



AECST
Founded 1792



**CELEBRATING
YOUR
RIGHT
TO
VOTE!**

Octavius Valentine Catto
1839 - 1871

Served on the Vestry of The African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas



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)

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

THE TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY OF PENTECOST

The Feast of All Saints / All Souls

“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-Second Sunday After Pentecost and 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 for the [Order of Service](#)
for this Sunday's service.



ALL SAINTS / ALL SOULS

The Candle Memorials on the Altars are lit in Memory of the following loved ones:

- Adjahoe, Alfred & Naomi Adjahoe;** Alberta Brockman & Rudolph J. Brockman, Learline Wallace, Edgar Adjahoe
given by J.R. & Alfreda Brockman
- Anderson, Evelyn,** Cornelia Rose Johnson, Almira Johnson McFadden, Almira Singletary Rose, Margaret McFadden Johnson, Josephine Burgess McFadden
given by Alexandra McFadden
- Bagwell, William & Camille,** Cynthia Bagwell Stimley
given by Phyllis Cater
- Bailey, Albert & Ethel,** Jack & Eline Francis, Sidney & Nora Brown, Margaret Skeen, Pauline Parkinson, Ettiemay Scott, Carlota Madhoo, Cecil Elliott, Ralph Grant
given by Karen Leys
- Billups, Barbara,** Hallie Billups, John R. Billups, Jr., Christopher Billups, Isaac Robert Pitts,
given by Deborah Billups
- Blissett, Erma C.,** LaNell Burke
given by Jurdina S. Koilor
- Bramwell, Geraldine,** Theophilus Bramwell, Vivian Motley, Lydia Ravernell, Hattie McDonald, Sandra McCrae, Randall (Buddy) Moore II, Randall Moore, Sr., Grace Moore, Mrs. Jackie DeKnight
given by Theresa Bramwell
- Burke, William J. Sr.,** Louise Y. Burke
given by William J. Burke, Jr.
- Close, Clayvone**
given by David L. & Jennifer Rivers
- Daniels, Grace H.,** Otis L. Daniels, William "Bo" Daniels, Julius C. Daniels, Lydia R. Daniels, Elizabeth "Tootie" Stanley, Otis R. Daniels, Sr., Otis R. Daniels, Jr., Dorothy Wilson, Stanley L. Pankey, Langston Smith
given by Cathy Stafford and Dorothy Smith
- Dean, Mohammed & Gertrude,** Elick Reagan, Docia Cunningham, Thelma & Santee Ruffin, Sr., Stanley Dean, Vincent Ruffin, Pearl Wright
given by Santee & Cassandra Ruffin
- Derr, Wilson**
given by Dr. Tim Barksdale
- Diclans, dr. Helen O. & Dr. Purvis** Henderson, b Daniel & Lillian Brown
given by Jayne & Robert Brown
- Fish, Nina Frances**
given by the Millett & King Family
- Fountain, Greta,** Earl Fountain, Sr., Earl (Buster) Fountain Jr., Donald Cannon, Sr., Constance Perry, William Perry, Patricia Perry, Terri Jones, Donna Brown, Rev. Jesse Anderson
given by Deadra Cannon
- Harris, Irene,** Tyrone Gunby, Sr., Helen Phillips-Cooper, Melinda Johnston, Warren Phillips
given by Kim Phillips
- Hayes, Ruth**
given by Maurice Hayes
- Hugh, Errie Irene**
given by Robert Hugh
- Hughey Rosa Lea,** Ronnie Hill, Pearl Hill, Geneva Jamison, Sarah Tyner, James Hughey, Terry Hill
given by Ronnie H. Collins
- Jackson, Sr., Dr. & Mrs. Arthur,** Carl Jones Jackson, Ar, & Mrs. Alexander Jones, Rev. & Mrs. Luther T. Hughes
given by Karen Jackson Vaughn
- Johnson, Phyllis**
given by Bobby Johnson
- Lee, Carlton,** Lucyle Lee Jett, Lorenzo Lee
given by Lorita Brockington
- McDaniel Sr., Mr. & Mrs. Curtis,** Mr. & Mrs. Curtis McDaniel, Jr., Hazel M. Lee, Barbara L. Syc, Celestine S. Wright, Prince E. Lee, Elsie M. Brown, Ralph Lee
given by Denise McDaniel Henderson
- Merrick, David & Lucy,** Wanda Miles, Constance Carter
given by Jeanne Brown
- Mitchell, Jr., Charles T. & Pastor Sadie S.,** Lucinda G. Harper, The Gordon Family, The Stridiron Family
given by Charlene M. Wiltshire
- Mosley, John C. & Ivory E.,** John C. Mosley
given by Victoria A. Mosley Rivers and Family
- Norris, Bernice,** Francis Norris, Kathleen Anderson, King Norris, Keith Rich, Minnie Jones, Raymond Norris
given by Francina R. Norris
- Riddick-Gregg, Christine,** Wesley Gregg, Willie McKinney, Andre Preston, Jr., Rev. Laura Riddick, Dana Preston, Willie Gregg, Cynthia Crutchfield, Kenneth L. Gibson
given by Denise McKinney-Gibson
- Robinson, Peale & Ruth,** Camilla Davis Jenkins, Camilla Jenkins Janey, Justine Muse, Edward L. Muse, Joan Logan Gordon
given by Cynthia Muse
- Shaw, Kenneth & Camille,** Gregory Kimble, Girdie & Angylet Kimble, Katherine Williams, Kenneth W. Shaw, Jr., Barbara J. James, Stefan M. Shaw, Jarel James
given by Reggie & Sherilynn Kimble
- Stewart, Rebecca Lane,** James Stewart, Molly Lane, Debbie Stewart
given by Daryn Stewart
- Stiff, Dr. Leroy E.,** James Taylor Jackson
given by Brandon L. Stiff
- Tapper, Nellie Bridges,** Leonard Tapper III, Leonard Tapper, Jr., Dolly Cumber
given by Lynda Tapper Smith

Tarawaly, Banja S., Marvin & Emma Parks, James H. Jackson, Allene Jackson, Grandison Jackson, Robert Parks,
 Sallie Parks, Charles Parks, Amanda Bell, Warren Harding Sr., Patricia Parker, Beverly Sawyer, Melvin Neal,
 Rovina Robinson and all the deceased members of the Daughters of The King **given by**
Wanda Tarawaly

Taylor, Sylvanus Danleson Chulhuma, Samuel Effiong Jackson, Ernest Herbert Omotayo Taylor,
 Christopher Emeric Adebayo Taylor, Honorable Thomas /Johnson Ancestors **given by**
Ernestine Johnson Taylor, Willie & Senora, Herman & Orabell Taylor, Nathaniel & Alice Taylor,
 Charles & Mary Coleman,
 Alvin & Margaret Lewis, Walter & Jean Taylor, Roosevelt & Gloria Taylor, John & Grace Smith, Fred
 Taylor, Rita Ricks, Betty Smith Young, Nala Smith, CoCo Paige
given by Anita Smith

Tucker, Ruth V., Cordelia K. Sudler, Elfrieda M. Thurston, Salivia Wilkins, William Tucker, Jr.,
 Harvey J. Sudler, Sr., Harvey J. Sudler Jr., Dwight A. Thurston,
given by The Sudler Family

Turner, Onieta, Jenifer Staley, Lemuel Turner
given by Pat Lynch

Waters, Mrs. Fleta B., John B. Waters, Dr. Elliott D. Waters, Sr., Elliott D. Waters, Jr., Mrs. Fleta M.
 Broadhead,
 James Victor Waters, Sr., Dr. John H. Broadhead, Francis Waters **given**
by Fleta W. Howell

Watson, Edward & Liovenia **given by Clara (Tracey)**
Watson-Williams

Watson, Sr., Edward O., Clara May Watson, William Leecan, Edward O. Watson, Jr., Martha Pressley
given by Clare Mae Daniels

Williams, Mrs. Alice R. **given by**
Irenda G. Gates

Williams Rufus & Imelda, Orlando & Shirley Cummings, Calvin & Imelda Broussard, Ollie & Melissa
 Williams,
 Orlando J. Cummings, III **given by**
R. Seth Williams

Wilson, Edgar & Eileen, Eutilda Simon, Wayne Samuel, Cyril Alexander, Curtis Wilson, Debra Wilson
 Greaves,
 Vernon Glean, Melville Wilson, Vernon Cyrus **given by Jenelle**
Wilson Johnson

Wilson Howard & Armita Moore, Alton M. & Olvie DuBrey, Alton L. DuBrey, William & Clara
 Moore Spraggins, Edward DuBrey, Gary DuBrey, Margaret Ward Johnson, Gwendolyn Johnson, Robert
 Richards, Mercedes Stapleton, Harvey & Mildred "Pat" Bradley, Mildred Ann Washington, Lunnie Mae
 Williams, Carrie Mae Golden, Mary Earthese Bradley, Dorothy Shipman, Paula Glover, Mildred R.
 Washington, **given by Gladyce DuBrey and family and Frank Thorne**

Young, Donald A. **given**
by Alice Young

PEW MEMORIAL PLAQUES 2022

In Loving Memory of Edward Leon Muse

Founder, St. Thomas Photography Ministry
Husband, Father, Teacher, Mentor.

Cynthia R. Muse, Wife

Daughters: Lynette Muse Wilson, Nadine Muse Bonds

Mary Joanne Muse

Forever in Our Hearts

In Honor of

Dolores Alleyne, Deighton Jr. and Deighton III Alleyne

Loving of Heart, Constant of Faith

From Denise Alleyne and your Loving Family.

Honoring Our Family Matriarch,

The Rev. Sadie S. Mitchell, EdD. "Pastor Sadie"

In Loving Memory,

Children: Sadye E., Charlene M. and Charles T. III

Grandchildren: Rick, Charles T. IV, John, Alexandra,
Connor, Chase and Madelyn

Great Grandchildren: Donovan, Camille, Nalij and Mecca.

COMMITTAL

IN THE GERALDINE B. WOOD COLUMBARIUM

D. Sandra Roosa

May 15, 1943-April 10, 2021

Calvin E. Akins

November 7, 1946-August 7, 2020

Stephanye Michelle Dillard

February 13, 1966-June 21, 2021

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.

AN IMPORTANT NOTE FROM THE RECTOR

My dearest and faithful family members of St. Thomas, Grace and Peace to you.

We have entered the Season of Stewardship, following 2 ½ years of being in the midst of a deep Pandemic. I invite you to now join me as we Re-imagine our ministries for 2023. You are aware that many of our programs and activities have restarted. Our need for an Associate Rector for Youth, Young Adult, and Family Ministries is crucial and at the top of my list of priorities.

PLEASE prayerfully consider increasing the level of your commitment this year in the offering of your [Faithful Giving Card](#). There is much being planned for 2023, and we will need your support. You may submit your card in four different ways:

- bring it to the altar Sunday morning during the offertory;
- drop it off at the parish office;
- mail it to the parish office;
- [electronically](#)

We celebrate that “We’ve come this far by faith leaning on the Lord”.

Faithfully,
Fr. Martini Shaw

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

2023 Faithful Giving Cards

We have kicked off our Annual Stewardship Season at St. Thomas. Enormous thanks ALL who have submitted their Faithful Giving Cards. Please add your name to the list this week by submitting your card today.

Thank you to the following persons who have submitted their 2023 Faithful Giving

The Rev. Fr. Martini Shaw

The Rev. Dr. Paul Bach

The Rev. Fr. Gerald Collins

Vestry

Patricia & Walter Bantom

Ronnie H. Collins

Deadra Cannon

Albert Dandrige, III

Clare Mae Daniels

Wendella Fox & Herb Wetzel

Deborah Harrison.

D. Lynn Joell

Kelvin Johnson

Pamela Johnson

Brenda Johnson-Best

Jonathan Muse

Judith Simkins-Booth

Bobby Tillman

Judy Tillman

Auxiliary Vestry

Pat Akins

Conchetta Brewer

Sharon Bullock

William Burke, Jr.

Frank Johnson

Gregory Lyles

Particia Lynch

Michael & Dorothy Archey

Timothy Barksdale

Jennifer Bell

Waltier Blocker

Deborah Booker-Mathews

Ricardo Bostic

I. Page Bowser

Theresa Bramwell

Lorita Brockington

J.R. & Alfreda Brockman

Carmen M. Brown

Marilyn Brown

Theodore Bythewood

Cornelia Camp

Gwendolyn Cottman

Johanna Daye

Carl & Mary Dean

Musu Doe

William & Quincina Edmonds

Loretta Ferguson

Norman & Nikki Franke

Barry & Deborah Frye

Barbara L. Glenn

Swanie Goldsmith

Eugene & Marie Golson

Chad & Toya Gordon

Clarice Grant

Linda Greaves

Carole W. Green

Michelle Green

Thomasina Hack

Joan Hall

Sharon Harper

Roosevelt & Gail Harris

Joyce B. Harrison

Richard & Gwenda Hart

Maurice Hayes

Rene Hayes

Quentin Heyward

Fleta Howell

Robert Hugh

Donald & Patricia Hunt

Simone Jeffers

Bobby Johnson

Sheryl L. Johnson

Lelo Jones

Mary Ann Jones

Richard Jones

Tyronne Keller

Reginald & Sherilynn Kimble

Jordina Koiler

John Kortue

Paula Lamb

Nancy Lee

Karen Leys

James T. Lowe, Jr.

Geraldine B. Martin

Denise McDaniel Henderson

Laura McNeill

Regina Meacham-Devero

Beverly Moore

Cynthia Muse

Francina Norris

Deborah Otey

Kim Phillips

Mary Ann Phillips

Stephen Pugh

Karen Ragland

Dolores Redmond

Clarence H. Rice

Victoria Rivers

Cassandra Ruffin

Yvonne Ruiz

Mercedes Sadler

Barbara D. Savage

Richard & Rebecca Scales

Deborah Seay

Arlene Singletary

Anita Smith

Dorothy Smith

Catherine Stafford

Irving Stevenson

Joseph Stevenson

Daryn Stewart

Michele Sudler

Carolyn Summers

Lynda Tapper-Smith

Wanda Tarawaly

Monica Taylor

Gloria Thomas

Calvin Thompson

Justin & Lee Anne Trotman

Karen Vaughn

Clara Watson-Williams

Barbara Wiley

R. Seth Williams

Arleatha Wilson

Jenelle Wilson-Johnson

Charlene Wiltshire

Wanda Wood

Paula Wright

Ingrid Bernadette Wyche

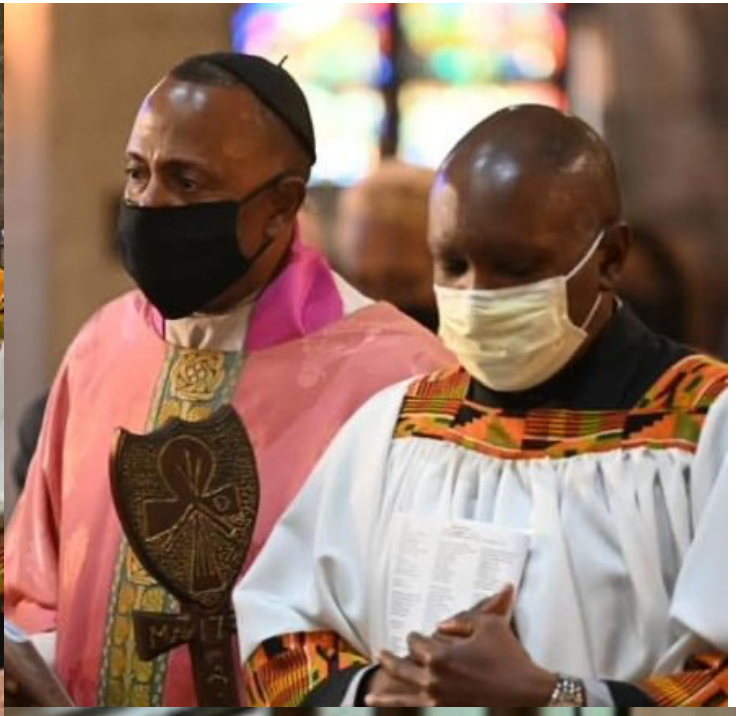
M. Elaine Young



The Church and Administrative Offices will be **CLOSED** on **Friday, November 11th** in Observance of **Veterans Day**.
America- Home of the Free Because of the Brave.

PICTURES FROM THE TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST
BREAST CANCER AWARENESS SUNDAY
October 30, 2022



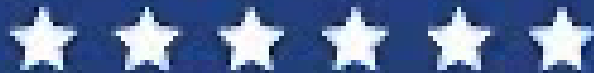






YOUR ATTENTION PLEASE: The only doors for entry on Sunday mornings are: the Front doors of the church and the front handicap door of the church. Please refrain from using other doors at this time.

**DON'T FORGET TO VOTE
on Tuesday, November 8, 2022**



**ARE YOU
READY TO VOTE
IN 2022?**

★ ★ ★ vote.pa.gov 🗳️ ★ ★ ★

A powerful short video message from Gregory Lyles and Wendella Fox of the St. Thomas Octavius V. Catto Voter Education Ministry.

**PLEASE TAKE A FEW MINUTES TO VIEW
AND SHARE WITH OTHERS NOW!!!!**



IMPORTANT ELECTION MESSAGE FROM:

Our Rector; Pastor Marshall Mitchell, Mt. Carmel Baptist Church;
Pastor Donald Moore, Mt. Carmel Baptist Church;
Pastor Charles Quann, Bethlehem Baptist Church.
Please open the [link](#) provided.

THE SISTERHOOD GUILD

is having an in person meeting after church on Sunday,
November 13, 2022 in Anderson Hall. Anyone interested in
finding out what the guild is about, are also invited to join
us. All are welcome to attend.

The Omega/Omega Memorial for Edith B. Jones will be
held on **November 20th at 2:00pm** at the church. All are
invited to attend.



BE A CHILD CARE VOTER!

As a Child Care Voter, you care about access to high-quality pre-k; you want to invest and expand access to infant and toddler care; you believe that when we support working families and invest in quality child care, all of Pennsylvania benefits.

Join the community and help make access to quality child care part of the conversation around the 2022 elections.



Join our Facebook Group
ChildCareVoter



Follow us on Instagram
ChildCareVoter





DEAR CHURCH FAMILY,

This year, the St. Thomas Chapter of the Daughters of the King will again collect donations for under sourced families through our Annual Thanksgiving Service project.

The Daughters will be collecting outside of the Church or near the front doors after Sunday service until
Sunday, November 20th.

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 Avenue, Phila. PA 19151, attention: Fiscal Administrator.

And if you are aware of household(s) within the St. Thomas Church family/community who are in need of a Thanksgiving contribution, please contact:

[Ms. Sharon Bullock](#) or [Ms. Thomasina Hack](#)

215-901-2773 or any of our
St. Thomas Chapter Daughters of the King.

The deadline to submit names is **Sunday, November 20, 2022.**
Thank you in advance for your generosity.



THE AFRICAN EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS

MEN'S MINISTRY AND FELLOWSHIP

MEN'S DAY



CELEBRATION



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2022, 10 AM

"REIMAGINING MEN'S MINISTRY"

R. SETH WILLIAMS AND JUSTIN TROTMAN

SPEAKERS

*PLEASE MAKE A SPECIAL MEN'S DAY DONATION
BASED ON YOUR COMFORT LEVEL OF \$25, \$50, \$75, OR \$100

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The African Episcopal Church of Saint Thomas

6361 Lancaster Avenue

(Absalom Jones Way)

Philadelphia, PA 19151

Ph: (215) 473-3065

Email: 1792@aecst.org ~ Website: www.aecst.org

November 10th, 2022

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

On Sunday, December 4th the **Men's Ministry & Fellowship** will hold our annual **Men's Day Celebration**. Men's Day is set aside as a special day for our church to reflect, acknowledge and celebrate the roles men play in our community of Faith. Men are actively engaged in virtually all ministries and areas of the church with responsibilities both large and small.

As we continue our spiritual journey through our "*New Normal*" and continue to strengthen our faith in a divided community, the task we have before us and our theme is to *Reimagine Men's Ministry*. Our continued goal is to be activate leaders in the church and the community in a quest for Social Justice and Moral Leadership and build a path for our youth. We are pleased and excited to be actively engaged in helping to make St. Thomas an exceptional place to worship, fellowship and share in the joy, comfort and salvation of our Faith.

We ask our St Thomas' Community to strongly consider taking a more active role in our church and share your **time, talents and treasure** to do the good work to which we are called. It does not necessarily call for a great deal of time and effort, but it does require a commitment to do your part. We are confident that our collective renewed commitment will realize immediate benefits and blessings, as we move forward, building on our unique and distinct legacy.

I invite you to view Men's Day Sunday Service on December 4th, and invite family, friends, neighbors, and co-workers to help us celebrate our special day.

Given the current environment we are asking all church members to make a special Men's Day donation based on your comfort level of \$25.00, \$50.00, \$75.00 or \$100.00+ and identify the donation as a Men's Day Program.

All funds collected will be used to advance AECST's ministries.

Thank you in advance for your thoughtful and generous consideration

Yours in faith,

Gregory Lyles, President
Men's Ministry & Fellowship
gregorylyles@hotmail.com
205-541-9776



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](#).

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).

CALLING ALL MEN OF ST. THOMAS!!!!

Annual Men's Day Celebration is Sunday,
December 4, 2022 at 10:00 AM.

Rehearsal for the Men's Day Chorus will be
on Thursday, December 1st at 7:00 PM.



A ST. THOMAS HEALTH MINISTRY NOTE

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](https://www.cdc.gov) 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.

Nov. 6th - **Observance of the Feast of All Saints/All Souls**

We remembered the departed souls of our loved ones
(please submit your attached form to purchase candles
in their memory)

Observance of Birthdays - 1st Rector (Absalom Jones)
and 17th Rector (Fr. Shaw).

Pew Dedication
Columbarium Inurnment
Corporate Communion
Daughters of the King (DOK)

Nov. 13th - **Annual Veterans Day Observance**
Columbarium Inurnment

Nov. 20th - **Chosen 300 Sunday**
Guest, The Rev. Brian Jenkins

Nov. 27th - **First Sunday of Advent**
Youth and Young Adult Sunday
Thanksgiving Testimonies

**PICTURES FROM OUR SUNDAY SCHOOLS
FIRST ANNUAL TRUNK OR TREAT!
A GREAT TIME WAS HAD BY ALL!**











PHILADELPHIA MEN'S FELLOWSHIP CHOIR

Please join the choir on **Saturday, October 29, 2022**
at **4:00 PM** for a concert here at St. Thomas.
This concert features men from around
Philadelphia, New Jersey and Delaware
representing 35 local churches.

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

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

CHURCH SCHOOL

is held in the undercroft at **10:00 AM** for Youth ages 4 thru High School. The theme for this church school year is “ The Lord’s Prayer”.

Join us as we RE-Imagine our Church School Adventures with Prayer, Fellowship, Programs, and Fun! Register in person or contact [Dottie Archey](#) for more information or 215 837-6941

SCOUT TROOP #133 - Meetings begin October 1st and are outside for right now. Our Cub Scout Program is open to boys grades 1-5. The cub program meets at 2:00 PM on Saturdays.

Our 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 [Howard Chapman](#) for more information.



SHEPHERDS MINISTRY

Re-imagined

ATTENTION: AECST MEN, WOMEN, COUPLES

This is an opportunity to share your caring and kindness with our AECST flock!



THE MINISTRY

- Immediate Goal: Shepherd our sick and shut-in parishioners
- Primary/Ultimate Goal: Shepherd ALL AECST parishioners
- Number of Households: No more than 4 sheep households per shepherd

SHEPHERDS' ROLE

- Set your own schedule to regularly contact sheep via phone or other media
- *Attend Zoom meetings with fellow shepherds (no in-person meetings)*

Please consider joining the 10 Shepherds who have volunteered.

For more information, please contact Charlene M. Wiltshire:
cwiltshi@comcast.net



Note: Vestry members will continue to shepherd all new members until their one-year anniversary.

Join the Girls Friendly Society! Meetings are from 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM. All girls aged 3 - 30 are welcome. Girls participate in: Service Projects, Girl Talks, Arts & Crafts, World Day of Prayer, Founder's Day, Mission Day and GFS Day along with trips the Theater, Museums, Ice Skating, Mini Golf, Trips to the Pumpkin Patch and Holiday House in Cape, May, NJ. If you would like to volunteer as a leader or sponsor, please contact our Branch Advisor, [Nikkol Simms](mailto:njsimms@verizon.net)



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

**Meetings
begin
Oct. 1, 2022
11am-1pm**

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.

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 South Africa 2023

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](#).



Below you will find the next **Letter to Stop Gun Violence**. It is to State Senators and is about reporting lost and stolen guns. This issue is timely because the court struck down a city lost and stolen gun ordinance this year due to the state Uniform Firearms Act that keeps local cities from enacting firearm legislation. If you need to look up your senator please use the [link](#).

Date _____

State Senator _____

Dear _____,

I am a resident of your district and am writing to you to request that you do everything in your power to pass lost and stolen gun reporting legislation. In Pennsylvania, people can own guns and fail to report them lost or stolen.

As a Christian and a member of the Schuylkill Deanery of the Diocese of Pennsylvania, a group of Episcopal churches in West Philadelphia, this issue is a matter of faith for me, of loving my neighbor as myself. West Philly is facing an epidemic of gun violence and hope you can tell the PA Senate this is a matter of life and death in our neighborhoods.

According to the Philadelphia Inquirer in Oct. 2021, "Reports of stolen guns reached a new peak this year, with 1,388 to date, police records show. That is 11% higher than last year, 38% higher than in 2019, and the highest tally since 2011, the first year figures were available." In 2021, car thefts including theft of a firearm were up 37%. Most guns are stolen from individuals and not gun shops or other businesses and thus legally can go unreported, which leads the Philadelphia Police Department to believe the number of stolen guns actually is much higher. Unreported stolen guns often enter the underground gun market without a trace and no chance of recovery by police.

Mandatory reporting of stolen firearms, as in the Philadelphia's lost and stolen gun ordinance struck down in Feb. 2022, help law enforcement police this underground market. They are especially effective in exposing straw purchases, where someone legally entitled to buy guns purchases them for someone unable to pass standard checks (and then frequently fraudulently claims the gun was stolen from them if it turns up at a crime scene).

Daniel Semenza, a Rutgers-Camden University criminal justice professor, coauthored a study this year that examined how the availability of guns impacted the homicide rates in 226 cities for years 2017 to 2019. The study found that greater availability of stolen firearms in U.S. cities is linked to higher firearm homicide rates.

The thing that really correlates with gun homicide rates is the access to stolen guns," he said. "It trumps any kind of effect that the number of firearm dealers and general legal access has in a city, and it's particularly important in cities that have poorer socioeconomic status."

In West Philly and surrounding neighborhoods, we lose loved ones and neighbors to illegal guns flooding our city every month. I believe passage of a bill to enforce the reporting of lost and stolen guns is part of what will help solve this terrible, unacceptable situation.

When earlier this year Judge Leadbetter (who ran as a Republican) struck down the Philadelphia lost and stolen gun ordinance, she urged the Pennsylvania Supreme Court to reconsider that 1996 legal standard known as the state Uniform Firearms Act and to allow local restrictions "narrowly tailored to local necessities." She added that it violates the fundamental right to life and liberty when children can't walk on a street near their homes without the risk of being shot. "It is neither just to impose unnecessarily harsh limits in communities where they are not required nor consistent with simple humanity to deny basic safety regulations to citizens who desperately need them,"

Help us protect our children and maintain our strong and vital neighborhoods by strongly urging passage of a lost and stolen firearms bill in Pennsylvania.

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.

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.](#)

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.

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.

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 am. You can also watch [Past Services](#) and [Highlights](#) from past services.

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.

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.

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.

**the Twenty-Second Sunday After Pentecost
November 6, 2022**

The Feast of All Saints / All Souls

The First Lesson: [Daniel 7:1-3,15-18](#)

[Psalm 149](#)

The Second Lesson: [Ephesians 1:11-23](#)

The Holy Gospel: [Luke 6:20-31](#)

**The Holy Gospel Readings for the
Week of November 7, 2022**

The Feast of All Saints / All Souls

Monday - [Matthew 15:1-20](#)

Tuesday - [Matthew 15:21-28](#)

Wednesday - [Matthew 15:29-39](#)

Thursday - [Matthew 16:1-12](#)

Friday - [Matthew 16:13-20](#)

Saturday - [Matthew 16:21-28](#)

**READINGS FOR
the Twenty-Third Sunday After Pentecost
November 13**

The First Lesson: [Malachi 4:1-2a](#)

[Psalm 98](#)

The Second Lesson: [2 Thessalonians 3:6-13](#)

The Holy Gospel: [Luke 21:5-19](#)

**The Holy Gospel Readings for the
Week of November 14, 2022**

Monday - [Matthew 17:1-13](#)

Tuesday - [Matthew 17:14-21](#)

Wednesday - [Matthew 17:22-27](#)

Thursday - [Matthew 18:1-9](#)

Friday - [Matthew 18:10-20](#)

Saturday - [Matthew 18:21-35](#)

**READINGS FROM
the Last Sunday After Pentecost
November 20th**

The First Lesson: [Jeremiah 23:1-6](#)
[Psalm 46](#)

The Second Lesson: [Colossians 1:11-20](#)
The Holy Gospel: [Luke 23:33-43](#)

**The Holy Gospel Readings for the
Week of November 21, 2022**

Monday - [Matthew 19:1-2](#)
Tuesday - [Matthew 19:13-22](#)
Wednesday - [Matthew 13:23-30](#)
Thursday - [Matthew 20:1-16](#)
Friday - [Matthew 20:17-28](#)
Saturday - [Matthew 20:29-34](#)

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.

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.



AECST BIBLE STUDY WITH FR. JAY via Zoom Tuesdays at 7:00 PM.

If you are interested in joining a lively, interactive Bible Study Group, contact Fr. Jay via email at:

associatepriest@aecst.org to be included on our membership list serve. You will receive the Zoom link and our weekly lesson plan to prepare, in advance, for the week's meeting.

ALTAR FLOWERS

Flowers on the Columbarium are In Thanksgiving for the 91st Birthday of **Joseph Stevenson**, given by Lisa, Irv and Darnell.

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

To order flowers for the Sunday, please return the form with payment 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

Please PRINT

In Memory of _____

In Thanksgiving for _____

Given By _____

Envelope# _____ Amount _____

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR PARISHIONERS WHO ARE:

IN REHAB: Linda Holmes

IN THE HOSPITAL:

Dorothy Smith- Mercy Hospital; Alletta Parris-Olday - Nazareth Hospital, Walter Bantom, Shirley Winkfield.

RECOVERING AT HOME:

Rosalind Rodriguez, Joan Hall, Charles Fleming, Harold Yates, Leatrice Snowden, William Smalls, Dorothy Smith.

KEEP IN PRAYER:

Louise Lewis, Adinah Edwards, Robert Brown, Dr. Thomas Snowden, Shirley Caldwell, Stephanie Williamson, Francina Norris, Leotta Griffith, Ridart "Butch" Farmer, Karen Ragland, Winston Lowe, Georgia Sawyer, Kenneth Dow, Edita Gauthney, Justin Trotman, Gwendolyn Langford, Alice Bowman-Cropper, Daryn Stewart, Eleanor Chestnut.

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

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

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 [Click>](#) 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	T792@aecst.org
Fiscal Administrator	Jeannette Jeffrey	fiscal@aecst.org
Sexton	LaDon Elliott	T792@aecst.org
Asst Sexton	Ronald Jones	T792@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	T792@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	T792@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.