



AECST  
FOUNDED 1792



*You're Invited!*

Join us for our  
2021 Annual  
Celebration of Women

Sunday, May 16, 2021

Virtual Service at 10:00 AM  
(Facebook, Website or YouTube)

This year's Women's Day theme  
will focus on  
Purpose

*Women of God:  
Fashioned for  
His Grace and Purpose*

**Guest Speaker:**

**THE VERY REV. CANON SANDYE A. WILSON**

former National President of the U.B.E.

and

Present Interim,

Dean of The Cathedral of All Saints

St. Thomas, Virgin Islands

**THE SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**This Sunday is Annual Women's Day.**

We honor all the women in our church  
and beyond for all they have done for us.

**The AECST 2021 Women's Day Celebration**

**Sunday, May 16, 2021**

**10:00 AM**

**“Women of God: Fashioned for HIS Grace and Purpose”**

Please tune in to the Virtual Service  
via [aecst.org](http://aecst.org) | YouTube | Facebook

\* Any donation for Women's Day is appreciated  
. Donate via GIVI or forward your check  
to the Church Office

Attention: Jeannette | Note: Women's Day

-----  
**PLEASE DON'T FORGET TO VOTE!**

**Tuesday, May 18, 2021.**

**Please make your voice heard.**

**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, Susan Ben, Wanda Tarawaly, Louise Trotman, Regina Meacham-Devero, 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 **May 17, 2021.**

The Prayer Call starts promptly at **6:30 AM.**

You are encouraged to reach out to us at [circleofprayer@aecst.org](mailto:circleofprayer@aecst.org) to submit prayer requests or if you are interested in leading the Intercessory Prayer, the Prayers for the People, or a Meditation in Song.

The teleconference call number is  
605-313-6361: access code is 268105.

---

## **THE ST. THOMAS GOSPEL CHOIR**

has been nominated once again for the **Rhythm of Gospel Awards!** They are nominated in the categories of:

1. Special Event CD Of The Year "Jesus"
2. CCM Christian Song Of The Year
3. Church Choir Of The Year
4. Traditional Choir Of The Year
5. Special Event/Instrumental Artist Of The Year.

**The online voting has started. It's from April 5th - June 5th.**

You must vote for someone in each category, please share the link with family and friends (make sure they know to vote for us) and the link is <http://hstrial-therhythmofgo.homestead.com/voting.html>.

# DAILY RECOMMENDED BIBLE READINGS

**Readings For  
The Seventh Sunday of Easter  
Annual Women's Day Celebration  
May 16th**

First Reading: Acts 1: 15-17, 21-26  
Psalm 1

Second Reading: 1 John 5: 9-13  
The Holy Gospel: John 17: 6-19

---

**Week of 5/17/2021**

Monday - Matthew 8: 5-17  
Tuesday - Matthew 8: 18-27  
Wednesday - Matthew 8: 28-34  
Thursday - Matthew 9: 1-8  
Friday - Matthew 9: 9-17  
Saturday - Matthew 9: 18-26

---

**Readings For  
The Day of Pentecost**

First Reading: Acts 2: 1-21  
Psalm 104:25-35, 37  
Second Reading: Romans 8: 22-27  
The Holy Gospel John 15: 26-27; 16: 4b-15

---

**TUESDAY ZOOM BIBLE CLASSES**

with Fr. Jay at 7:00 PM

Please send your email to:

Fr. Collins at [JayCollins@comcast.net](mailto:JayCollins@comcast.net) or  
267-634-6185 to be added to the list.

## **UPCOMING SUNDAYS IN MAY**

**May 16th**

**Annual Women's Day Celebration (Virtual Service)**

(Facebook, Website or Youtube)

**10:00 AM**

Theme - "Women of God:  
Fashioned for His Grace and Purpose"

Guest Preacher: The Very Rev. Canon Sandye A. Wilson,  
15th National President of the Union of Black  
Episcopalians; present Interim Dean of The Cathedral of All  
Saints, St. Thomas, Virgin Islands

**May 23rd**

**Day of Pentecost (Birthday of the Church) Virtual Service**

(Facebook, Website or Youtube)

**10:00 AM**

Holy Communion will be distributed outside the church  
from **11:00 AM - Noon** following the Virtual Service.  
**Wear something red.** Refreshments will be served.

**May 30th**

**Memorial Day Observance**

Memorial Day is the day we remember those who died  
in war. We thank the men and women who gave  
their lives for our freedom.

-----

## **JFA SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE**

Attention St. Thomas High School Grads!

The Jesse F. Anderson Sr. Scholarship St. Thomas Book Award applications are now available. These awards are given to graduates who are active members for at least one year and plan to attend an institution of higher learning in 2021. Application deadline is **May 17, 2021**. Please contact Paula Lamb 215.620.7250 for an application

---

## **MEMORIAL DAY**

is the holiday where we recognize those veterans who died due to work or conflict. We can still recognize those individuals who wish to have them remembered by sending the following information - Example:

Name: John Smith

Branch of Service: U.S. Army

Rank: Sergeant

War or Conflict where they died:

Viet Nam-Tet Offensive 1968

Please send information to:

The Church Office-1792@aecst.org

---

## **THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM**

is now being scheduled. If you or someone 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 baptism and the electronic application form can be found there.

## **PLEASE KEEP IN PRAYER**

### **Recovering At Home**

Linda Holmes, Rosalind Roberts Smalls, Kenneth Dow, Carl Dean, Suzanne Closson, Joan Hall, Georgia Sawyer, Adinah Edwards, Tyrone Keller, Robert Brown, Georgia Sawyer, Isedora "Gwen" Francis, Francina Norris, Shirley Winkfield, Joseph Stevenson, William Edmonds, Robert Brown, Judith Simpkins-Booth, Lisa Woodley, Joyce Jackson, Donald Young, Dr. Thomas Snowden, Leatrice Snowden, Shirley Caldwell, Stephanie Williamson

### **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.

---





AECST  
FOUNDED 1792

The African Episcopal Church  
of  
St. Thomas  
Church School

Calling ALL AECST  
Students K-12, Parents  
and Teachers

**JOIN US  
FOR OUR  
VIRTUAL CLASSES  
EVERY  
SUNDAY @ 12:00 NOON**

**KNOW JESUS.  
CHANGE THE WORLD!**

**Registration required via email**  
To RSVP contact Supt. Dottie Archey  
(215) 837-6941 or email at [churchschool@aecst.org](mailto:churchschool@aecst.org)

**Interested in becoming a Church School Teacher?**  
Contact Dottie Archey to learn more.

**The Very Reverend Canon Fr. Martini Shaw, Rector**

**"Start children off on the way they should go,  
and even when they are old, they will not turn from it"**

Proverbs 22:6 (NIV)



## **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.

-----

## **IN-PERSON CHURCH SERVICE RE-ENTRY**

It is presently uncertain when we will return to worship in the church, however, planning is underway to assure that we are all able to safely worship upon our return. The Rector has appointed the following Committee to discern/guide the process and make recommendations to him and the Vestry. The Co-Chairs are Richard Jones, Rector's Warden, and Deborah Camp-Frye, Accounting Warden.

-----

## **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.

## 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 (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 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.

---