

*REJOICE!
GLORY
TO THE
NEWBORN
KING!*

*HOSANNAH
IN THE
HIGHEST!*

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

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

**The Very Rev. Canon Martini Shaw- Officiant
Church School Christmas Presentation
December 20, 2020
10:00 A.M.**

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.
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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.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS:

Your gift of Christmas Poinsettias and flowers for the High Altar will help beautify the church for the holidays and will be a beautiful tribute to your loved ones. (Because of Covid -19 restrictions you will not be able to pick up your poinsettias.) Deadline is **December 21, 2020.**

Please send the following information by mail to Clara Mae Daniels at the church:

6361 Lancaster Ave, Phila. PA 19151 or to 1792@aecst.org

-In Memory of (please list names, 5 per plant/arrangement)

-In Thanksgiving for (please list names, 5 per plant/arrangement)

-Given by (list name/names)

Envelope number, Amount

The cost of the High Altar arrangement is \$50.00

The cost of the Poinsettias are \$20.00

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE AND DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24TH

5:00 P.M. - Virtual Service

(please tune in to the church Facebook or website page)

7:00 P.M. - Distribution of Holy Communion Outside
and Hot Apple Cider Reception.

Hosted by: The St. Thomas Tree of Life Ministry

DAILY RECOMMENDED BIBLE READINGS

This Sunday's Readings The Fourth Sunday of Advent December 20th

First Reading: 2 Samuel 7: 1-11, 16

Psalm 89: 1-4, 19-26

Second Reading: Romans 16: 25-27

The Holy Gospel: Luke 1: 26-38

Week of 12/21/2020

Monday - Luke 1: 1-25

Tuesday - Luke 1: 26-38

Wednesday - Luke 1: 39-48a (48b-56)

Thursday - Matthew 1: 18-25 (Christmas Eve)

Friday - John 3: 31-36 (Christmas Day)

Saturday - Luke 1: 57-66

Readings For: The First Sunday after Christmas December 27th

First Reading: Isaiah 61: 10-62:3

Psalm 147 or 147: 13-21

Second Reading: Galatians 3: 23-25; 4: 4-7

The Holy Gospel: John 1: 1-8

UPCOMING SUNDAY IN DECEMBER

December 20th

Fourth Sunday of Advent

(Special Christmas Program with our Church School)

TUESDAY ZOOM BIBLE CLASSES

with Fr. Jay, will not meet on:

Tuesday, December 22nd

or December 29th.

Class will resume Tuesday, January 5, 2021.

Please send your email to Fr. Collins at:

JayCollins@comcast.net or 267-634-6185

to be added to the list.

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)

PHILLY POPS CHRISTMAS:

Join the St. Thomas Gospel Choir Philadelphia with
David Charles Abell, the Philly Pops, the Pops Festival Chorus, the
Philadelphia Boys Choir, Mandy Gonzalez, Charlie Albright and
Terell Stafford on **Dec. 18th - Jan. 1st at 7pm** for a
Virtual Christmas Show.

To watch the show please click on this link:

www.phillypops.org/christmasgift

OUR SINCERE CONDOLENCES:

to Charlene Wiltshire and family on the death of our beloved **Pastor Sadie Mitchell**. May her soul Rest in Peace and Rise in Glory. Please pray for the family. Arrangements Pending.

PLEASE KEEP IN PRAYER

Recovering At Home:

Regina Meacham Devero, Katrina Harris Marshall, Linda Holmes, Gail Harris, Waltier Blocker, Rosalind Roberts Smalls, Quincina Edmonds, Virginia Cooke, Kenneth Dow, Joyce Harrison, Verger Stephen Hannum, Suzanne Closson, Angela Foster, Carl Dean, Bobby Johnson, Donald Young

India Spellman; and all persons who are incarcerated.

WE WELCOME:

Angela Kelly to our church family. Her assigned shepherd is Conchetta Brewer.

HOLIDAY HOURS FOR PARISH OFFICE/CHURCH:

Closed: Thursday, December 24th
Friday, December 25th
Thursday, December 31st
Friday, January 1, 2021

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 A. M - 4:00P.M.) by entering through the A.J. House entrance with the ramp.

You may also pick your 2021 envelopes up on Christmas Eve after Communion during the Hot Apple Cider Reception.

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 (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, 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.)

2021 FAITHFUL GIVING CARDS

Thank you to the following individuals who have already submitted their 2021 Faithful Giving Cards.

Clergy, Vestry, Auxiliary Vestry Leadership

Fr. Martini Shaw
Fr. Gerald Collins
Walter & Patricia Bantom
Ronnie Collins
Albert S. Dandridge, III
Johanna W. Daye
Deborah & Barry Frye
Deborah Harrison
D. Lynn Joell
Brenda Johnson Best
Kelvin & Pam Johnson
Richard Jones
Jonathan Muse
Judith & Darryle Tillman

Patricia Akins
Conchetta Brewer
Sharon Bullock
William Burke, Jr.
Deadra Cannon
Clara Mae Daniels
Linda Holmes
Dr. Frank Johnson
Cynthia Muse
Judith Simkins-Booth
Bernadette Ingrid Wyche

THANK YOU!
IS YOUR NAME LISTED BELOW?
If you have not, please prayerfully submit yours TODAY!

Joyce Adams
Dr. Gregory Allen
Constance Anderson
Jean Armstrong
Cedric Babb
Paul Bach & Julie Hergenrather
Terri Barber
Brenda Battle
Deborah Billips
I Page Bowser
Theresa Bramwell
Lorita Brockington
Jean Brogden
Carmen M. Brown
Dr. Jane & Robert Brown
Marilyn Brown
William Brown, III
Shirley Caldwell
Cornelia Camp
Phyllis Cater
Lynada Coleburn-Bryant
Ted Corbin
Terry Corson
Gwendolyn Cottman
Andrea Cummings
Stacey Davis
Carl & Mary Dean, Sr.
Dr. Rollo Dilworth

THANK YOU!

Barbara Douglas
Quincina & William Edmonds
Patricia & Roy Ellison
Deidre & Larry Farmbry
Loretta Ferguson
Marceline Fitzwilliam
Earlene Ford
Wendella Fox & Herb Wetzel
Gwen Francis
Nikki Franke
Elaine Gillison
Barbara Glenn
Clarice Grant
Linda Greaves
Carole Williams Green
Michele Green
Leotta Griffith
Thomasina Hack
Joan Hall
Gail & Roosevelt Harris, Sr.
Leslie T. Harris
Joyce Harrison
Gwenda & Richard Hart
Gregory Hayes
Denise Henderson
Quentin Heyward
Wanda Hill
Fleta Howell
Patricia & Donald Hunt
Dr. Diana Hutchins
Kim Hyde
Joyce Jackson

THANK YOU!

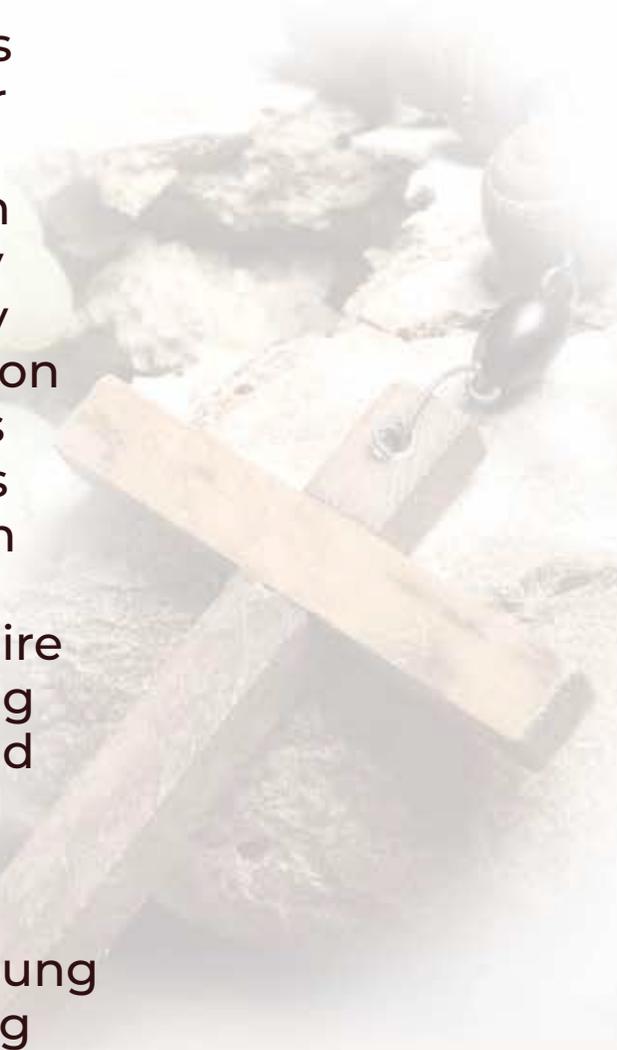
Diann Jacox
Fr. Darryl James
Bobby Johnson
Lemont Johnson
Sheryl Johnson
Jenelle Wilson Johnson
Bettie Jones
Joyce & Robert Jones
Rene Jones
Sheila Jones-Smith
Tyrone Keller
Reggie & Sherilynn Kimble
Jurdina Koiler
John Kortue, Sr.
Valerie Hutton LaBonne
Paula Glenn Lamb
Gwendolyn Langford
Nancy Conway Lee
Louise Lewis
Kimberly Lloyd
Adrienne Logan
C. Adjoa Love-Dorsey
Constance Lyons
Deborah Matthews
Shelia McCullough
Denise McKinney-Gibson
Regina Meacham Devero
William Meek
Deirdre Milanes
Carl Minott

THANK YOU!

Colin & Helen Mitchell
Pastor Sadie Mitchell
Thelma Montara
Kymberli Morrell
Elsie Moto
Mueni Beatrice Mwanzia
Vincent & Lisa Napoleon
Francina Norris
Jerome & Helen Peterson
Marcia Pruett
Stephen Pugh
Audrey Pyles
Karen Ragland
Dr. Vivian Ray
Dolores Redmond
John Rich
Caryn Rivers
Victoria Rivers
Dr. Cassandra Ruffin
Yvonne Ruiz
Mercedes Sadler
Dr. Barbara Savage
Georgia Sawyer
Richard & Rebecca Scales
Deborah Seay
Stephanie Seay
Leah Sheppard
Arlene Singletary
Velva Daniels Smalls
William Smalls

THANK YOU!

Anita Smith
Dorothy Smith
Langsten Smith
Linda Tapper-Smith
Catherine Stafford
Dr. H. Lynn Starr
Joyce Ann Stewart
Lisa Stewart-New
Shelly & Ann Stewart
Elder Lemuel & Cheryl Stiles
Sheila Stubbs
Dr. Monica Taylor
Rosita Taylor
Gloria Thomas
Gladys Tucker
Inez Turner
Karen Vaughn
Alverna Wiley
Barbara Wiley
Michele Wilkinson
Julia Williams
Dorothy Willis
Arletha Wilson
Lorna Wilson
Charlene Wiltshire
Dr. Denise Wing
Diane Winkfield
Wanda Wood
Paula Wright
Beverly Yates
Donald & Alice Young
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**

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



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)



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.

Don't have Facebook but want to see the service? Please join us for our Virtual Worship Service on the St. Thomas Website: www.aecst.org every Sunday morning at 10am.

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	

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	webmanager@aecst.org
Property Chair	Deborah Harrison	215-473-3065

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.