

Our service starts at 10:00 AM. If you are physically unable to attend, please join us virtually via our website, YouTube, or Facebook pages.

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 • Philadelphia, PA 19151 • (215) 473-3065

www.aecst.org • www.facebook.com/aecst1792

The Third Sunday of Pentecost Father's Day and Juneteenth Observance June 18, 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 Third Sunday after Pentecost**, **Father's Day and Juneteenth Observance**.

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 or the **Order of Service** for this Sunday.

From the Rector:

The mode of receiving holy communion has returned to the sacrament being placed in each person's mouth by the priest or Eucharistic Minister. If only a blessing is desired and not communion, please cross your chest with your arms.



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

OUR CONDOLENCES

and prayers for Howard Tucker and the entire family (Ginger, Gladyce, Courtney, and Cheyenne) on the death of his mother, **Gladys Tucker**. The funeral will be at St. Thomas on **Tuesday**, **June 20**, **2023**.

A greeting of family and refreshments at 10:00 AM and the Requiem Mass at 11:00 AM. May the soul of Gladys rest in peace and rise in glory. Please keep the family in prayer. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to: The Jesse F. Anderson Scholarship Fund.

OUR CONDOLENCES

to Angela Halloway and family on the death of **Karl Halloway**. His funeral will be on **June 24th** at the Thompson Hall & Jordan Funeral Home in Cincinnati, OH. May the soul of **Karl** rest in peace and rise in glory. Please pray for the family.



SUMMER PARISH HOURS (July and August) Administrative Offices and Church will be open Monday - Thursday 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

The Parish Offices and Church are closed on Fridays and Saturdays. If you have an emergency, please leave a message on the church voicemail which is regularly monitored.

The church offices will be closed on June 19th in celebration of Juneteenth. Juneteenth, also called America's Second Independence Day, marks the end of slavery in the United States. After many years of advocacy, Juneteenth was finally recognized as a federal holiday in 2021.



We welcome the Rev. Fr.
Daren Evans to the position
of Associate to the Rector
for Parish Life and Youth
Ministries. Fr. Daren is a native
of the Island of Jamaica and
a priest from the Diocese
of Jamaica and the Cayman
Islands. He most recently
served in the Spanishspeaking Diocese of Costa
Rica, in the role of Dean of La
Catedral El Buen Pastor and

Diocesan Youth Coordinator. A Warm St. Thomas welcome - One way to show our love and welcome is to provide him with a gift card as he transitions to a new city (i.e. Target, bank cards, etc.)

RE-IMAGINING SUMMER WORSHIP

During July and August we are reimagining our weekly worship by using a combination of the Book of Common Prayer (BCP) and hymnals in place of bulletins. Together we will become more familiar with the BCP and all its beauty.

UPCOMING SUNDAYS IN JUNE

June 18th - Father's Day and Juneteenth Observance

Monday, June 19th (Juneteenth) is a national holiday and the Parish Office and Church will be closed.

June 25th - Annual Youth Recognition Celebration

May God bless our fathers and father figures in our lives.



CONGRATULATIONS

to our Oldest Father, The Honorable Robert Williams.

He is the father of Robert, Ronald, Gail, Barry, Susan, and Christopher.



STARTING A NEW FATHER'S DAY TRADITION

Honor your fathers, grandfathers, godfathers, and father figures by wearing a red carnation provided by the St. Thomas Gardeners.

Free will offering donations will be used for the purchase of mulch, Spring and Fall flowers.



CONGRATULATIONS

to our Newest Father, Chad Gordon. He is the father of Ava and Ivy.



AFRICAN-AMERICAN FREEDOM DAY



JUNETERNTH

SINGE 18 JUNE 1862

WHAT IS JUNETEENTH?

In 1863, President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, which declared a formal end to slavery in the United States. However, change was not instant after the proclamation. Nearly two and a half years later, on June 19th, 1865, the enslaved African Americans of Galveston, Texas got the news by way of the Union army troops that freedom had come at last.

The next year, the people of Galveston commemorated that day as Juneteenth, a celebration of freedom. Since then, it's been observed in communities and states as a holiday, but officially recognized as a federal holiday in 2021.

Why is the holiday called Juneteenth? The name blends the month and the day this news reached the people of Galveston: "June" plus "nineteenth" is Juneteenth. It's also often called Emancipation Day or Freedom Day.

How do we celebrate Juneteenth? Juneteenth isn't just about celebrating a day or a single historical event – it's a celebration of freedom, resilience, community and the possibilities of good things to come.

- Connect with the important people in your lives and the histories and stories that make us who we are.
- Help people to register to vote, especially our youth. Voting is a right that was not always accessible to Black people, women and other ethnic groups.
- Support Black-owned businesses.
- -Listen to "Black History Bootcamp: The Walking Podcast" by Girltrek. The "Black History Bootcamp" podcast offers multiple seasons that celebrate Black stories, voices and history that gets your feet moving while your brain is learning.

Pictures from the Caribbean Festival Sunday June 11, 2023







The celebration continued after service on the Great Lawn with music, food, and fellowship. All thanks to the Caribbean Festival Committee.



More pictures may be found on our Facebook page.



The Caribbean Festival
Committee would like to thank
Fr. Shaw, Fr. Daren, the volunteers
that helped set up / clean up,
and their St. Thomas family for
their love, support, and donations
to the Caribbean Festival. St.
Thomas, family, and friends would

like to Thank Gillian, the committee, and all of the hardworking volunteers for a wonderful Caribbean Festival this year. We can't wait until next year!



ATTENTION ALL MEN!!!!!! MEN'S BREAKFAST GATHERING

(Ages 18 - 99 years old) **Saturday, June 17, 2023**,
at 8:30 AM

SPREAD THE WORD AND INVITE OTHERS.



BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!

THE WOMEN'S DAY MARKETPLACE

(FLEA MARKET)

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

[RAIN DATE, 10.7.23]
Held on the Grounds of
St. Thomas Church
Sign Up Information
Forthcoming

~2023 Women's Day Committee~

The Reverend Canon Thomas Wilson Stearly Logan, Sr. Memorial Scholarship

The Schuylkill Deanery of the Episcopal Diocese of Pennsylvania

Review Committee

Jean Fowler

Marcia L. Hinton, Chair

Meredith Wiggins

The Reverend Canon Thomas Wilson Stearly Logan, Sr.

March 19, 1912—May 2, 2012



Education and achievement were very important to, and stressed by the Logan family. Throughout his life, he was surrounded by accomplished men and women and he was encouraged to make his own significant contributions to society.

He graduated from Central High School and attended Johnson C. Smith University and Lincoln University graduating in 1935. He

earned a Bachelor of Sacred Theology from General Theological Seminary (GTS) in New York City, and a Masters of Sacred Theology from Philadelphia Divinity School in 1941. Father Logan also received five honorary doctorates, including Lincoln University, Hampton University and St. Augustine's College.

Father Logan selflessly devoted over seventy-three years of his life to the Episcopal Church. At the time of his death, he was the oldest serving African American priest in the Episcopal Church, USA.



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More information and an application can be found at the link provided.

On **Tuesday, June 20, 2023** at **7:00 PM**, the **STGC** will be singing the National Anthem at the Phillies game at Lincoln Financial Field, 1020 Pattison Avenue, Philadelphia, Pa 19148.

If you are a member of St. Thomas and wish to participate in a **monthly Vestry meeting** via Zoom, you must notify the Vestry Clerk. Send an email to **vestryclerk@aecst.**org at least two days prior to the meeting. You will then receive the link needed to join the meeting. Vestry meetings are held on the third Thursday of the month at 6:00 PM.

SCOUT TROOP #133 -

Our Cub Scout Program is open to boys grades 1-5. The Cub program meets at 2:00 PM on Saturdays.

The 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 <u>Howard Chapman</u> for more information.

AECST LIVE STREAM

Please join us for Worship on the St. Thomas <u>website</u>, the <u>Live Service</u>, or on our <u>Facebook</u> page or <u>youtube</u> every Sunday morning at 10 am. You can also watch <u>Past Services</u> and <u>Highlights</u> from past services.

ST. THOMAS HEALTH MINISTRY NEWS

STAY UP TO DATE with vaccinating against COVID-19 and the Flu. The new COVID-19 (Bivalent) booster is now available for anyone 12 and over. For guidelines on when to get your booster go to the CDC or consult with your doctor's office. Both the COVID-19 booster and the Flu vaccine are available at local pharmacies (RiteAid, CVS and Walgreens). Go on their website to schedule an appointment.

A link to Main Line Health's Spring Newsletter can be found here.



ALTAR FLOWERS

Flowers on the Columbarium are in Loving Memory and Thanksgiving for **The Rev. Jesse F. Anderson, Jr.**, our Dad, and Grumpy Gramps. "We love you" from Eric, J.B., Torie, Aiden, Ethan, and Deidrick.

Flowers on the Columbarium are in Loving Memory of our father, **Robert Warner Joell**, given by his family.

Flowers on the Columbarium are in Loving Memory of Glenn Kent (June 18th) and Deborah Kent (June 15th) birthdays, given by Paula Kent Boone.

To order flowers, please return the form with payment to:

Clare Mae Daniels or Alfreda Brockman. (Pl collection plate or give to the church office.)	
 I would like to place flowers on the I would like to place flowers on the I would like to place flowers on the 	Absalom Jones Altar - \$50.
(Please PRINT/ TYPE. You may use an for more names.)	additional piece of pape
A) In memory of B) In Thanksgiving for	
Given by Envelope #	Amount \$

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. If interested, please contact Gladyce in the Parish Office ASAP to get details on upcoming scheduled rehearsals.

Readings for the Third Sunday after Pentecost Father's Day - June 18, 2023

The First Lesson: Exodus 19:2-8a
Psalm 100

The Second Lesson: Romans 5:1-8
The Holy Gospel: Matthew 9:35-10:8

The Holy Gospel Readings for the Week of June 19, 2023

Monday - Matthew 17:14-21
Tuesday - Matthew 17:22-27
Wednesday - Matthew 18:1-9
Thursday - Matthew 18:10-20
Friday - Matthew 18:21-35
Saturday - Matthew 19:1-12

Readings for the Fourth Sunday after Pentecost Youth Recognition Sunday - June 25, 2023

The First Lesson: <u>Genesis 21:8-21</u>
Psalm 86:1-10.16-17

The Second Lesson: Romans 6:1b-11
The Holy Gospel: Matthew 10:24-39

The Holy Gospel Readings for the Week of June 26, 2023

Monday - Matthew 19:13-22
Tuesday - Matthew 19:23-30
Wednesday - Matthew 20:1-16
Thursday - Matthew 20:17-28
Friday - Matthew 16:21-28
Saturday - Matthew 17:1-13



AECST BIBLESTUDY MEETING WITH FR. JAY is held on Tuesdays evening by Zoom at 7:00 PM. If you are interested in joining a lively, interactive Bible study group, contact Fr. Jay via email to be included on our list. You will receive the Zoom link and our weekly lesson plan to prepare in advance for the week's meeting.

SPEARHEAD NEWSLETTER EMAILS

If you are not receiving the Spearhead emails, please use the **Newsletter** sign up link. 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.

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 **Gladyce** in the office 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.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR PARISHIONERS WHO ARE:

IN REHAB:

Nora Corbin- Little Flower Rehab; Linda Holmes - St. Ignatius Rehab; Fr. Darryl James - Stapley; Ruth Moses - The Watermark at Logan Square.

RECOVERING AT HOME:

Rosalind Rodriquez, Alletta Parris-Olday, Harold Yates, William Smalls, Pearl Henderson, Fr. Jay Collins, Teri Taylor, Tyrone Keller, Conchetta Brewer, Ronald Coleman, Seminarian David King, Cathy Stafford.

KEEP IN PRAYER:

Louise Lewis, Adinah Edwards, Robert Brown, Justin Trotman, Georgia Sawyer, Shirley Caldwell, Stephanie Williamson, Leotta Griffith, Ridart "Butch" Farmer, Kenneth Dow, Gwendolyn Langford, Eleanor Chestnut, Joan Hall, Dorothy Smith, Alice Bowman-Cropper, Daryn Stewart, Sheryl Johnson, Shirley Winkfield, Dr. Thomas Snowden, Dr. Walter Bantom, Bill Edmonds, Leatrice Snowden, Lemont Johnson, Laverne Hudson, Ruth Moses.

WE PRAY FOR

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

STEWARDSHIP NEWS

Please remember to maintain your pledged financial giving during the summer months of travel!

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

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

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**.

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

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

- 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 Parish Office during regular business hours. 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**: Pledge cards can now be sent for 2023. Please send them via the US mail to the church or electronically by clicking this link <u>Click></u> or send an email to our <u>Fiscal Administrator</u>. Thank you so much and thank you to all who have sent them in.

MINISTRY STAFF

Bishop Rector Associate to the Rector Associate Priest Associate Minister Associate Minister Executive Asst to Rector Fiscal Administor Sexton	The Rt. Rev. Daniel G P Gutierrez The Very Rev. Canon Martini Shaw The Rev. Fr. Daren E. Evans The Rev. Fr. Gerald Collins The Rev. Dr. Thomas G. Snowden The Rev. Dr. Paul Bach Gladyce DuBrey Jeannette Jeffrey LaDon Elliott	rector@aecst.org associaterector@aecst.org associatepriest@aecst.org dravidian@comcast.net pauljaybach@gmail.com 1792@aecst.org fiscal@aecst.org 1792@aecst.org
Asst Sexton Chancel Choirmaster	David McGilberry	1792@aecst.org
	Jay Fluellen, DMA Waltier Blocker	chancelchoir@aecst.org
Gospel Choirmaster Rector's General Counsel		gospelchoir@aecst.org
Rector's General Couriser	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	_	churchschool@aecst.org
Ed Muse Photogrphy Ministry		edmon57@comcast.net
Fiscal Advisor to the Rector	Deadra Cannon	assistantfiscal@aecst.org
Girls Friendly Society	Nikkol Simms	njsimms@verizon.net
Jazz Ensemble Director	Joe Stevens	jobopss@aol.com
Live Stream Ministry	Yaseen Farooq	livevideo@aecst.org
	Terri Tillman	
Memorial Flowers	Alfreda Brockmam	fredabee@verizon.net
	Clare Mae Daniels	happycmd05@aol.com
Monarch Greeters Ministry	Roy Ellison	s.royellison@gmail.com
Parish Vergers	Stephen Hannum	1792@aecst.org
	Karen Ragland	Kdrags415@gmail.com
Parish Webmaster	Gail Hinton Harris	webmanager@aecst.org
Property Chair	William Burke	property@aecst.org
Scout Pack 133	Howard Chapman	howchapman@gmail.com
	Arlene Gray	bsapack0133@gmail.com
Stewardship Chair	Judy Tillman	stewardship@aecst.org
Transportation Ministry		
Videography Ministry	Quentin Heyward	recordedvideo@aecst.org
Voices of Comfort	Robert Davenport	robertnewtondavenport@gmail.com
William Burke Ushers Ministry	Arlene Singletary	leaniepo302@gmail.com

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.