

THE AFRICAN EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

SUNDAY



OUR SERVICE STARTS AT 10:00 AM. IF YOU ARE PHYSICALLY UNABLE TO ATTEND,
PLEASE JOIN US VIRTUALLY VIA OUR WEBSITE, YOUTUBE, OR FACEBOOK PAGES.

THE AFRICAN EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS • FIRST BLACK EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN THE USA

THE VERY REVEREND CANON MARTINI SHAW, 17TH RECTOR

THE REVEREND FR. DAREN E. EVANS, ASSOCIATE TO THE RECTOR

6361 LANCASTER AVENUE • PHILADELPHIA, PA 19151 • (215) 473-3065

WWW.AECST.ORG • WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/AECST1792

**THE SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT SUNDAY
September 24, 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 Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
Youth and Young Adult Sunday**

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.

Upcoming Concert at St. Thomas

Sunday, September 24, 2023, at St. Thomas at 4:00 PM.

Owen Valentine presents **“Coltrane in the Pulpit”** featuring our own Dr. Jay Fluellen. General Admission tickets are \$15. Seniors / Students \$10. Come out and be blessed.

OWEN VALENTINE PRESENTS

COLTRANE IN THE PULPIT

OWEN VALENTINE
VIOLIN | VOCALS

RICHARD HILL
BASS

DR. JAY FLUELLEN
PIANO

SIMEON JOHNSON
DRUMS

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2023 | 4:00 PM

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

GENERAL ADMISSION: \$15 | SENIORS/STUDENTS: \$10

WWW.COLTRANEINTHEPULPIT.EVENTBRITE.COM



SAINT THOMAS CHAPTER

A Celebration of God's Love, Grace and Glory!

75 + 1 YEARS!

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2023
1 PM - 4 PM**

**ENJOY AN AFTERNOON OF
PRAISE, MUSIC, JOY, REFLECTIONS, AND more...**

**AT THE BEAUTIFUL BELMONT MANSION
2000 BELMONT MANSION DRIVE
PHILADELPHIA**

WEAR YOUR FAVORITE 'CROWN'!

**DELICIOUS LUNCH BY BROWN'S KITCHENS
TO ATTEND: \$60 PER PERSON
-NO TICKETS SOLD AT THE DOOR-**

JOIN US! CONTACT:

MONICA LEWIS JONES: MBJ03@GMAIL.COM

DEBORAH MATTHEWS: DEBMADANCO@VERIZON.NET

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THE VERY REVEREND CANON MARTINI SHAW, 17TH RECTOR
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6361 LANCASTER AVENUE (ABSALOM JONES WAY) • PHILADELPHIA, PA 19151 • (215) 473-3065
WWW.AECST.ORG • WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/AECST1792**

WELCOME BACK!

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 everyone in your family.

Thanks so much for your help with this.

FAITHFUL GIVING

As the summer ends now is a good time to think about our faithful giving. Are we up to date on our commitment (pledge)? If not, please make plans to start catching up. It is better to start now rather than wait until the end of the year. The contributions from our congregation enable us to remain strong in ministry and it is greatly appreciated. Thank you.

THANK YOU!!!

Thank you! The Trotman and Wilson families would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to our St. Thomas family for your prayers, calls, cards, and other expressions of sympathy during our time of bereavement. Thank you and God bless you all.

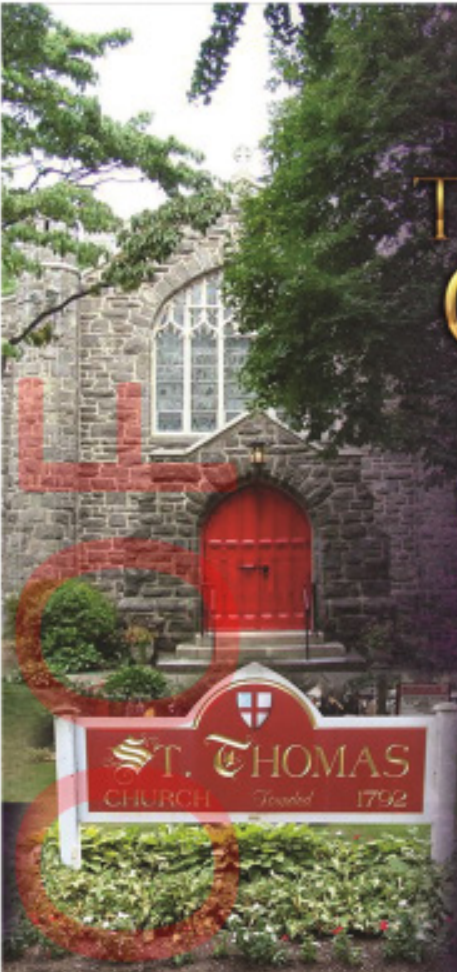
Today, we place **Carolyn Amonitti Stubbs** and **Wesley Leandre Stubbs**, into their final resting place, the Columbian. Please continue to pray for the family.

CONDOLENCES

Our condolences to the family of **Dr. Constance Clayton**, Philadelphia's first Black and first female school superintendent. A public viewing will be held here at St. Thomas on Wednesday, **September 27th** from 3:00 PM-6:00 PM. Another viewing will be held on Thursday, **September 28th** from 8:00 AM-9:30 AM and her service will follow at 10:00 AM. May the soul of Constance rest in peace and rise in glory. Please pray for the family.



Our condolences to Sheila McCullough, Georgia Sawyer, and family on the death of Sheila's husband, **John McCullough**. May the soul of John rest in peace and rise in glory. Please pray for the family.



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

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.

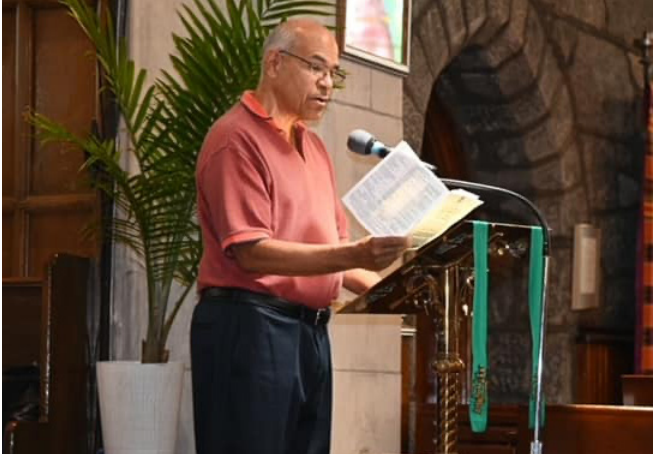
The African Episcopal Church of Saint Thomas has constructed three structures consisting of 220 niches that can accommodate 440 urns along the Southeast wall in the Absalom Jones Chapel area. Eligible persons and active members of the African Episcopal Church of Saint Thomas and their families can purchase 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.

Pictures From The Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost September 17, 2023







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



**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.

THIS WEEK AT AECST - September 25, 2023

Tuesday 9/26

Bible Study (via Zoom) with Fr. Jay - 7:00 PM.

Wednesday 9/27

Public Visitation for Dr. Constance E. Clayton

3:00 PM-6:45 PM

Young Adult Bible Study - 6:00 PM

Absalom Jones House

Gospel Choir rehearsal - 7:30 PM.

Thursday 9/28

Viewing for Dr. Constance Clayton

8:00am -9:30 AM

Funeral for Dr. Constance Clayton - 10:00 AM

Saturday 9/30

Chancel Choir Rehearsal- 10:00 AM Anderson Hall

Girls Friendly Starts - 11:00 AM -1:00 PM in the Undercroft

Scout Troop #133 - 1:00-4:00 PM

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.

Pew Plaques All Saints' Day-November 4, 2023

Pew Memorial Plaques: \$500.00 Payment Deadline: October 15, 2023. Contact Victoria Rivers for more information at 267-253-2899 and [email](#).

UPCOMING SUNDAYS IN SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER

September 24th

Youth and Young Adult Sunday

Installment of the Daughters of the King

Inurnment of Wesley & Carolyn Stubbs

Blessing of Expectant Mothers

October 1st - Stewardship Kick Off

October 8th - Chosen 300 Sunday with homilist, The Rev. Brian Jenkins, Executive Director of Chosen 300.

The Feast of St. Francis of Assisi (Blessing of the Animals)

This year, the animals of our family will be blessed by placing their photo, their ashes, or anything that belongs to your pet to be blessed.

October 15th - Octavius V. Catto Observance

Guest: Philadelphia Mayor, Jim Kenney and Homilist:

The Rev. Dr. Michael Byrd. Founder /CEO Forum Philly.

October 22nd - Youth and Young Adult Sunday

October 29th - Judicial Sunday

The Honorable John M. Younge, speaker,

U.S. District Judge.

A.E.C.S.T. Kid Friendly Trunk and Treat Sunday, October 29, 2023

12:00 Noon - in the parking lot.

Bring your little ghosts and goblins, princesses, and superheros to join in the fun in costume or not.

Ages 12 and Under

Volunteers needed to decorate your trunk and pass out candy. Please call [Gladyce](#) or email the [church office](#).

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](#).

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 14th : 1116 Spring Garden Street, Phila, PA. 19123

Monday, July 17th : 3959 Lancaster Ave, Phila. PA 19104

Friday, Sept. 15th : 1116 Spring Garden Street, Phila, PA. 19123

Friday, Nov. 17th : 1116 Spring Garden Street, Phila, PA. 19123

Monday, Nov 20th: 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



Young Adult Bible Study
Fr. Daren will be offering a Bible Study series.

for Young Adults beginning,
Wednesday, September 27th
at 6:00 PM. Fall Topic:
"If It's Not About Love, It's Not About God"



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



RETURNING SOON!!!

Wednesday Healing Mass
A short (half-hour) service of Scripture,
Prayer, Laying on of hands, Anointing,
and Holy Eucharist.
Watch this space for date!



SAVE THE DATE - SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2023

Friends of the Historical Society are inviting all members of St. Thomas to join us on Saturday, **November 4, 2023**, to see the Forten Exhibit at the Museum of the American Revolution!! As you may know, James Forten, a member of our congregation and the Vestry, was an extraordinary entrepreneur, a philanthropist, and a friend of Rev. Absalom Jones. Stay tuned for more details.

**Kid
Friendly!
Ages 12 &
Under**

AECST

**Volunteers
needed to
decorate your
trunk and hand
out candy!**

TRUNK OR TREAT

Come and Join Us!

October 29th

**Costumes optional
but encouraged!**

Starts at 12:00PM

Location: AECST Parking Lot

**Bring your little ghosts, goblins, princesses,
and superheroes to join in the fun!**

**Please contact Gladycce in the church office at
215-473-3065 or 1792@aecst.org**



**The African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas (The First Black Episcopal Church in the USA)
The Very Reverend Cannon Martini Shaw, 17th Rector
6361 Lancaster Avenue (Absalom Jones Way) Philadelphia, PA 19151
www.AECST.org www.Facebook.com/AECST1792**

ST. THOMAS HEALTH MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENT

A Covid and Flu Vaccination Clinic
Session: hosted in collaboration
with the Division of Community
Health Department of Family
Medicine and Community Health,
Perelman School of Medicine,
University of Pennsylvania.
Date: Late September / Early
October TBA



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.](#)

THE AFRICAN EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS

CHURCH SCHOOL RETURNS!

OCTOBER 1st, 2023

CALLING ALL AECST
YOUTH AGES 4 THRU HIGH SCHOOL
EVERY SUNDAY AT 10:00 AM

CHURCH SCHOOL THEME FOR 2023

“EXCITING STORIES OF THE BIBLE”



REGISTRATION STARTS AUGUST 13, 2023
IN PERSON OR USING OUR REGISTRATION LINK
[HTTPS://FORMS.GLE/44FHDmXzFK6ATNUFA](https://forms.gle/44FHDmXzFK6ATNUFA)

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The registration form may be found [here](#)

LAY EUCHARISTIC VISITOR

Do you have a special calling for visiting sick and shut-in members of St.Thomas? Would you be interested in becoming one of our commissioned members, like Karen Ragland, Karen Vaughn, Thomasina Hack, and Kathryn Brossa, to take the sacrament (communion) to those at home? If you feel such a special calling, please speak with the rector or contact him via email to prayerfully discern such a calling.

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 PM.

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.

WHERE IS THE ST. THOMAS GOSPEL CHOIR?????

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST CHURCH PRESENTS

St. Thomas Gospel Choir



In Concert

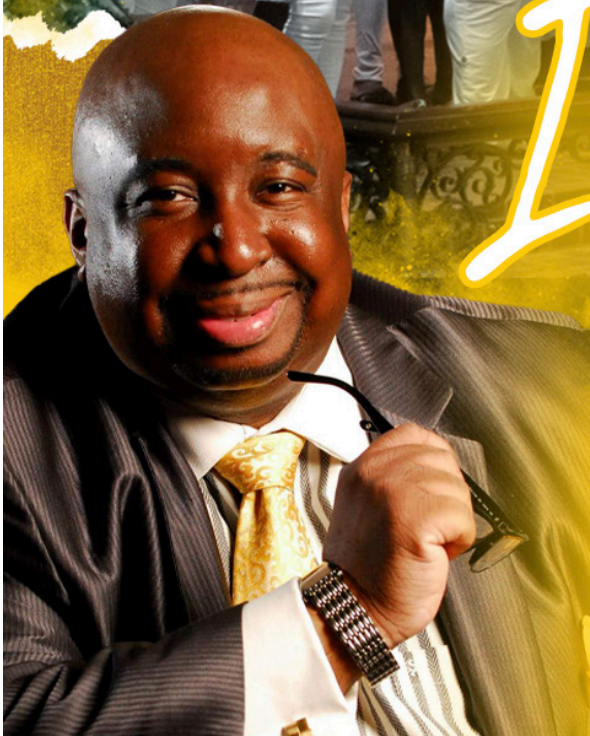
Under the direction of Walt Blocker

SATURDAY
OCTOBER 7, 2023 - 6:30PM

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST
ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

35 William St | Pittston, PA 18640

REV. JOSEPH ELSTON, RECTOR



FLEA Market

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!

THE WOMEN'S DAY MARKETPLACE

New DATE!

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2023

[RAIN DATE: 10.21.23]

9am-4pm

*Held on the Grounds of The Historic
African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas Church
6361 Lancaster Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19151*

**Showcase your unique Crafts,
Collectibles, Vintage
and Gift items...
and turn them into cash!**

**Reserve your
Space Today!**
(before 10.11.23)

To receive your reservation form

Contact:

Yvonne Caldwell White
luyes@icloud.com

Deborah Matthews
debmadanco@verizon.net

*Hosted by the
2023 AECST Women's Day Committee*

*The Historic African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas
The Very Reverend Canon Martini Shaw – 17th Rector
Reverend Fr. Daren E. Evans – Associate Rector*

**Bring your
unwanted
Gold, Silver &
Diamond
Jewelry
And
a certified
jeweler will
appraise it and
you'll get
CASH on the
spot!**

**\$30.00
BYOT**
*(Space & bring
your own Table)*

\$35.00
**Reserve space
+ Table**
*(Table will be
provided for you)*

ALTAR FLOWERS

Flowers on the High Altar are in loving memory of **Carolyn Amonitti Stubbs and Wesley Leandre Stubbs**, given by Weslie Stubbs Robinson and family.

Flowers on the Columbarium are in loving memory of **William and Geneva Thompson** for their birthdays, given by Calvin Thompson.

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 \$ _____

DAILY RECOMMENDED BIBLE READINGS

**Readings for:
The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 24, 2023**

The First Lesson: [Exodus 16:2-15](#)

[Psalms 105:1-6,37-45](#)

The Second Lesson: [Philippians 1:21-30](#)

The Holy Gospel: [Matthew 20:1-16](#)

**The Holy Gospel Readings for the
Week of September 25, 2023**

Monday - [Luke 3:1-14](#)

Tuesday - [Luke 3:15-22](#)

Wednesday - [Luke 4:1-13](#)

Thursday - [Luke 4:14-30](#)

Friday - [Luke 4:31-37](#)

Saturday - [Luke 4:37-44](#)



AECST
FOUNDED 1792

SUNDAY

OCTOBER 15, 2023, 10:00 AM

PLEASE JOIN US FOR
THE ANNUAL
CELEBRATION

OF THE
LIFE

OF
OCTAVIUS V. CATTO

(MEMBER OF ST. THOMAS CHURCH)

GUEST:

THE HONORABLE JAMES KENNEY
MAYOR, CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

GUEST HOMILIST: :

THE REV. DR. MALCOLM T. BYRD
PASTOR, HOPE'S BEACON BAPTIST CHURCH
& FOUNDER AND C.E.O. - FORUM PHILLY

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**Attention!! Attention!! Your Vote Matters!!
Come join the Catto Ministry**

My VOTE will Count!! My VOTE Will Count!!

With a focus on the Philadelphia elections.

October 15, 2023, Octavius V. Catto

Sunday -- Come & bring a friend or two for our church service that will hopefully inspire you to Vote and stay afterward to register Folks to Vote, practice using the new electronic poll book, bring your Mail-in Ballot and fill it out correctly and take

it to a drop box – Make sure that Your VOTE will Count!!!! Get resources from the city, state & federal Folks. We anticipate activities for teens & young adults around voting and civic engagement. We will serve light fare.

If you are interested, if you have questions, please contact Wendella Fox at 215-880-4936.



Bible Study with Fr. Jay resumes on Tuesday evening, **September 19th, at 7:00 PM.** If anyone is interested in joining the group, contact [Fr. Jay](#).

Our St. Thomas Catto Ministry Leadership Team

Ernestine Johnson



Wendella Fox



Ted Smith



PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR PARISHIONERS WHO ARE:

HOSPITALIZED:

Sheryl Johnson - Jefferson Hospital.

IN REHAB:

Helena Allen - Simpson House; Thelma Silvers - Penn Rehab.

RECOVERING AT HOME:

Rosalind Rodriquez, R. Seth Williams, Linda Holmes,
Ashley Williams.

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, Dorothy Smith, Alice Bowman-Cropper, Daryn Stewart, Sheryl Johnson, Shirley Winkfield, Dr. Thomas Snowden, Dr. Walter Bantom, Bill Edmonds, 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, Joe Stevenson.

WE PRAY FOR

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

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

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

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

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William Burke
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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

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.