



**SUNDAY,  
NOVEMBER 5, 2023  
10:00 AM**

**Observance  
of  
THE FEAST OF  
ALL SAINTS/ALL SOULS**

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THE STAINED GLASS WINDOW HONORING  
BLACK SAINTS AND BISHOPS  
WAS INSTALLED NOVEMBER 5, 2000.  
BEHOLD ITS BRILLIANCE ON YOUR NEXT VISIT.

BLACK SAINTS FEATURED:  
ST. MAURICE; ST. PERPETUA;  
ST. AUGUSTINE; ST. MONICA;  
ST. SIMON; THE REV. ALEXANDER CRUMMELL;  
THE RT. REV. JAMES THEODORE HOLLY;  
THE RT. REV. JOHN BURGESS;  
THE RT. REV. FRANKLIN D. TURNER;  
ARCHBISHOP DESMOND TUTU;  
AND THE RT. REV. BARBARA HARRIS.



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 (ABSALOM JONES WAY) • PHILADELPHIA, PA 19151 • (215) 473-3065  
WWW.AECST.ORG • WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/AECST1792

# THE TWENTY THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

November 5, 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 Twenty Third Sunday after Pentecost**  
**The Feast of All Saints / All Souls**

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  
for the [Order of Service](#) for this Sunday.





AECST  
Founded 1792

**HAPPY**  
B I R T H D A Y  
**FOUNDER ABSALOM**

**HAPPY**  
B I R T H D A Y  
**FATHER SHAW**

*May  
The Lord  
Bless and  
Protect You.*

NUMBERS 6:24 (TLB)

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## A NOTE FROM THE RECTOR

Any questions, please contact any member of the St. Thomas O.V. Catto Voter Education Ministry.

**Father Martini Shaw**  
African Episcopal Church of St Thomas

**I'M CHECKING TO MAKE SURE EVERYONE IN OUR CONGREGATION HAS A PLAN TO VOTE.**

VOTE **ELECTION DAY** TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7 GET THE INFO AT [VOTE411.ORG/PENNSYLVANIA](https://vote411.org/pennsylvania)

**POWER**  
1415 N. Broad Street - Suite 223  
Philadelphia, PA 19122

The Anti-Violence Legislative [Campaign](#) Letter for November, the [QR Code](#) for State Representatives, and a [flyer](#) for a Day of Prayer and Action: Harrisburg Rally Agenda & Hotel Information can be found on the table in the back of the church or please see Phyllis Cater for more information.

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**Community College of Philadelphia's** new Career and Advanced Technology Center at the corner of 48th and Market St. in West Philadelphia will formally dedicate the facility and the Absalom Jones Courtyard named for our founder, Blessed Absalom Jones on Monday, November 13, 2023, at 3:30 pm. Art Sudler, William Carl Bolivar Director, AECST Historical Society & Archives will be a speaker. All Are Welcome to Attend. For more information, please see the [link](#).



# ENORMOUS THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE SUBMITTED THEIR 2024 FAITHFUL GIVING CARD!!!!!!!!!!!!

Is your name listed? If not, submit yours now by using the [link](#).

## 2024 Faithful Giving Cards

**Enormous thanks to these individuals who have submitted their 2024 Faithful Giving cards. Is your name included? Please submit yours today.**

Patricia Akins	Edita Gauthney	Patricia Lynch	Dr. Monica Taylor
Alister Allman	Elaine Gillison	Constance Lyons	Rosita Taylor
Dorothy Archey	Barbara L. Glenn	Katrice Mathurin	Cheryl Taylor Stiles
Jeanne J. Arnold	Swanie Goldsmith	Sheila Sawyer McCullough	Gloria Thomas
Dr. Timothy Barksdale	Eugene & Marie Golson	Denise McDaniel-Henderson	Calvin Thompson
Brenda Battle	Jessica Golson	Cheryl McIntosh	Darryle & Judy Tilman
Susan Ben	Chad & Toya Gordon	Michael McIntosh	Teri Tillman
Deborah Billups	Josephine Graham	Denise McKinney-Gibson	Arnott Trotman
Dr. Naomi Johnson Booker	Clarice Grant	William Meek	Justin & Lee Ann Trotman
Deborah Booker-Mathews	Linda Greaves Street	Deidre Milanes	Louise Trotman
Guy Booth	Michelle Green	Colin Mitchell	Elizabeth Trulear
Ricardo Bostic	PJ Grier	Cynthia Muse	Robin Vann-Lynch
I. Page Bowser	Thomasina Hack	Jonathan Muse	Karen Vaughn
Michelanne Bradwell	Lisa Sharon Harper	Mueni Mwanzia	Barbara Wiley
Theresa Bramwell	Sharon Harper	Francina Norris	Julia Williams
Conchetta Brewer	Roosevelt, Sr. & Gail Harris	Deborah Otey	R. Seth Williams
Lorita Brockington	Katrina Harris Marshall	Carolyn Paige	Stephanie Williamson
J.R. & Alfreda Brockman	Walter & Nicole Harris	Samuel & Deidre Patterson	Jenelle Wilson-Johnson
Carmen Brown	Deborah Harrison	Andrea Petrocelli-Fields	Charlene Wiltshire
Marilyn Brown	Joyce B. Harrison	Eugene Phillips	Denise Wing
Robert & Jayne Brown	Richard & Gwenda Hart	Kim Phillips	Diane Winkfield
William H. Brown, III	Gregory Hayes	Mary Ann Phillips	Edgar Wise
Sharon Bullock	Maurice Hayes	Simone Pollard	Wanda Wood
William Burke, Jr.	Rene Hayes	Stephen Pugh	Khalita Wright
Yvonne Caldwell White	Erica Hill-Yates	Karen Ragland	Paula Wright
Deadra Cannon	Fleta Howell	Ella Randall	I. Bernadette Wyche
Charlotte Card	Robert Hugh	Dolores Redmond	Alice Young
Eleanor Chestnut	Donald & Patricia Hunt	Clarence Rice	M. Elaine Young
The Rev. Fr. Gerald Collins	Kim Hyde	Caryn Rivers	
Ronnie H. Collins	D. Lynn Joell	Victoria Rivers	
Tracy Collins, M.D.	Bobby Johnson	Shonalie Roberts	
Gwendolyn Cottman	Dr. Frank Johnson	Rosalind Roberts Smalls	
Albert Dandrige, III	Kelvin & Pamela Johnson	Yvonne Ruiz	
Clare Mae Daniels	Lemont Johnson	Mercedes Sadler	
Car & Mary Dean	Brenda Johnson-Best	Georgia Sawyer	
Dr. Rollo Dillworth	Bettie Jones	Deborah Seay	
Musu Doe	Monica Lewis Jones	Stephanie Seay Wood	
Barbara Douglass	Richard Jones	The Rev. Fr. Martini Shaw	
Andrew & Lisa Renee Dumas	Robert & Joyce Jones	Kayma Sherman-Knuckels	
William & Quincina Edmonds	Tyrone Keller	Judith Simkins	
Carol Etlen	Reggie & Sherilynn Kimble	Arlene Singletary	
Erkia Etlen	Jurdina Koiler	Velva Daniels Smalls	
Fr. Daren Evans	John Kortue	Anita Smith	
Loretta Ferguson	Nancy Lee	Cary Smith	
Marcia Forde	Karen Leys	Catherine Stafford	
Angela Foster	Landon Leys	H. Lyn Starr	
Wendella Fox	Adrienne Logan	Arthur & Michele Sudler	
Barry & Deborah Frye	C. Adjoa Love-Dorsey	Carolyn Summers	
Irenda Gates	James Lowe	Lynda Tapper-Smith	

**Important Note from the Rector:**

Please help us to end the year without a deficit by completing your 2023 financial pledge by December 31st, 2023. If you are unsure of your balance, please contact Jeanette in the Fiscal Office.

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Beginning **November 1st**, any Group, Guild, Ministry or Fellowship wishing to have a flyer placed in the bulletin will have to provide the copies to the office no later than Wednesday for insertion in the Sunday bulletin.

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**There will be a birthday reception in observance of both Blessed Absalom and Fr. Shaw's birthday in Anderson Hall after church given by the Pentecost Committee.**



## ALL SAINTS / ALL SOULS

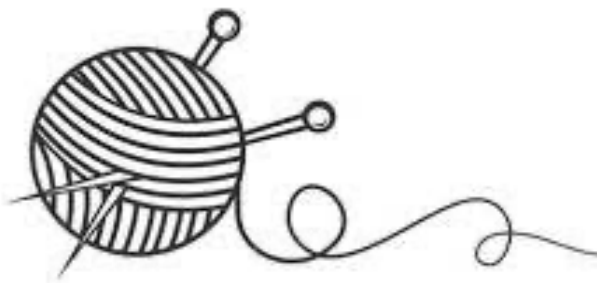
Please use the [link](#) for The Candle Memorials on the Altars that are lit in Memory of our deceased loved ones.

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Thank you to my church family, who prayed, called, or sent a card, on the passing of my husband, thank you. It was greatly appreciated. Thank you and God Bless.

**Sheila Sawyer McCullough and family**

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### KNITTING CLUB:

Coming back to the Absalom Jones House on

**Wednesday, October 25th**

from **10:00 AM - Noon.**

Bring your yarn, and patterns and join in on the fun!

## MEMBER INFORMATION FORMS

In an effort to get correct member information, we are asking **EVERY** parishioner to fill out a Member form. The church has received many returned mailings because of bad addresses. We would appreciate your new address, phone number, and email address. Please fill out the [form](#) and return it to the [church office email](#). Please fill out 1 form for each adult member of your family, children may go on one of the forms. Thanks so much for your help with this.

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## A NOTE OF THANKSGIVING FROM THE RECTOR

God has truly been good and is worthy of our praise and thanksgiving. In an expression of your gratitude, please prayerfully consider your gift of Thanksgiving by using the [link](#) provided.



## **STEWARDSHIP KICK-OFF:**

During Stewardship Month please pray about your Faithful Giving for 2024. We need strong support for our budget and many endeavors and outreach projects at St. Thomas. You'll be able to either complete your Faithful Giving Card by going on our website, Spearhead, Facebook page, or this [link](#). You can also mail your Faithful Giving Card or bring it to the Altar at Church.

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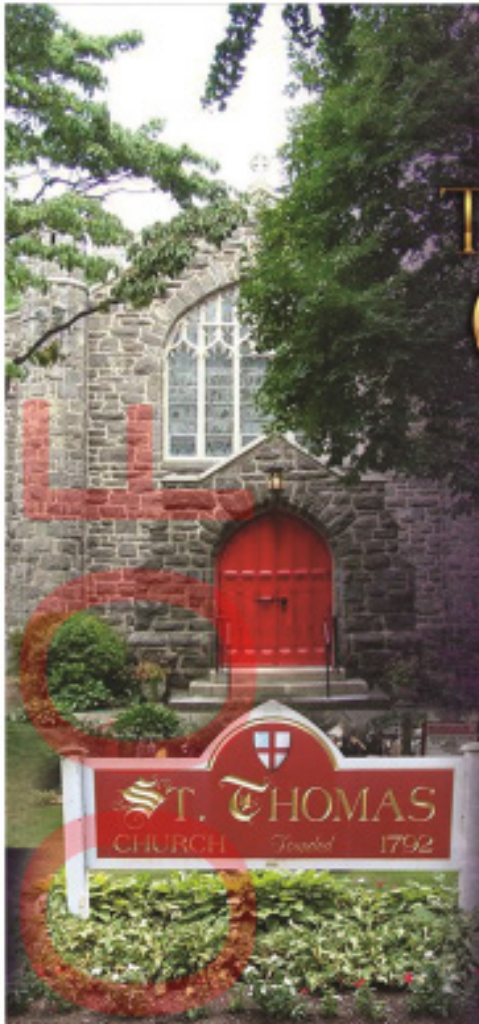
We are happy to announce that during the upcoming months, the following persons will be on a ministry discernment journey with both **David King** and **R. Seth Williams**.

Let us pray for these groups of persons as they discern the ministry calls of David King and R. Seth Williams. Let us also keep in prayer David and Seth during this period of discernment.

**The Committee for David King:** Eugene Golson, Jonathan Muse, Karen Ragland, Mary Dean, Arthur Sudler, and Charlene Wiltshire.

**The Committee for R. Seth Williams:** Dorothy Archey, Phyllis Cater, Albert Dandridge, Esq., Thomasina Hack, Ashley Hines, Sherilyn Kimble, and Donald Moore.

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# THE GERALDINE B. WOOD COLUMBARIUM

"AN HONORED TRADITION"

THE AFRICAN EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF SAINT THOMAS  
6361 LANCASTER AVENUE | PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19151  
215.473.3065 | WWW.AECST.ORG




THE VERY REVEREND CANON MARTINI SHAW, RECTOR



ST. THOMAS  
CHURCH *Founded* 1792

## I AM THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE.



### CREMATION AND BURIAL TRADITIONS

From earliest times, people have been concerned about their final earthly resting place, often with concern that it be near the gathering place of their families. In Christian times, preferred burial space was within the Church itself where the faithful gathered for celebrating a liturgy or for a prayer service. The dual tradition of burial and of cremation was preserved in both ancient and in Christian times. More recently, consideration of the spiritual and the practical aspects of cremation and inurnment within the Church itself has led to a revival of this aspect of the tradition. When space within the Church was no longer available, the churchyard cemetery developed. Only in recent times have burial grounds, far removed from the community centers of life and prayer, (Laurel Hill Cemetery, Historic Eden Cemetery) been used.

### THE COLUMBARIUM

A Columbarium is a vault with recessed metal compartments of niches for placing earthly remains after cremation. The cremated earthly remains are preserved in niches in a Columbarium fittingly designed and prepared. Each metal niche is enclosed with a protective front of wood, to which is attached a bronze identification plate for the appropriate name and date of death. The dual tradition of burial and cremation was preserved in ancient and Christian times.

The African Episcopal Church of Saint Thomas has constructed three structures consisting of 220 niches that can accommodate 440 urns along the Southeast wall in the Absalom Jones Chapel area. Eligible persons and active members of the African Episcopal Church of Saint Thomas and their families can purchase a niche. The opening date for the Columbarium was November 1996. A Columbarium Committee composed of four persons and the Parish Rector will govern and administer the affairs of the Columbarium. The Committee has established and will administer the policies and regulations governing sales, maintenance and expansions as was initially established by an 11-member task force.

Niches may be reserved by advance purchase, at the time of need, singly, or for family groups. The purchaser gets a Certificate of Ownership, which indicates a choice of niches. The Certificate entitles a person to a bronze nameplate and assurance of perpetual care. Orders and/or deposits are now being received. Selection of a niche will only occur upon receipt of final payment.

If you are interested in receiving more information on the Columbarium, please contact the Church Office at 215-473-3065 or the Columbarium committee c/o Victoria A. Mosley Rivers at 215-878-3651 or 267-253-2899.

**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**

<u>Yearly Income</u>	<u>2%</u>	<u>5%</u>	<u>10%</u>
\$10,000.00	\$200.00	\$500.00	<b>\$1,000.00</b>
\$15,000.00	\$300.00	\$750.00	<b>\$1,500.00</b>
\$20,000.00	\$400.00	\$1,000.00	<b>\$2,000.00</b>
\$25,000.00	\$500.00	\$1,250.00	<b>\$2,500.00</b>
\$30,000.00	\$600.00	\$1,500.00	<b>\$3,000.00</b>
\$40,000.00	\$800.00	\$2,000.00	<b>\$4,000.00</b>
\$50,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$2,500.00	<b>\$5,000.00</b>
\$60,000.00	\$1,200.00	\$3,000.00	<b>\$6,000.00</b>
\$70,000.00	\$1,400.00	\$3,500.00	<b>\$7,000.00</b>
\$80,000.00	\$1,600.00	\$4,000.00	<b>\$8,000.00</b>
\$90,000.00	\$1,800.00	\$4,500.00	<b>\$9,000.00</b>
\$100,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$5,000.00	<b>\$10,000.00</b>
\$110,000.00	\$2,200.00	\$5,500.00	<b>\$11,000.00</b>
\$120,000.00	\$2,400.00	\$6,000.00	<b>\$12,000.00</b>
\$150,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$7,000.00	<b>\$15,000.00</b>
\$175,000.00	\$3,500.00	\$8,750.00	<b>\$17,500.00</b>
\$200,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$10,000.00	<b>\$20,000.00</b>



# Pictures from the Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost, October 29, 2023 Judicial Sunday







More Pictures may be found on our [Facebook page](#).

**Dear Church family,**

This year, the **St. Thomas Chapter of the Daughters of the King** will again collect donations for undersourced families through our Annual Thanksgiving Service project. The Daughters will be collecting outside of the Church or near the front doors after Sunday service beginning Sunday, October 8th through Sunday, November 19th.

If you wish to donate via check, please make the check out to AECST; in the memo, please note **ThksProjDOK**. You may also mail your donation to The Historic African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas 6361 Lancaster Ave (Absalom Jones Way) Philadelphia, PA. 19151 attention: Fiscal Secretary.

Additionally, if you are aware of household(s) within the St. Thomas Church family who are in need of a Thanksgiving contribution, please contact [Ms. Sharon Bullock](#), [Ms. Thomasina Hack](#) or any of our St Thomas Chapter Daughters of the King.

**The deadline to submit names of families is Sunday, November 19, 2023.**

Thank you in advance for your generosity and together, let us bring Thanksgiving Joy to all!





## ATTENTION ALL VETERANS OF ST. THOMAS

All veterans are asked to come out on Sunday November 12<sup>th</sup> to take part and observe Veterans Day.

The Men's Ministry and Fellowship will be hosting coffee hour to help celebrate the occasion. In addition, a representative from the Pennsylvania Department of Military and Veterans Affairs will be on available to provide information on benefits to veterans may be eligible to obtain, especially those disabled veterans with a service-connected disability.

***Hey Veteran!!!***  
***Do you have your***  
***DD-214?***

The Defense Department issues to each veteran a DD-214, identifying the condition of your discharge from military service. This report of separation from military service contains information normally needed to verify military service for benefits, retirement, employment, and membership in veterans' organizations. Information shown on the Report of Separation may include the following:

- *Date and place of entry into active duty*
- *Home address at time of entry*
- *Date and place of release from active duty*
- *Home address after separation*
- *Last duty assignment and rank*
- *Military job specialty*
- *Military education*
- *Decorations, medals, badges, citations, and campaign awards*
- *Total creditable service*
- *Foreign service credited*
- *Separation information (type of separation, character of service, authority and reason for separation, separation and reenlistment eligibility codes)*

**If you don't have a copy of your DD-214 or if you have lost or misplaced your copy, information will be provided on how to get your DD-214.**

**ATTENTION All veterans of St. Thomas and all family members of deceased veterans who were members of St. Thomas** are asked to fill out a [Veteran St. Thomas Info Request form](#) to compile an accurate list of members of St. Thomas who have served in the military. Please return all forms to J.R. Brockman via email at [brock.man@verizon.net](mailto:brock.man@verizon.net) or place all forms in the mailbox for the Men's Ministry and Fellowship in Anderson Hall.

This is to compile a list of all veterans as part of the history of St. Thomas. I have also conferred with Art Sudler that we can archive any documents, memorabilia, or photos any veteran or family member of a veteran would like to donate. They will be part of the St. Thomas historical archives.

2023 Veterans Day Retail discounts, free meals, and other offers. (Place this [link](#) in your browser)

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## **OUTREACH OPPORTUNITY**

We are seeking donations of canned sweet potatoes!!! St. Thomas has been designated this year as the "Sweet Potato Church". Our aim is to collect 225 cans of sweet potatoes between now and **November 12th** as we assist St. James' Episcopal School to provide St. James Families and Neighbors with some of the fixings needed for a Thanksgiving meal. For more information, please contact [Fr. Daren.](#)



## UPCOMING SUNDAYS IN NOVEMBER

**November 5th - Observance of the Feast of All Saints / All Souls;** Observance of our 1st Rector (Absalom Jones) and 17th Rector (Fr. Shaw) birthdays both born on November 6th.

Please use the [link](#) to order candles for your departed loved ones.

**November 12th - Observance of Veterans Day**

**November 19th - Family and Friends Sunday**

**November 26th - Youth and Young Adult Sunday (YAYA)**

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**A HUGE THANK YOU** to everyone who donated their cars to be decorated, donated candy or monetary donations, our volunteers who decorated the cars and passed out candy, all the adults who dressed up and the kids who came to have fun, or anyone who did anything to make our Trunk or Treat Bigger, Better and More fun than last year! We are already looking forward to NEXT YEAR!

**THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!**







**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) and **NOT the SEXTON** beforehand. It is **VERY IMPORTANT** that all activities are listed on the calendar of the Parish Office.

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**A Message from the Octavius V. Catto  
Voter Education Ministry**

We urge everyone to VOTE on **November 7, 2023**, and to encourage at least 10 family and friends to VOTE in person or by Mail in Ballot. On the table by Anderson Hall, you will find copies of (1) the Catto Ministry's Voter's Guide for the November 7, 2023 Election; (2) the form to apply for a Mail-in Ballot for PA; (3) Instructions to fill out the Mail-in Ballot for PA; (4) drop box locations to return your Mail-in Ballot in Phila.; and (5) information about the Mayor's responsibilities. The Voter's Guide is also attached in the Spearhead.

With gratitude,  
Ernestine Johnson, Ted Smith and Wendella Fox  
Co-Chairs of the Octavius V Catto Voter Education Ministry

You are invited to pray and walk with thousands of Black women across the country for **Girl Trek's 9-day (October 15-23) Prayer Trek**. Our team won in 2017. Sign up at this [link](#). Select "Find your Church Crew" on the website and register under African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas - Women and Girls. We have the opportunity to win \$1,000 for our Health Ministry. If you questions contact [Sherilynn Kimble](#).



**GirlTrek**  
2023  
**PRAYER TREK**  
**OCTOBER 15-23**

SCAN HERE



To learn more and sign up visit [www.prayertrek.org](http://www.prayertrek.org)

If you're battling unhealthy habits, if you're in a season of despair and your faith is wavering, or you're in a season of abundance and looking to touch and agree with others who believe that blessings multiply when we join together, this is the place for you."

Each year, GirlTrek puts the call out to its sisters in the army of the Lord to cover ourselves in prayer, ground ourselves in the word, lace up our sneakers, and practice the Fruit of the Spirits in accordance with 9 fruits in the bible (Galations 5:22-23).

**How it Works:**

**WALK** ← Just 30 min a day

Just 30 minutes a day. We'll provide you with scripture and a daily meditation to help you reflect on the Lord and your wellbeing.

**WORSHIP** daily prayer line

Join our daily prayer line as we ask the Lord to heal our bodies and transform our communities.

**WITNESS**

Don't let your sisters miss their blessing. Encourage the women in your church to sign up at [www.prayertrek.org](http://www.prayertrek.org).

As seen on  
CNN npr TED theROOT The New York Times ESSENCE

## **This Week at AECST - November 5, 2023**

**Tuesday 11/7 - Election Day Voting Activities** in Anderson Hall - All day.

**Bible Study** with Fr. Jay via Zoom - 6:00 PM.

**Wednesday 11/8 - Angels in Motion** - 6:30 PM.

**Young Adult Bible Study** with Fr. Daren - 6:00 PM-Parish.

**Discernment Group #2** - 6:00 PM in the Old Vestry Room.

**Gospel Choir Rehearsal** - 7:00 PM.

**Friday 11/10** - Parish Office and Church Closed for the Observance of Veteran's Day.

**Saturday 11/11 - Scouts** - 1:00 - 4:00 PM.

**The Gift of Life Donor Concert** - 4:00 PM.

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### **AECST LIVE STREAM**

Please join us for Worship on the St. Thomas [website](#), the [Live Service](#), or on our [Facebook](#) page or [youtube](#) every Sunday morning at 10:00 AM. You can also watch [Past Services](#).



## AECST/CHOSEN 300 Community OUTREACH

### Calling Volunteers to Serve @ Chosen 300 locations

Arrive at 4:30pm – Directions will be given – Completed by 7:30pm, 2023 SERVING DATES :



Friday , July 14<sup>th</sup> : 1116 Spring Garden Street, Phila, PA. 19123

Monday, July 17<sup>th</sup> : 3959 Lancaster Ave, Phila. PA 19104

Friday, Sept. 15<sup>th</sup> : 1116 Spring Garden Street, Phila, PA. 19123

Friday, Nov. 17<sup>th</sup> : 1116 Spring Garden Street, Phila, PA. 19123

Monday, Nov 20<sup>th</sup>: Lancaster Ave, Phila. PA 19104



For Any Questions, please contact Dr. Tim Barksdale at 215-868-6766

**"Whoever shuts their ears to the cry of the poor will also cry out and not be answered." Proverbs 21:13**

### MARIAN THE MUSIC & THE RENAISSANCE A 1920s REVUE

*Presented by the Marian Anderson Historical Society  
in partnership with Opera Philadelphia*



The Roaring Twenties will be all the rage for this Fall Soiree as we honor the music of Marian Anderson with this Classical and Jazz infused evening event. Speak Easy in your most fabulous 1920's fashionable attire and enjoy live performances from the Marian Anderson Scholar Artists Opera Philadelphia Artists and the MAHS Instrumental Jazz Ensemble

This event includes 1920's themed Cocktails, delicious catered delicacies and FREE PARKING!

WHEN: October 28th 2023

WHERE: Settlement Music  
416 Queen Street Philadelphia Pa 19147  
FREE PARKING\*

TIME: 6PM

ADMISSION: \$45.00 Minimum Ticket Amount (But more is encouraged and kindly appreciated)

PLEASE MAKE A KIND DONATION TO THE NATIONAL MARIAN ANDERSON MUSEUM & HISTORICAL SOCIETY. YOU CAN DO SO ON OUR SECURED WEBSITE:

WWW.MARIANANDERSONHISTORICALSOCIETY.WEEBLY.COM OR CALL OUR OFFICE @ 215-779-4219 OR SEND IT IN TO OUR OFFICE @ 762 s. Martin Street Philadelphia Pa 19146 RSVP WITH OUR OFFICE TODAY.



## 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 [Fr. Daren](#) 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](#).



**Bible Study** with Fr. Jay is every Tuesday evening at 7:00 PM. If anyone is interested in joining the group, contact [Fr. Jay](#).

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### **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, St. Thomas Chancel Choir or St. Thomas Gospel Choir. If interested, please contact Gladyce in the Parish Office ASAP to get details on upcoming scheduled rehearsals.

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**Join the St. Thomas Gospel Choir** led by Waltier Blocker and Conference Attendees will perform together at the Bent But VBroken Conference on November 4th. Click on the [link](#) for more information.







# Jazz Cafe

**November 5, 2023**

**3:00 – 5:00 pm**

**African Episcopal Church of  
St. Thomas  
6361 Lancaster Ave,  
Philadelphia PA 19151**

**Be dazzled by young Jazz  
musicians of the Marian  
Anderson Young Artist Program  
at this **free community concert.****

**Enjoy light bites supplied by  
Anderson Artist parents at the  
**Meet the Artist Reception.****

*RSVP to receive reminders!  
[playonphilly.org/jazzcafe](https://playonphilly.org/jazzcafe)*





**BE INSPIRED AND UPLIFTED!**

Join us for a joyful evening of music and unity as we come together to celebrate the life-saving power of organ and tissue donation.

# GIFT<sup>of</sup> LIFE DONOR SABBATH CONCERT

featuring the acclaimed

# ST. THOMAS GOSPEL CHOIR



**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11 • 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.**

African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas, 6361 Lancaster Avenue, Philadelphia

**CLICK HERE TO RESERVE FREE TICKETS**

Seating is limited! Light refreshments and fellowship to follow.

**DON'T MISS THIS SOULFUL CELEBRATION OF HOPE AND FAITH!**

For more information, contact Naja Killebrew at [nkillebrew@donors1.org](mailto:nkillebrew@donors1.org).

[donors1.org](http://donors1.org)



**GIFT<sup>of</sup> LIFE**  
DONOR PROGRAM  
THE REGION'S ORGAN & TISSUE TRANSPLANT NETWORK

## DAILY RECOMMENDED BIBLE READINGS

Readings for:  
the Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost  
November 5, 2023

The First Lesson: [Joshua 24:1-3a,14-25](#)  
[Psalm 78:1-7](#)

The Second Lesson: [1 Thessalonians 4:13-18](#)  
The Holy Gospel: [Matthew 25:1-13](#)

### The Holy Gospel Readings for the Week of November 6, 2023

Monday - [Luke 12:49-59](#)

Tuesday - [Luke 13:1-9](#)

Wednesday - [Luke 13:10-17](#)

Thursday - [Luke 13:18-30](#)

Friday - [Luke 13:31-35](#)

Saturday - [Luke 14:1-11](#)



### Young Adult Bible Study

Fr. Daren is offering a  
Bible Study series  
for Young Adults on  
Wednesdays at 6:00 PM.

Fall Topic:

“If It’s Not About Love, It’s Not  
About God”



## Calling for Youth Acolytes!



All youth of our church are invited to serve in the AECST Acolyte Ministry. No prior experience is needed as training will be provided. This is an excellent way for our children and youth to be involved in the life of the church. For more information please speak with [Fr. Daren](#).

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**Scout Troop #133** - Our Cub Scout Program is open to children grades 1-5. The Cub program meets at 2:00 PM. on Saturdays. Our Boy Scout Program is open to children aged 11-17 years old. The Scout Program will meet at 3:00 PM. Please contact Scout [Master Howard Chapman](#) for more information.

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### **Church School**

begins at **10:00 AM**. The theme this year is: "Exciting Stories of the Bible" Registration forms may be found on the tables in the Undercroft Sunday school room or [here](#).



Nikkol Simms  
Branch Advisor  
njsimms@verizon.net

For more info:  
<http://gfsus.org/>

Find us on Facebook!  
GFS PA African  
Episcopal Church of St.  
Thomas

# GIRLS' FRIENDLY SOCIETY

GFS is ready to begin a new year of worship, study, play and service! We are excited to recharge our continuous mission of uplifting our young ladies and preparing them for today's society. We are also preparing for this year's theme to Love, Serve, and Grow and remembering our 75+ years of legacy at St. Thomas.

**We meet Saturday mornings**

**First meeting:**

**September 30, 2023**

**11am-1pm**

Membership Ages:

Teddy Bears: 3-5 yo.

Junior Members: 5-13 yo.

Senior Members: 14-21 yo.

Ambassadors: 18-30 yo.

Girls participate in:

Service Projects

Girl Talks

Arts & Crafts

World Day of Prayer

Founder's Day

Mission Day

GFS Day

Past Recreational Opportunities:

White water rafting

Theaters

Museums

Ice Skating

Segway/Ziplining

Mini Golf

Holiday House in Cape May, NJ

**GFS World Council Sri Lanka 2026**

## **PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR PARISHIONERS WHO ARE:**

### **IN HOSPITAL:**

Sheryl Johnson - Jefferson Hospital

Joe Stevenson - Temple Hospital

Dr. Thomas Snowden - University of Pennsylvania Hospital.

### **IN REHAB:**

Helena Allen - Simpson House

Thelma Silvers - Penn Rehab

Shirley Winkfield- Bryn Mawr Village.

### **RECOVERING AT HOME:**

Linda Holmes, Ashley Williams, Ashley Quetant.

### **KEEP IN PRAYER:**

Adinah Edwards, Robert Brown, Joe Stevenson, Justin Trotman, Georgia Sawyer, Shirley Caldwell, Joan Hall, Stephanie Williamson, Leotta Griffith, Kenneth Dow, Ridart "Butch" Farmer, Gwendolyn Langford, Teri Taylor, Eleanor Chestnut, Dr. Alice Bowman-Cropper, Daryn Stewart, Sheryl Johnson, Shirley Winkfield, Bill Edmonds, Dr. Thomas Snowden, Dr. Walter Bantom, , Leatrice Snowden, Lemont Johnson, Laverne Hudson, Cathy Stafford, Harold Yates, William Smalls, Alletta Parris-Olday, Ronald Coleman, Fr. Jay Collins, Tyrone Keller, Seminarian David King, Conchetta Brewer, Joyce Jackson, Lisa Woodley, Fr.Darryl James.

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### **WE PRAY FOR**

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



## ALTAR FLOWERS

Flowers on the High Altar are in celebration and thanksgiving for the birthdays of **Blessed Absalom Jones (1st Rector)** and **Fr. Martini Shaw (17th Rector)** both born on November 6th.

Flowers on the High Altar are in celebration and thanksgiving for the **Baptisms of Cooper Traore, Mason McNeill, and Alliyah Miller**, given by Cooper's Grandmother.

Flowers on the High Altar are in memory of **Thomas Robbins**, given with love from Carol Ethen, his daughter.

Flowers on the Absalom Jones Altar are in Thanksgiving for **Joseph Stevenson's 92nd birthday** with love from his daughter Lisa Stevenson Woodley.

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

- I would like to place flowers on the High Altar - \$60.
- I would like to place flowers on the Absalom Jones Altar - \$50.
- I would like to place flowers on the Columbarium - \$40.

(Please PRINT/ TYPE. You may use an additional piece of paper for more names.)

A) In memory of \_\_\_\_\_

B) In Thanksgiving for \_\_\_\_\_

Given by \_\_\_\_\_

Envelope # \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## **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](#).

## **STEWARDSHIP NEWS**

**Please remember to maintain your pledged financial giving.**

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.

**FROM STEWARSHIP:** 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.

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

“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) **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 Fiscal Office during regular business hours ( Monday - Thursday 10 am-2 pm)  
**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** - Please send them via the US mail to the church or fill out the form **[electronically](#)** through the 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
Associate to the Rector	The Rev. Fr. Daren E. Evans	associaterector@aecst.org
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 Rector	Gladyce DuBrey	1792@aecst.org
Fiscal Administor	Jeannette Jeffrey	fiscal@aecst.org
Sexton	LaDon Elliott	1792@aecst.org
Asst Sexton	David McGilberry	1792@aecst.org
Chancel Choirmaster	Jay Fluellen, DMA	chancelchoir@aecst.org
Gospel Choirmaster	Waltier Blocker	gospelchoir@aecst.org
Rector's General Counsel	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	Tynecia Wilson	churchschool@aecst.org
Ed Muse Photography Ministry	William Edmonds	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

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**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.