

Happy Father's Day



AECST
FOUNDED 1792



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
6361 LANCASTER AVENUE · PHILADELPHIA, PA 19151 · (215) 473-3065
WWW.AECST.ORG · WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/AECST1792



THE SECOND SUNDAY OF PENTECOST
Father's Day / Juneteenth Observance
June 19, 2022, 10:00 AM

“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 Pentecost, Father's Day / 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 for the [Order of Service](#)
for this Sunday's service.

WE HONOR AND CELEBRATE ST. THOMAS'



ELDEST FATHER- The Honorable Robert Williams, Jr. Judge Williams will be 99 years old on July 3rd.



**NEWEST FATHER (and
NEWEST MEMBER)**
Chad Gordon, father of Ava, 2.5 years old, and Ivory 2 months.

**Join us Sunday as we hear Homilies /Testimonies from
St. Thomas's fathers.**



Yaseen Farooq, Father of
Aliana Maryam Farooq, age 6 &
Abraham Yaseen Farooq, age 4.



Justin Crosby Lyon
Father of Crosby Lyon, age 2.



Edwin Santana, Father of Edwin
R. Santana, Jr., age 4

We welcome **Chad, Toya, Avery** (not pictured), and **Ivy Gordon**, to our St. Thomas family.
Their shepherds are Yaseen and Alaina Farooq.



Monday is the Federal
Observance of
Juneteenth. The Church
and Administrative offices
will be CLOSED.

From the Rector: Whoever you may be and however you may find yourself experiencing life's journey, do know that St. Thomas Church welcomes you.

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.

Please pray for traveling mercies **Tommy Lynch**, Keystone State Boy and Girl Choirs, and chaperones as they travel to Portugal and Morocco this Monday, June 20th. He is blessed to have such an amazing opportunity. Thank you for keeping his and others safety and good health in your prayers.

ATTENTION RISING COLLEGE FRESHMEN: FENCE (Families of Episcopalians Nurturing within the College Environment is a ministry created for the AECST's college students who will be living away from home. An Episcopal parish closest to your campus and a family or individual that is a member of that parish will help to facilitate your assimilation into your new community.

If interested, for more information, please send an email to Ms. Charlene M. Wiltshire at cwiltshi@comcast.net providing your name, telephone number, college name & address. You may also speak with her before or after Sunday services.

STAND UP: *Harriet Tubman Tour* CONCERT

A CHORAL CONCERT EXPLORING THE
HISTORY OF THE UNDERGROUND
RAILROAD THROUGH SONG

FEATURING 4 YOUTH CHOIRS IN A
HISTORIC COLLABORATION

SPECIAL GUEST PERFORMANCE BY
THE ST. THOMAS GOSPEL CHOIR

WORLD PREMIERE:
"YOU CAN FLY"
BY DR. BRANDON WILLIAMS



MONDAY, JUNE 20, 2022, 6:00 PM

AFRICAN EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS
6361 LANCASTER AVE
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19151

FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC





African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas

Women's Day Committee Fundraiser

'Pretzels & A Bag'

*Enjoy a Delicious
Philly Pretzel*

\$1.00 each



Carry your goods in Style

with a

Limited Edition Custom Tote Bag

\$15.00 each

Women's Day Special

2 for \$25.00



*Proceeds benefit the AECST
General Fund*

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2022
class of
CONGRATULATIONS!

**ADDITIONAL GRADUATES
NOT RECOGNIZED LAST SUNDAY
GRADUATING FROM PRE-K**



Chloe Caviness from
Commonwealth
Charter Academy



Shaine Bryant Simms
from St. Mark's
Christian School

FROM HIGH SCHOOL



Brandon Barksdale from
Upper Darby High School



Aaliyah Miller from
Y.A.L.E. High School, Cherry Hill Campus

A FEW QUOTES AND PARAPHRASES ON “VIRTUAL WORSHIP”

“Virtual and live stream worship have been, and will continue to be, a blessing to the church. However, by no means can it substitute coming and physically receiving the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist (Communion).”
(From Fr. Martini Shaw’s Homily on Jan. 16, 2022).

“Online Masses and Spiritual Communion do not represent the church. The faithful not gathered to receive the Sacraments is not the church. Jesus’ disciples always lived their relationship with the Lord in Community. They gathered, around the sacrament, at the same table, as a sign of community”. (Pope Francis’ message)

“If you are unable to receive the Sacrament, by reasons of extreme sickness or physical disability; or when being present at a celebration is absolutely impossible, it is possible to open yourself to God’s grace and blessing”.
(Episcopal Church Book of Common Prayer).



IMPORTANT NOTICE:

The wearing of masks will remain **MANDATORY** while at St. Thomas until further notice. St. Thomas will follow the recommended guidelines of the CDC, the City of Philadelphia, and the Diocese of PA. Let us love our neighbor and worship safely!

Masks are available for all in attendance if needed. Hand sanitizer is also available. The ventilation system has been changed to let in outside air. We request that all in attendance be **VACCINATED**. Unvaccinated individuals are requested to watch the Service via [Live Stream](#).

ATTENTION ALL MEN

Every Sunday, **ALL** men are invited to briefly stop and Greet other men of the parish outside under the carport after service each week.

SAVE THE DATE NOW!

Saturday, September 17, 2022, at 11:00 AM.

A portion of Lancaster Avenue will be Renamed
Absalom Jones Way

Come join us for part of this Homecoming Weekend
Celebrating our 230th Parish Anniversary

Co-Chairs - Albert Dandridge, Esq., Monica Lewis Jones,
Catherine Stafford

ATTENTION:

We are so blessed to be stewards of a beautiful property that God has entrusted to our care. Persons are needed to serve on our Property Committee. If interested, please speak with [Deborah Harrison](#) or call the Parish Office to express your interest.

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.

VESTRY MEETING

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 p.m.

RE-IMAGINING OUR MINISTRIES

Persons are needed to serve on the Altar Guild. This amazing group of individuals prepare our beautiful altar each week for the Celebration of the Holy Eucharist. Interested people should contact Alfreda Brockman at fredabee@verizon.net.

We are in need of Readers and Intercessors, Youth and Adult. If you are interested in helping spread the Word of God through a reading, Psalm, or Intercessory prayers, please contact Gladyce in the parish office. Thank you.

We are looking for a few individuals 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.

UPCOMING SUNDAYS IN JUNE

June 19th

Father's Day / Juneteenth Observance

June 26th

Youth Sunday

Acolyte Commissioning Sunday

July 3rd

Celebration of Independence Day

DAILY RECOMMENDED BIBLE READINGS

READINGS FOR

**The Second Sunday of Pentecost/Father's Day
June 19, 2022**

The First Reading: [Isaiah 65:1-9](#)
[Psalm 22:18-27](#)

The Second Reading: [Galatians 3:23-29](#)

The Holy Gospel: [Luke 8:26-39](#)

The Holy Gospel Readings for the Week of June 20, 2022

Monday - [Luke 21:29-36](#)

Tuesday - [Luke 21:37-22:13](#)

Wednesday - [Luke 22:14-23](#)

Thursday - [Luke 22:24-30](#)

Friday - [Luke 22:31-39](#)

Saturday - [Luke 22:39-51](#)

**The Third Sunday of Pentecost
Youth Sunday / Acolyte Commissioning Sunday
June 26, 2022**

The First Reading: [1 Kings 19:15-16, 19-31](#)
[Psalm 16](#)

The Second Reading: [Galatians 5:1, 13-15](#)

The Holy Gospel: [Luke 9:51-62](#)

The Holy Gospel Readings for the Week of June 27, 2022

Monday - [Luke 22: 52-62](#)

Tuesday - [Luke 22:63-71](#)

Wednesday - [Luke 23:1-12](#)

Thursday - [Luke 23:13-25](#)

Friday - [Luke 23:26-31](#)

Saturday - [Luke 23:32-43](#)

ASSOCIATE RECTOR SEARCH

The Rector has restarted an official Search Process for the Calling of an Associate to the Rector for Youth Ministries and Parish Life.

ACOLYTES NEEDED

We are in need of Acolytes (Youth and Adults). Please consider serving God in this rewarding ministry. If interested, please contact the Rector ASAP.



AECST BIBLE STUDY WITH FR. JAY

Bible Study with Fr. Jay concludes the liturgical year with our meeting on **Tuesday, May 31st**. We will resume on **Tuesday, September 13th at 7:00 PM**.

ALTAR FLOWERS

Flowers on the Absalom Jones Altar are in Thanksgiving for the 25th Birthday of **Cheyenne Williamson**, given by Gladyce and Ginger DuBrey and Courtney Williamson.

Flowers on the Columbarium are In Loving Memory of my Wife **Phyllis B. Johnson** given with love by your husband Bobby.

Flowers on the Columbarium are in Loving Memory of **Glenn and Deborah Kent**, given by Paula Kent Boone.

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

- __ flowers on the High Altar - \$60.00
- __ flowers on the Absalom Jones Altar - \$50.00
- __ flowers on the Columbarium- \$40.00
- __An Easter Lily @\$25.00 each (5 names per plant)

Please PRINT

In Memory of _____, In Thanksgiving for _____,

Name _____, Envelope# _____, Amount _____.

POSITION OPENING - ST. THOMAS ASSISTANT SEXTON

Part-time position is open for an Assistant Sexton. Hours are typically some weekday evenings, Saturdays, and Sundays.

Presently, reduced hours due to pandemic restrictions.

Hours will increase as in-person activities increase. For more information, interested persons should contact [Deborah](#)

[Harrison](#).

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR PARISHIONERS WHO ARE:

RECOVERING AT HOME

Justin Trotman, Alice Bowman-Cropper,
Teena Watson Matthews, Grace Wetzel,
Linda Holmes, Rosalind Rodriguez, Gwenda Hart.

PLEASE KEEP IN PRAYER

Terri Barber, Adinah Edwards, Joan Hall, Robert Brown,
Georgia Sawyer, Isedora "Gwen" Francis, Shirley Winkfield,
Dr. Thomas Snowden, Shirley Caldwell, Stephanie Williamson,
Francina Norris, Ridart "Butch" Farmer, Leatrice Snowden,
Leotta Griffith, Karen Ragland, Lisa Woodley, Winston Lowe,
Kenneth Dow, Linda Holmes, Edita Gauthney.

WE PRAY FOR

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

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.

STEWARDSHIP NEWS

FROM THE RECTOR

You should have received your Third Quarter Statement of the Stewardship year. I am urging everyone to please assure that your 2021 Pledge is current. If you have questions, please contact the Fiscal Administrator, Jeanette Jeffrey in the Fiscal Office from **9:30 AM-2:00 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.

I ask that you, using the chart below to assist you, prayerfully fill out your 2022 Faithful Giving Card. Please place it in the offering plate, postal mail, or electronically use our Faithful Giving. [Pledge Form](#) on our website.

Again, thanks so much for your continued support to the ministries of our amazing parish.

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

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

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](#).

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

THE 2022 OFFERING ENVELOPES

are now ready for you to pick up in Anderson Hall. If you're unable to pick them up on Sundays after church you may do so Monday through Friday from 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM. If you have a parishioner who lives near you who can't get to church, perhaps you can pick theirs up as well.

You can now complete your pledge card by mail or on our website.

If you have decided to use the Givi App or Online Giving Donations, please email me at stewardship@aecst.org with your name and envelope number.

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.

Thank you very much.

Judy Tillman, Stewardship Committee

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 still be sent for 2022. Please send them via the US mail to the church or **[electronically](#)** through the **www.aecst.org** 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
Assistant to the Rector		
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 the Rector	Gladyce DuBrey	1792@aecst.org
Fiscal Administrator	Jeannette Jeffrey	fiscal@aecst.org
Sexton	LaDon Elliott	1792@aecst.org
Asst Sexton	Ronald Jones	1792@aecst.org
Chancel Choirmaster	Jay Fluellen, D.M.A.	chancelchoir@aecst.org
Gospel Choirmaster	Waltier Blocker	gospelchoir@aecst.org
Rector's General Counsel	Joe Tucker, Esq	jtucker@tlgattorneys.com
Baptism Co-Chairs	Gail H Harris	thegail@hotmail.com
	Patricia Walker-Ellison	p.walker.ellison@gmail.com
Church School Superintendent	Dottie Archey	churchschool@aecst.org
Ed Muse Photography Ministry	William Edmonds	edmon57@comcast.net
Fiscal Assistant to the Rector	Deborah Camp - Frye	1792@aecst.org
Girls Friendly Society	Nikkol Simms	njsimms@verizon.net
Jazz Ensemble Director	Joe Stevenson	jobopss@aol.com
Live Stream Ministry	Yaseen Farooq	livevideo@aecst.org
	Terri Tillman	
Memorial Flowers	Alfreda Brockman	fredabee@verizon.net
	Clare Mae Daniels	happycmd05@aol.com
Parish Vergers	Stephen Hannum	1792@aecst.org
	Karen Ragland	Kdrags415@gmail.com
	Lisa Steward-New	ljs210@msn.com
Parish Webmaster	Gail H Harris	webmanager@aecst.org
Property Chair	Deborah Harrison	dneharrison04@gmail.com
Special Advisor to the Rector	Richard Jones	r724jones1@gmail.com
Scout Pack 133	Howard Chapman	howchapman@gmail.com
	Arlene Gray	bsapack0133@gmail.com
Transportation Ministry	J. Reggie Kimble	tkglimo@aol.com
Videography Ministry	Que ntin Heyward	recordedvideo@aecst.org
William Burke Ushers Ministry	Arlene Singletary	leaniepo@verizon.net

THE VESTRY

Rector's Warden - Deadra Cannon
Accounting Warden - Kelvin Johnson
Clerk of the Vestry - Clare Mae Daniels
Treasurer - Albert S. Dandridge, III Esq.

Patricia Bantom
Brenda Johnson Best
Judith Simkins Booth
Ronnie Collins
Wendella Fox, Esq.
Deborah Harrison
D. Lynn Joell
Jonathan Muse
Darryl (Bobby) Tillman
Judith Tillman

THE AUXILIARY VESTRY

Patricia Akins
Conchetta Brewer
Sharon Bullock
Gregory Lyles
Patricia Lynch

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.