



**AECST
FOUNDED 1792**

**BLESSED
ABSALOM**

**PRESIDING BISHOP
MICHAEL CURRY**

**BISHOP
ROBERT WRIGHT**

**CELEBRATING
THE LIFE AND MINISTRY
OF
BLESSED ABSALOM JONES
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2021 AT 10:00 AM
VIA FACEBOOK OR ON THE WEBSITE**

**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 LAST SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY
The Feast of Absalom Jones
February 14, 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.

The Church and Administrative Offices

will be closed on Monday, February 15, 2021 in observance of Presidents Day.

**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
FOUNDED 1792
6361 LANCASTER AVENUE PHILADELPHIA, PA 19151 215.473.3065

ST. THOMAS CIRCLE OF PRAYER

Thank you Fr. Shaw, Susan Ben, St. Thomas members and all others who participated in our first Circle of Prayer Call. Fr. Shaw's words of encouragement & Susan's gift of song were truly uplifting and the perfect way to start this historic week in our Nation.

Please remember that this is a weekly call. We look forward to our next prayer session on **Monday, Feb. 15, 2021 at 6:30 am**. If you would like to submit your name for Intercessory Prayer, please email: circleofprayer@aecst.org

We welcome members who would like to participate in offering the Intercessory Prayer, the Prayers for the People, or a Meditation in Song. The teleconference call number is: (605) 313-6361 and the code is 268 105

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.

To All Guild and Organization Leaders / Presidents:

Please check your email. The Annual Church Meeting is coming up and a **ONE paragraph** description of you ministries and organizations activities should be submitted to the Parish Office before the deadline of Monday, February 22, 2021. It can be sent to Gladyce DuBrey at 1792@aecst.org

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

Please Be Advised:

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

We welcome **Dr. Joseph M. Gubern** to our church family. His shepherd is Dr. Frank Johnson.

Congratulations:

to **Brandon Barksdale** who received Distinguished Honor Roll for the academic period ending January 22, 2021 for the Upper Darby School District. Way to go Brandon! Your St. Thomas family is very proud of you.

PLEASE KEEP IN PRAYER

Recovering At Home:

Regina Meacham Devero, Katrina Harris Marshall, Linda Holmes, Waltier Blocker, Rosalind Roberts Smalls, Quincina Edmonds, Kenneth Dow, Gail Harris, Verger Stephen Hannum, Suzanne Closson, Carl Dean, Joan Hall, Georgia Sawyer Adinah Edwards, Bobby Johnson, William Edmonds, Isedora "Gwen" Francis, Tyrone Keller

Hospitalized:

Lisa Woodley, Elder Lemuel Stiles

Rehabilitation Facility:

Francina Norris

Hospice Care:

Virginia Cooke

We Pray For:

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

OUR CONDOLENCES TO:

Nancy Jean Sewell and family on the death of her aunt and our beloved **Mary Sewell Smith.**

Susan Ben and Family on the death of her mother-in-law **Gwendolyn Harrington.**

The family of **Vivian Ray** on the occasion of her death.

May their souls rest in peace and rise in glory. Please pray for their families.

DAILY RECOMMENDED BIBLE READINGS

This Sunday's Readings The Feast of Absalom Jones February 14

First Reading: Isaiah 42: 5-9
Psalm 126

Second Reading: Ephesians 4: 1-6
The Holy Gospel: John 15: 12-15

Week of 2/15/2021

Monday - John 18: 15-18, 25-27

Tuesday - John 18: 28-38

Ash Wednesday - John Luke 18: 9-14

Thursday - John 17: 1-8

Friday - John 17: 9-19

Saturday - John 17: 20-26

Readings For:

The First Sunday in Lent February 21st

First Reading: Genesis 9: 8-17
Psalm 25: 1-9

Second Reading: 1 Peter 3: 18-22
The Holy Gospel: Mark 1: 9-15

UPCOMING SUNDAYS IN FEBRUARY

Feb. 14th

**Annual Celebration of the Life and Ministry of
The Reverend Absalom Jones**

**The theme for the day: "The Power and the Plague"
Greetings and Blessings from the Presiding Bishop,
The Most Rev. Michael B. Curry**

**Guest Homilist: The Right Rev. Robert Wright,
Bishop of the Diocese of Atlanta, Georgia**

Feb. 21st

First Sunday of Lent

Feb. 26th

**Special Church School Black History Month Presentation
at 10:00 A.M.**

Annual Parish Meeting (Virtual) at Noon

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)**

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, Feb. 13th

Diocese of PA

Absalom Jones Service at 10:00

Please register at www.diopa.org
in the event section

DOK Prayer Call for the Nation

at 11:45am-12:30pm

Register in advance for this meeting: [https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJlqf-ivqz4iG9L5KcVgZSfvleqlEfMeQYgL](https://zoom.us/join/https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJlqf-ivqz4iG9L5KcVgZSfvleqlEfMeQYgL)
After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Feb. 17th

Ash Wednesday

Imposition of Ashes and Blessing Outdoors

Please Watch

“Rector’s Invitation to a Holy Lent and Prayers”
on Facebook and the website before coming for Ashes

8:00 AM - 8:30 AM

Noon - 12:30 PM

6:00 PM - 6:30 PM

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.

LENTEN JOURNEY WITH THE RECTOR

The Rector invites you to journey with him during this
Lenten Season

“Healthy Living During a Pandemic”

Increase your daily Scripture Reading

Increase your daily Prayer Discipline

Increase your consumption of:

raw vegetables, fresh fruits and water

Increase your daily physical exercise

Increase your daily periods of rest and sleep

Increase your daily expressions of Love

Increase your frequency of wearing a Mask

Increase your frequency of washing hands

Increase your practice of Social Distancing

Begin your Lenten Journey next Wednesday
(Ash Wednesday), February 17th with receiving
The Imposition of Ashes at St. Thomas

End your day each night by joining us in prayer and
Compline on our Facebook page, Monday - Friday.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:
all our Parishioners celebrating birthdays in February

- 2/1 Lisa Renee Dumas
2/3 Karen Vaughn
2/4 Signe Griffin, Leah Shepphard
2/5 Winston Lowe. James Kimble,
Raquel Smith, Everett Miles,
2/6 Robert Meyers. Bernadette Wyche
2/7 Tiffani Davis, Ronald Jones, Arlene Gray
2/8 Asia Archey, Dieynaba Diagne
2/9 Angela Kelly
2/10 Janice Smith, Lisa New
2/11 Courtney Williamson
2/12 Robin Lynch, Grizzle Wilmore
2/13 Colby Jones, Arthur Sudler, Karen Whittle
Rosalind Roberts-Small, Edward Geiger
2/14 Robert McNeal
2/15 Anita Robinson, Lisa Smoots
2/16 Musu Doe
2/17 Carole Green
2/18 Justin & Jason Brockman, Dr. Jay Fleullen,
Erica Hill-Yates,
2/19 Katrice Mathurin
2/20 Gordon Sedziafa, Iyun Williams
2/22 Inez Turner, Alaina Farooq
2/23 Nancy Lee, Jumba Muawanya
2/24 Alliyah Miller, Denise Wing
2/26 Cary Smith, Shawn Evans
2/27 Joyce Harrison, I. Page Bowser
2/28 Clara Watson-Williams

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.

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.

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

Judith & Darryle Tillman

Patricia Akins

Conchetta Brewer

Sharon Bullock

William Burke, Jr.

Deadra Cannon

Clara Mae Daniels

Linda Holmes

Dr. Frank Johnson

Cynthia Muse

Jonathan 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
Carmen Alexander
Constance Anderson
Dorothy Archey
Jean Armstrong
Jeanne Arnold
Cedric Babb
Paul Bach & Julie Hergenrather
Terri Barber
Tim Barksdale
Brenda Battle
Susan Ben
Deborah Billips
Guy M. Booth
Ricardo Bostic
J.R. & Alfreda Brockman
I Page Bowser
Theresa Bramwell
Lorita Brockington
Jean Brogden
Carmen M. Brown
Dr. Jane & Robert Brown
Marilyn Brown
William Brown, III
Carmella Bullock
Shirley Caldwell
Cornelia Camp
Phyllis Cater

THANK YOU!

Antwyne and Jennifer Caviness
Lynada Coleburn-Bryant
Ted Corbin
Terry Corson
Gwendolyn Cottman
Andrea Cummings
Stacey Davis
Carl & Mary Dean, Sr.
Elizabeth Derr
Dr. Rollo Dilworth
Barbara Douglas
Andrew & Lisa-Renee Dumas
Quincina & William Edmonds
Adinah Edwards
Patricia & Roy Ellison
Rashid & Christie Faisal
Deidre & Larry Farmbry
Loretta Ferguson
Marceline Fitzwilliam
Earlene Ford
Wendella Fox & Herb Wetzel
Gwen Francis
Nikki Franke
Irenda Gates
Elaine Gillison
Barbara Glenn
Swanie Goldsmith
Clarice Grant
Arlene Gray
Linda Greaves
Carole Williams Green
Michele Green

THANK YOU!

Signe Griffin
Leotta Griffith
Thomasina Hack
Joan Hall
Stephen W. Hannum
Gail & Roosevelt Harris, Sr.
Leslie T. Harris
Joyce Harrison
Gwenda & Richard Hart
Gregory Hayes
Maurice Hayes
Denise Henderson
Quentin Heyward
Wanda Hill
Merle Hopson
Ruth E. Hopson
Angela Holloway
Karl Holloway
Fleta Howell
Patricia & Donald Hunt
Dr. Diana Hutchins
Kim Hyde
Joyce Jackson
Diann Jacox
Fr. Darryl James
Bobby Johnson
Lemont Johnson
Sheryl Johnson
Jenelle Wilson Johnson
Vernetta Johnston



THANK YOU!

Bettie Jones
Clarence Jones, Jr.
Donna Jones
Joyce & Robert Jones
Kelly Jones
Rene Jones
Sheila Jones-Smith
Marie Jordan
Winsome Josephs
Tyrone Keller
Reggie & Sherilynn Kimble
Jurdina Koiler
John Kortue, Sr.
Valerie Hutton LaBonne
Kathleen Lacey
Paula Glenn Lamb
Gwendolyn Langford
Nancy Conway Lee
TamlaLee
Louise Lewis
Steven & Jameela Lewis
Karen Leys
Kimberly Lloyd
Adrienne Logan
C. Adjoa Love-Dorsey
James T. Lowe, Jr.
Winston Lowe
Patricia Lynch
Constance Lyons
Deborah Matthews
Maria McWilliams-Zayzay
Shelia McCullough

THANK YOU!

Denise McKinney
Denise McKinney-Gibson
Dianne McNeal
Regina Meacham Devero
William Meek
Deirdre Milanes
Jann Minor
Carl Minott
Colin & Helen Mitchell
Pastor Sadie Mitchell
Thelma Montara
Elsie Moto
Mueni Beatrice Mwanzia
Vincent & Lisa Napoleon
Francina Norris
Jerome & Helen Peterson
Mary Ann Phillips
Simone Pollard
Marcia Pruett
Stephen Pugh
Audrey Pyles
Michael Pyles
Karen Ragland
Dr. Vivian Ray
Dolores Redmond
Dianne McNeal
Anita Reid
Kimberly Reinheckel
Clarence Rice
John Rich
Caryn Rivers
Victoria Rivers



THANK YOU!

Rosalind Roberts-Small
Thomas Rolland
Kayma Sherman-Knuckles
Dr. Cassandra Ruffin
Yvonne Ruiz
Mercedes Sadler
Dr. Barbara Savage
Georgia Sawyer
Richard & Rebecca Scales
Denise Rae Scott-Jones
Deborah Seay
Stephanie Seay
Leah Sheppard
Arlene Singletary
Velva Daniels Smalls
William Smalls
Anita Smith
Cary Smith
Dorothy Smith
Langsten Smith
Linda Tapper-Smith
Dr. & Mrs. Thomas Snowden
Catherine Stafford
Dr. H. Lynn Starr
Joseph Stevenson
Joyce Ann Stewart
Lisa Stewart-New
Shelly & Ann Stewart
Elder Lemuel & Cheryl Stiles
Sheila Stubbs
Carolyn Summers
Yvonne Syndor
Wanda Tarawaly



THANK YOU!

Dr. Monica Taylor
Rosita Taylor
Teri Taylor
Gloria Thomas
Teri Tillman
Justin & Lee Anne Trotman
Louise Trotman
Wanda Tarawaly
Harold Townsend III
Gladys Tucker
Joe Tucker & Alycia Horn
Inez Turner
Karen Vaughn
Jacquelyn Wallace
Yvonne White
Alverna Wiley
Barbara Wiley
Michele Wilkinson
Julia Williams
Stephanie Williamson
Dorothy Willis
Arletha Wilson
Lorna Wilson
Charlene Wiltshire
Larry & Natalie 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.

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 at 10am.

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.
