



AECST  
FOUNDED 1792

*Jesus told him,  
"Don't be afraid; just believe."  
Mark 5:36*

**Believe in God's awesome power.  
To God be the Glory!**

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 FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**  
**Youth and Church School Sunday**  
**Sunday, June 27, 2021**  
**10:00 AM**

Today is Youth and Church School Sunday.  
The speaker today is Church School Superintendent,  
**Mrs. Dorothy Archey.**

---

**SPREAD THE GOOD NEWS**  
**ST. THOMAS TO RESUME IN-PERSON WORSHIP!!!**

The Big countdown begins  
for St. Thomas to resume In-Person worship  
for all parishioners, families and friends,  
Homecoming Sunday  
**September 12, 2021, at 10:00 AM**

(11 weeks or 70 days)

If you live out of town, make your travel plans NOW.  
**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

---

**ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE/CHURCH SUMMER HOURS**

Monday - Thursday: 9AM-2PM

Closed Fridays in **July** and **August**.

Have a safe, healthy and enjoyable summer!

The Church office will be closed in observance of  
Independence Day, **Monday, July 5th.**

## Youth and Church School Sunday Service Participants



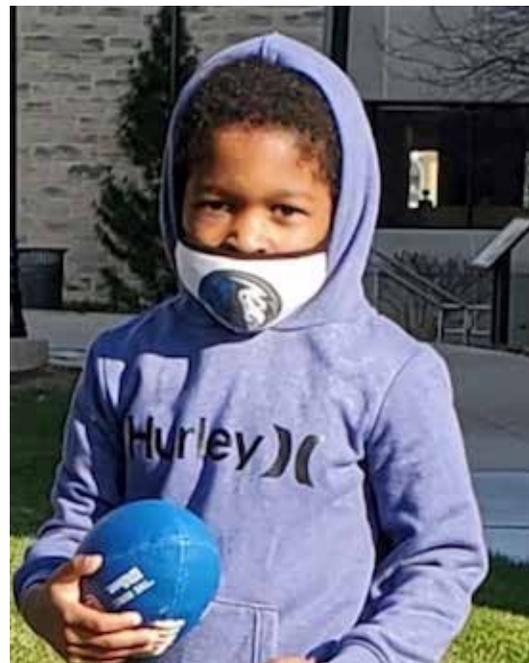
**Dorothy Archey**  
Church School  
Superintendent



**Scarlet Scales**



**Gabrielle Faisal**



**Malkam Yates**



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

June 1, 2021

African Episcopal Church of Saint Thomas Church School  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Dear Students,

Thank you for writing to me! I really enjoyed hearing from you and reading your thoughts about the issues most important to you.

Our country faces many challenges, and the work we have ahead of us is going to be really tough. I am certain that if we set aside our differences and come together as a Nation, we will create positive change. It will not be easy, and I am going to need your help.

Even at your young ages, you have the power to impact the future for generations to come. Throughout your lives, remain curious, creative, and fearless. These traits will serve you well and allow you to experience the best life has to offer.

I wish you the best in the years ahead and look forward to seeing where your futures take you. Study hard. Keep challenging yourselves. And be kind.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joe Biden", with a long diagonal line extending from the bottom left of the signature.

## **LIVE STREAM UPDATE**

Our new livestream equipment has been installed. Our livestream team has been formed and is preparing to provide a weekly livestreaming of our weekly Services beginning in September when we are physically back together.

---

## **THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM**

is now being scheduled. If you wish to be baptized, please go to our website [www.aecst.org](http://www.aecst.org), go to "About The AECST".

Use the drop down to click on Holy Baptism. All the information about the Sacrament of Holy Baptism and the online application form can be found there.

---

## **PLEASE JOIN THE NEW ST. THOMAS KITCHEN COMMITTEE**

This ministry is a part of our Property Committee. It will NOT involve any food preparation. The purpose will be to assure that our kitchen is well organized, tidy and pristine looking at all times. Please speak with one of the Co-Chairs, Deadra Cannon or Clare Mae Daniels immediately to join. The proverb says: "cleanliness is next to godliness".

---

## **PROPERTY UPDATE - GOOD NEWS!**

Major work has started on our entire roof, pointing of all exterior and interior stones, and ultimately the cleaning of the interior stones. If you have questions, please speak with our Vestry Property Chair, Ms. Deborah Harrison.

**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](mailto:CIRCLEOFPRAYER@AECST.ORG)**

**PHYLLIS B. CATER \* DAPHNE GILSTRAP  
FACILITATORS**

**THE VERY REV. CANON MARTINI SHAW  
RECTOR**



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

## **THE CIRCLE OF PRAYER MINISTRY**

Thank you Fr. Martini Shaw, Verger Lisa New, Elizabeth Derr, Cynthia Muse, Jenelle Wilson Johnson, Joyce Adams, Daphne Gilstrap, Linda Royal, Deborah “Binky” Seay, Regina Meacham-Devero, and the members and all others who continue to participate and support our weekly Circle of Prayer Call.

We look forward to our next Prayer session on **Monday June 28, 2021**. We start promptly at **6:30 AM**.

This will be the last Circle of prayer until the fall.

You are encouraged to reach out to us at [circleofprayer@aecst.org](mailto:circleofprayer@aecst.org) to submit prayer request or if you are interested in leading the Intercessory Prayer, the Prayers of the People, or a Meditation in Song. The teleconference call number is **605-313-6361**; access code is **268105**

---

## **CONGRATULATIONS**

to all the St Thomas graduates, we hope this is the first of many good things to come.

The Jesse F. Anderson Sr Scholarship Committee is proud to present the St. Thomas Book Awards of 2021 to our own **Ryan Lynch** and **Tyleenda Wilson**. The Outreach Scholarships are presented to two West Philadelphia High School 2021 graduates: **Mamadou Karamoko**, who will attend Jefferson University to study Radiation Science and **Keneya Sanders**, who will attend Morgan State University.

# **DAILY RECOMMENDED BIBLE READINGS**

## **Readings For The Fifth Sunday After Pentecost Youth / Young Adult / Church School Sunday June 27th**

First Reading: Wisdom of Solomon 1: 13-15; 2: 23-24  
Psalm 30

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 8: 7-15  
The Holy Gospel: Mark 5: 21-43

---

### **Week of 6/28/2021**

Monday - Matthew 21: 12-22  
Tuesday - Matthew 21: 23-32  
Wednesday - Matthew 21: 33-46  
Thursday - Matthew 22: 1-14  
Friday - Matthew 22: 15-22  
Saturday - Matthew 22: 23-40

---

## **Readings For The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost July 4th**

First Reading: Ezekiel 2: 1-5  
Psalm 123  
Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 12: 2-10  
The Holy Gospel: Mark 6: 1-13

---

**UPCOMING SUNDAYS IN JULY/AUGUST**  
(All Services can be viewed on our Facebook,  
Website or Youtube channels)

On these Sundays we will offer  
morning prayers,  
scripture,  
and music officiated by  
our clergy and vergers.

-----

**TUESDAY ZOOM BIBLESTUDY**  
will not meet at 7 pm from July 6, 2021 to  
August 31, 2021. We will resume meeting on the  
Tuesday following Homecoming Sunday  
at 7 pm via Zoom.

-----

## **RECOVERING AT HOME**

Linda Holmes, Joseph Stevenson,  
Lisa Woodley, Regina Meecham Devero,  
Deborah Joell, Carol Williams Green.

## **PLEASE KEEP IN PRAYER**

Suzanne Closson, Rosalind Roberts Smalls, Georgia Sawyer,  
Adinah Edwards, Shirley Caldwell, Carl Dean,  
Francina Norris, Isedora "Gwen" Francis, Kenneth Dow,  
Shirley Winkfield, Robert Brown, Joan Hall,  
Judith Simpkins-Booth, Joyce Jackson,  
Stephanie Williamson, Ridart "Butch" Farmer,  
Dr. Thomas Snowden, Leatrice Snowden.

## **WE PRAY FOR**

those who are Incarcerated and their families/loved ones,  
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.

## **PARISH ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE HOURS**

**Monday-Friday 9:00AM-4:00PM.**

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 is the Absalom Jones House.

---

## **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: [www.aecst.org](http://www.aecst.org) or [www.facebook/aecst1792](https://www.facebook.com/aecst1792).

If you have questions, please contact the Fiscal Administrator, Jeanette Jeffrey in the Fiscal Office from 10:00 AM-1:00 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.

---

## **PARISH GIVING**

Quarterly Statements will be mailed in July to cover mid-year giving (January-June).

## **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 AM - 4:00 PM) 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 up their envelope, perhaps you can pick it up for them and put it in their mail slot or between their doors.

If you have decided to use the Givi App or Online Giving donation button and no longer want to receive offering envelopes please let me know by **Sunday, August 8th**. Please email me at [stewardship@aecst.org](mailto:stewardship@aecst.org) with your name and envelope number.

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](mailto:tillman_72@msn.com) or the church email: [1792@aecst.org](mailto:1792@aecst.org) so that we can update the church records. Thank you very much.

-----

## **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, 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.

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

# **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**

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

---

## **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, or have someone else you wish to receive, 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 worship on the St. Thomas Website [www.aecst.org](http://www.aecst.org) or our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/aecst1792> or [youtube.com](http://youtube.com) every Sunday morning at 10:00 AM.

## 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 - Kelvin 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.

---