are listed on the calendar of the Parish Office.

**A CALL TO LEADERSHIP -
SHARE YOUR LEADERSHIP ABILITY**

Nominations for Vestry and Auxiliary Vestry Positions, Delegates to the Schuylkill Deanery, and Delegates and an alternate delegate to the 2024 Diocesan convention will be accepted from **December 10, 2023, until January 21, 2024.**

UPCOMING SUNDAYS IN DECEMBER

Dec. 10th - Second Sunday of Advent.

**Dec. 17th - Third Sunday of Advent (Rose Sunday)
Church School Christmas**

Presentation. A very special guest will be present at the end of the service to bring Holiday Greetings to all.

Dec. 24th - Fourth Sunday of Advent- 10:00 AM,
Virtual prayer.

Christmas Eve Christ-Mass - 7:00 PM

**Jan. 7, 2024 - A Toast - 1st Sunday of the New Year /
Epiphany Sunday**

AECST LIVE STREAM

Please join us for Worship on the St. Thomas [website](#), the [Live Service](#), or on our [Facebook](#) page or [youtube](#) every Sunday morning at 10:00 AM. You can also watch [Past Services](#).

DO YOU PLAY A MUSICAL INSTRUMENT?

Have you ever thought about using that talent to glorify God in worship? Please prayerfully consider joining our St. Thomas Jazz Ensemble, St. Thomas Chancel Choir or St. Thomas Gospel Choir. If interested, please contact Gladyce in the Parish Office ASAP to get details on upcoming scheduled rehearsals.

RE-IMAGINING OUR MINISTRIES

Persons are needed:

-to lift their voices on the **Comfort Choir** during funeral services at St. Thomas. Please contact [D. Lynn Joell](#) if interested.

-to serve with the **Sound Ministry** for Sunday morning service and weekday funeral services. If interested, please contact Gladyce in the Parish Office.

-to serve on the **Altar Guild**. This amazing group of individuals prepares our altar each week for the Celebration of the Holy Eucharist. Interested people should contact [Alfreda Brockman](#).

-to serve as **Readers and Intercessors** to read the Holy Scripture during our weekly services. Interested persons should contact Gladyce in the Parish Office to sign up.

-to join the **Transportation Ministry**. The main mission of the ministry is to provide transportation to parishioners who attend Sunday Service who may be parked in a nearby remote parking lot. Please contact Gladyce in the office if you are interested.

-as **Acolytes** to serve on the altar. Please contact [Fr. Daren](#) if you are interested.

-**Photography Ministry** is in need of additional photographers. You do not need to be a professional photographer but do enjoy taking pictures. Anyone interested can contact [Bill Edmonds](#) or [Dale Williams](#).

The Shepherds Ministry is still in need of many more volunteers to be able to shepherd all households of our congregation. Shepherds set their own schedules to be in regular touch with their households of sheep by phone, email, text or various social media platforms. Each is assigned no more than 4 households. All Ministry meetings are held via Zoom. Please note that the Vestry will continue to shepherd, for one year, all new members joining the congregation. For more information, or to volunteer, please contact [Charlene M. Wiltshire](#).

THIS WEEK AT AECST - December 11, 2023

Tuesday 12/12 -Bible Study with Fr. Jay via Zoom - 7:00 PM
Finance Meeting - 6:30 PM

Wednesday 12/13 - Funeral Service for Joseph Stevenson
Viewing from 9:00 - 11:00 AM, Requiem Mass at 11:00 AM
Young Adult Bible Study with Fr. Daren - 7:00 PM

Saturday 12/ 16- Men's Ministry - 8:00 AM - 11:00 AM
(Undercroft)

Chancel Choir - 10:00 AM -12:00 PM (Anderson Hall)

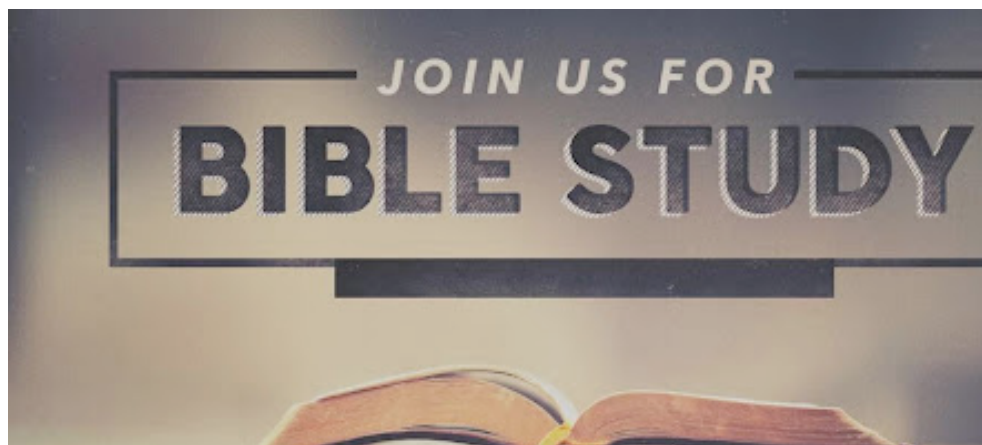
Church School Presentation Rehearsal -10:00 AM -12:00 PM
(Church)

Church School lunch - 12:00 PM (Anderson Hall)

Girls Friendly - 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (Undercroft)

Usher Meeting - 11:00 AM (A.J. House)

Scouts - 1:00 - 4:00 PM



Bible Study with Fr. Jay is every Tuesday evening at 7:00 PM. If anyone is interested in joining the group, contact [Fr. Jay](#).

The St. Thomas Gospel Choir will join the “No Name Pops” and guest conductor, Enrico Lopez-Yanez for “A Very Philly Christmas” at the Kimmel Center.

THE DATES FOR THE CONCERTS:

Saturday, Dec. 9th 3:00 PM
Sunday, Dec. 10th 6:30 PM
Friday, Dec. 15th 2:00 PM
Saturday, Dec. 16th 3:00 PM
Sunday, Dec. 17th 2:00 PM
Friday, Dec. 22nd 2:00 PM
Saturday, Dec. 23rd 7:30 PM

[The Box Office link](#) at the Academy of Music is open daily from 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM.

To purchase discount tickets: You may purchase discount tickets either at the Academy Box Office or online. The 20% off Discount Ticket Code for online purchases:

PHILLYSPECIAL

DAILY RECOMMENDED BIBLE READINGS

Readings for:

Readings for the Second Sunday of Advent

December 10, 2023

The First Lesson: [Isaiah 40:1-11](#)

[Psalm 85:1-2,8-13](#)

The Second Lesson: [2 Peter 3:8-15a](#)

The Holy Gospel: [Mark 1:1-8](#)

The Holy Gospel Readings for the

Week of December 11, 2023

Monday - [Luke 21:20-28](#)

Tuesday - [Luke 21:29-38](#)

Wednesday - [John 7:53-8:11](#)

Thursday - [Luke 22: 1-11](#)

Friday - [Luke 22:14-30](#)

Saturday - [Luke 22:31-38](#)



Young Adult Bible Study

Fr. Daren is offering a Bible Study series for Young Adults on Wednesdays at 6:00 PM.

Fall Topic:

“If It’s Not About Love, It’s Not About God”

Calling for Youth Acolytes!



All youth of our church are invited to serve in the AECST Acolyte Ministry. No prior experience is needed as training will be provided. This is an excellent way for our children and youth to be involved in the life of the church. For more information please speak with [Fr. Daren.](#)

Scout Troop #133 - Our Cub Scout Program is open to children grades 1-5. The Cub program meets at 2:00 PM. on Saturdays. Our Boy Scout Program is open to children aged 11-17 years old. The Scout Program will meet at 3:00 PM on Saturdays according to the schedule. Please contact Scout [Master Howard Chapman](#) for more information.

Church School begins at **10:00 AM**. The church school is getting ready for its **Christmas presentation on Dec. 17th.**

Rehearsals are as follows:

Today during church school

Thursday, Dec. 14th - 7:00 PM on Zoom. Here is the [link](#)

Saturday, Dec.16th from 10:00 AM -12:00 PM with a pizza party to follow.



Nikkol Simms
Branch Advisor
njsimms@verizon.net

For more info:
<http://gfsus.org/>

Find us on Facebook!
GFS PA African
Episcopal Church of St.
Thomas

GIRLS' FRIENDLY SOCIETY

GFS is ready to begin a new year of worship, study, play and service! We are excited to recharge our continuous mission of uplifting our young ladies and preparing them for today's society. We are also preparing for this year's theme to Love, Serve, and Grow and remembering our 75+ years of legacy at St. Thomas.

We meet Saturday mornings

First meeting:

September 30, 2023

11am-1pm

Membership Ages:

Teddy Bears: 3-5 yo.

Junior Members: 5-13 yo.

Senior Members: 14-21 yo.

Ambassadors: 18-30 yo.

Girls participate in:

Service Projects

Girl Talks

Arts & Crafts

World Day of Prayer

Founder's Day

Mission Day

GFS Day

Past Recreational Opportunities:

White water rafting

Theaters

Museums

Ice Skating

Segway/Ziplining

Mini Golf

Holiday House in Cape May, NJ

GFS World Council Sri Lanka 2026

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR PARISHIONERS WHO ARE:

IN HOSPITAL:

Sheryl Johnson - Jefferson Hospital

Cathy Stafford - U Penn Hospital

IN REHAB:

Helena Allen - Simpson House

Thelma Silvers - Rosemont Care Center

Dr. Thomas Snowden - Kearsley Rehab

Fr. Darryl James - Stapeley Rehab

RECOVERING AT HOME:

Adinah Edwards, Robert Brown, Ridart "Butch" Farmer,

Gwendolyn Langford, Dr. Alice Bowman-Cropper,

Laverne Hudson, Leotta Griffin, Shirley Winkfield,

Lemont Johnson, Alletta Parris-Olday, Ronald Coleman,

Kenneth Dow.

KEEP IN PRAYER:

Justin Trotman, Daryn Stewart, Joan Hall, Cathy Stafford,

Teri Taylor, Lisa Woodley and Irving Stevenson.

WE PRAY FOR

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

ALTAR FLOWERS

As we enter the Season of Advent, flowers are only placed on the Altar for Rose Sunday, December 17, 2023. Please see below for **Poinsettia** and **Christmas Tree** information.

To order flowers, please return the form with payment to: Clare Mae Daniels or Alfreda Brockman. (Please do not place it in the collection plate or give to the church office.) Thank you.

- I would like to place flowers on the High Altar - \$60.
- I would like to place flowers on the Absalom Jones Altar - \$50.
- I would like to place flowers on the Columbarium - \$40.

(Please PRINT/ TYPE. You may use an additional piece of paper for more names.)

A) In memory of _____

B) In Thanksgiving for _____

Given by _____

Envelope # _____ Amount \$ _____

Your gift of Christmas poinsettias and altar arrangements will help beautify the church for the holidays and will be a beautiful tribute to your loved ones, or a token of Thanksgiving for a blessing received. Please fill out (Print) the form below and return it to Alfreda Brockman or Clare Mae Daniels at 6361 Lancaster Avenue, Phila., PA 19151

Please do not place it in the collection plate. **DEADLINE: TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2023**

- I would like to place flowers on the High Altar - @125.00
- I would like to place flowers on the Absalom Jones Altar @ 85.00
- I would like to place flowers on the Columbarium @ 45.00

A) In memory of _____

B) In Thanksgiving for _____

Given by _____

Envelope # _____ Amount\$_____

Poinsettia and Christmas Tree Adoption

I would like to purchase a Poinsettia @ \$25.00 (5 names per plant).

I would like to adopt a Christmas Tree @\$35.00 per tree.

Please PRINT the names below:

Please circle one: In memory of / In Thanksgiving for _____

Given by _____

Envelope # _____ Amount \$_____

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 or click the Donation Button or Capital Improvement [Donation Button](#) on our [website](#).

STEWARDSHIP NEWS

Parishioners, please remember to include your envelope number as well as your name on your offering envelope. The number is especially important. If you don't have your envelope number please don't hesitate to contact me. Thanks so much for your help with this. [Judy Tillman](#)

If you have moved and have not sent your new address to the church office at 215-473-3065 or [email](#), **please do so ASAP**. The church has received many returned mailings because of bad addresses. We would appreciate your new address, phone number, and email address. Thanks so much for your help with this.

If you have decided to use the **Givi App** or [Online Giving Donations](#), please email your name and envelope number. Thank you very much. Judy Tillman.

FROM STEWARSHIP: A list of the Sick and Shut-In parishioners has been put in Anderson Hall with the Offering Envelopes. If you live near a parishioner who is unable to come to church, it would be much appreciated if you could slot their envelopes. Thank you.

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

“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) **Sunday Offering Plate.**
- 2) **Mail in** your check or money order to the church.
Please use the following address:
The African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas
c/o Fiscal Administrator.
6361 Lancaster Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19151
- 3) **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.
- 4) **Bring your check** directly to the Fiscal Office during regular business hours (Monday - Thursday 10 am-2 pm)
After business hours, drop your envelope in the door mail slot located on the front patio of the Absalom Jones House.
- 5) **Church website - [Online Giving](#)**
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.
- 6) **Pledge Cards** - Please send them via the US mail to the church or fill out the form **[electronically](#)** through the website or send an email to our **[Fiscal Administrator](#)**.
Thank you so much and thank you to all who have sent them in.

MINISTRY STAFF

Bishop	The Rt. Rev. Daniel G P Gutierrez	
Rector	The Very Rev. Canon Martini Shaw	rector@aecst.org
Associate to the Rector	The Rev. Fr. Daren E. Evans	associaterector@aecst.org
Associate Priest	The Rev. Fr. Gerald Collins	associatepriest@aecst.org
Associate Minister	The Rev. Dr. Thomas G. Snowden	dravidian@comcast.net
Associate Minister	The Rev. Dr. Paul Bach	pauljaybach@gmail.com
Executive Asst to Rector	Gladyce DuBrey	1792@aecst.org
Fiscal Administor	Jeannette Jeffrey	fiscal@aecst.org
Sexton	LaDon Elliott	1792@aecst.org
Asst Sexton	David McGilberry	1792@aecst.org
Chancel Choirmaster	Jay Fluellen, DMA	chancelchoir@aecst.org
Gospel Choirmaster	Waltier Blocker	gospelchoir@aecst.org
Rector's General Counsel	Joe Tucker, Esq	jtucker@tigattorneys.com
Altar Guild	Alfreda Brockman	fredabee@verizon.net
Baptism Co-Chairs	Gail Hinton Harris	thegail@hotmail.com
	Patricia Walker-Ellison	p.walker.ellison@gmail.com
Church School Superintendent	Tynecia Wilson	churchschool@aecst.org
Ed Muse Photography Ministry	William Edmonds	edmon57@comcast.net
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Stewardship Chair	Judy Tillman	stewardship@aecst.org
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Videography Ministry	Quentin Heyward	recordedvideo@aecst.org
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THE VESTRY

Rector's Warden - Richard Jones
Accounting Warden - Deborah Camp Frye
Clerk of the Vestry - Clare Mae Daniels
Treasurer - Albert S. Dandridge, III Esq.

Brenda Johnson Best
Judith Simkins Booth
William Burke
Deadra Cannon
Wendella Fox, Esq.
Marie Golson
Deborah Harrison
D. Lynn Joell
Kelvin Johnson
Jonathan Muse
Judith Tillman

THE AUXILIARY VESTRY

Conchetta Brewer
Ronnie Collins
Eugene Golson
Dr. Monica Johnson Taylor
Pamela Johnson
Patricia Lynch
Cynthia Muse
Darryle "Bobby" Tillman

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 re-imaged, taught, lived and spread.