



MOM

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY
HONORING ALL MOTHERS



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 SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
THE OBSERVANCE OF MOTHER'S DAY
MAY 10, 2026**

**The Historic African Episcopal Church
of St. Thomas**

6361 Lancaster Avenue (Absalom Jones Way)
Philadelphia, PA, 19151
(215) 473-3065
www.aecst.org

The Very Reverend Canon Martini Shaw
The 17th Rector

The Reverend Fr. Gerald Collins
Associate Priest



Scan the QR code or text "AECST" to 73256 to support our church and our ministries.

Please click on the link provided for the
[Order of Service](#)

“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 **Sixth Sunday of Easter and the Observance of Mother’s Day.**

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., it is proudly a part of the worldwide Anglican Communion. The first rector of this historic parish, The Reverend 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 welcome 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. Whomever you may be and however you may find yourself experiencing life’s journey, do know that St. Thomas Church welcomes you.

Again, welcome!

Wishing each of you a very holy and blessed fifty days of Easter filled with Joy, Peace and Love.

The Very Reverend Canon Martini Shaw
17th Rector and Dean of the Schuylkill Deanery



This Sunday, May 10th, we will recognize and celebrate St. Thomas' oldest active mother:



Ola S. Bass, born November 23, 1926. Ms. Bass will turn 100 years old on her birthday in November. Mother of two daughters: Lenez Ward and Jill Samuels

We also recognize an inactive oldest mother, Helena Allen, born January 16, 1921. Ms. Allen just turned 105 years young on her birthday in January. Mother of one son, Anthony Allen



**We will also recognize and celebrate
St. Thomas' newest mothers:**



**Carlia Wallace
mother of Rayne Josephine Wallace,
born March 5, 2026**



**Ashley Williams - mother of Tobias Scott Williams,
born Sept. 16, 2025**



CELEBRATE MOTHERS

with the St. Thomas Gardeners annual Mother's Day lapel flower sale. Honor your mother, living or deceased, by wearing a red, pink or white carnation.

The flower day sales are free-will donations to help purchase colorful summer and fall flowers for the church grounds.



We are sad to announce the death of **Linda Holmes**. Please keep her mother, Sybil, and other family members in your prayers. Arrangements are pending. May the soul of Linda rest in peace and rise in glory. AMEN

**THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
PARADE OF HATS
THE INSTALLATION AND BLESSING
OF THE NEW SISTERHOOD OFFICERS
MAY 3, 2026**







More photos may be found on [Facebook](#)







More photos may be found on [Facebook](#)

Photos: Quentin Heyward, Brenda Johnson Best,
Justin Trotman

(St.Thomas Ed Muse Memorial Photography Ministry)

OUR LIVESTREAM MINISTRY NEEDS YOU!

Each week, many people who are away are able to worship with us via our amazing Livestream. Please prayerfully consider serving in this ministry. If interested, please communicate with the rector.



MINISTRY NEWS!
"A FAREWELL TO FR. DAREN"
(Associate to the Rector)
Sunday, 3 May 2026
(Parade of Hats Sunday)



More photos may be found on [Facebook](#)



More photos may be found on [Facebook](#)

Photos: Quentin Heyward
(St.Thomas Ed Muse Memorial Photography Ministry)

St. James School Annual Dr. Audrey Evans Benefit "Sharing the Spark"

Wednesday, May 20, 2026, at 6:00 PM

at the Simeone Foundation Automotive Museum.

Suggested ticket amount is \$150.00 per person or pay what you wish. Visit www.StJamesPhila.org/Spark to purchase tickets online.

We're Invited!
SHARING THE
spark
ANNUAL DR. AUDREY EVANS BENEFIT

ST. JAMES SCHOOL

Wednesday, May 20, 2026 | 6:00 PM
Simeone Foundation Automotive Museum

6:00 PM MINGLE & DINE | 7:30 PM PROGRAM | 8:30 PM DESSERT & COFFEE

PAY WHAT YOU WISH TICKETS
We want this event to be inclusive and affordable for all! **\$150** suggested amount per person. Or pay what you wish.

Visit StJamesPhila.org/Spark to purchase tickets online.
For more information, contact Gillian Golson at ggolson@stjamesphila.org or 484.224.3891.

HONORING
Two impactful organizations

EPIPHANY SCHOOL
Which sparked the idea for St. James School

CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS
An extraordinary St. James church partner



DO YOU SPEAK A LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH?

If you speak a language other than English, i.e., German, Swahili, Spanish, etc., and would like to participate in the Pentecost service, please contact the church office ASAP.

THIS WEEK AT AECST

Tuesday, May 12th

~OPC Advocacy Outreach Group Meeting~
6:00 - 9:00 PM in the Undercroft

~Discernment Group Meeting~
6:00 PM in the Absalom Jones House

~Pilgrims on a Journey with Fr. Jay~
via Zoom at 7:00 PM

Wednesday, May 13th

~Angels in Motion Dance Ministry Rehearsal~
6:30 PM in the church

~St. Thomas Gospel Choir Rehearsal~
7:30 PM in Anderson Hall

Saturday, May 16th

~Men's Ministry and Fellowship Meeting~
8:30-11:00 AM in the Undercroft

~Girls' Friendly Society Meeting~
11:00 AM – 1:00 PM in the Undercroft

~Acolyte Rehearsal
1:30 PM



UPCOMING SUNDAYS IN 2026

May 10th

~Mother's Day~

May 17th

~Heroes' Sunday~

Guest Speaker-Commissioner Michael Resnick, Esq.,
Philadelphia Department of Prisons

May 24th

~Pentecost Sunday~

wear something **red**

May 31st

~Annual Women's Day Celebration~

Guest Speaker - The Rev. Carolyn C. Cavaness, 53rd Pastor,
Mother Bethel A.M.E. Church

June 7th

~Visitation of Diocesan Bishop of PA-The Right Rev.
Daniel G.P. Gutierrez~

June 14th

~Annual Caribbean Festival~

June 21st

~Father's Day~

June 28th

~Youth & Young Adult Sunday/Graduate Sunday~





HEROES' SUNDAY

MAY 17, 2026 10:00 AM

Philadelphia Department of Prisons
COMMISSIONER MICHAEL RESNICK, ESQ., GUEST SPEAKER



ALL first responders are invited to attend!

* Arrival of all First Responders: 9:30 A.M.

* A catered reception to follow

* For more information, please contact: Seth Williams at:
Seth@SecondChanceStrategies.Net

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

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THE HISTORIC AFRICAN EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS

2026 ANNUAL

Women's Day Celebration



FROM FAITH WE RISE:
*Walking in Purpose,
Hope and Love*

SUNDAY

MAY 31, 2026

10:00 AM

GUEST SPEAKER:

THE REV. CAROLYN C. CAVANESS
DISTINGUISHED MINISTER, ACTIVIST AND
THE FIRST FEMALE PASTOR OF
MOTHER BETHEL
AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
PHILADELPHIA, PA

Please celebrate
with us as we rise together
in faith and walk boldly
in God's purpose!



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CHOSEN 300 MINISTRY

Judith Simkins Booth, Chair

Are you ready to serve?

Join us **Monday, May 18, 2026,**

as we prepare and serve our brothers and sisters
in Christ. We will gather at **5:00 PM:**

Chosen 300 Ministries, Inc.

3959 Lancaster Avenue, Phila., PA 19104

All are welcome and encouraged to participate;
Matthew 14, 16 – “... “Jesus replied, ‘They do not need
to go away. You give them something to eat...’”

REALM STATEMENT ANNOUNCEMENT

Good morning, Church family. This announcement is to inform you to please check your email for your first quarterly statement. Realm can easily generate your statement. Therefore, paper statements will no longer be mailed from the church office.

Please email stewardship@aecst.com if you do not receive your statement via email (remember to check spam/junk). Thank you in advance, and have a great day. Judy Tillman, Stewardship Chair.

Are you receiving the weekly electronic Spearhead? If not, please email Gladyce DuBrey at 1792@aecst.org with your mobile number and email address.

RECTOR'S WISH LIST

Our Audio/Visual/
Media Systems sorely need upgrading:
Anderson Hall sound system
Livestream system
Sanctuary sound system

Please consider donating towards our goal
to raise \$10,000.00. You may contact
Father Shaw if you have questions.

THE CARIBBEAN FESTIVAL IS ON JUNE 14TH.

Please contribute to one of our largest celebrations.
Donations can be easily made by using Realm account,
checks may be placed in offertory plates
(write Caribbean Festival in the memo section)
or use one of the envelopes marked "Caribbean
Festival," located at the rear of the sanctuary.

GRADUATE SUNDAY is Sunday, June 28, 2026!

Have you or your child graduated or been promoted?
Please complete the Graduate Profile form included in
the bulletin or complete the online form. We want to
highlight your achievements and share them with the
congregation. The deadline to submit your information
to the office is **Sunday, June 21, 2026.**

ST. THOMAS HEALTH MINISTRY NEWS

Asthma

Nearly 28 million people in the U.S. have asthma. It is a long-term disease that causes your airways to become swollen and inflamed, making it hard to breathe. There is no cure for asthma, but it can be managed and controlled. It is one of the most common and costly diseases.

The best way to manage asthma is to avoid triggers, take medication to prevent symptoms, and be prepared to treat asthma episodes if they occur. The Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America (AAFA) has information on their website to help you learn more about asthma. You can also consider joining AAFA's online asthma support community, a local support group, or a regional AAFA chapter if one is in your area.

What Are the Symptoms of Asthma?

Common symptoms are coughing, shortness of breath, wheezing, and chest tightness (or pain). Asthma may lead to a medical emergency. It is important to know the signs of a severe asthma episode (or asthma attack).

How Doctors Diagnose Asthma?

A doctor may use a few different ways to look for asthma. These include:

- Taking a detailed medical history
- A physical exam
- Lung function tests
- Chest or sinus X-ray
- Blood tests to look for certain markers
- Allergy tests

The doctor will look at the results from these tests. They will then decide what type of asthma you have. They will develop a treatment plan based on the type and severity of your symptoms. If you have moderate to severe persistent asthma, AAFA recommends you see an allergist or pulmonologist if possible. An Allergist will treat allergies, asthma, and immune disorders. A Pulmonologist will treat asthma and other lung or respiratory diseases.

What Is the Treatment for Asthma?

You and your doctor will come up with a plan to treat your asthma. It often involves a blend of medication and avoiding your asthma triggers. An asthma action plan is an important tool to help you know when and how to treat your asthma symptoms.

What Triggers Asthma?

Asthma symptoms can appear when you are exposed to a trigger. A trigger is something you are sensitive to that causes your airways to become inflamed. This may cause swelling, mucus production, and narrowing of your airways. Common asthma triggers are pollen, air pollution, animal allergens, scents/fragrances, certain gases, extreme weather changes, smoke, dust mites, stress, and exercise.

How Can I Prevent an Asthma Episode?

The best way to prevent an asthma episode, or attack, is to follow your treatment plan. Learn your triggers and avoid or reduce your exposure to them. Take your allergy and asthma medications when you should. Use your quick-acting medicine as soon as you start to notice symptoms. Many people live healthy lives with asthma, if it's well managed. With a good treatment plan and guidance from your doctor, you can still do much of what you enjoy. For example, many professional athletes have asthma.



THE DAY OF
PENTECOST

**THE DESCENT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
THE BIRTH OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH
WHIT SUNDAY, MAY 24, 2026**



THE HISTORIC AFRICAN EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS
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**ATTENTION: St. Thomas High School Seniors
and Graduate Students:**

The Jesse F. Anderson, Sr. Book Award and Graduate applications are now available and located on the table outside of Anderson Hall.

If you have questions contact Paula Lamb, (215) 620-7250 or Dr. Diana Hutchins (610) 525-4322.
Application Deadline: **May 11, 2026**

**ATTENTION: All Groups/Ministries/Organizations
and Fellowships**

- Announcements and flyers for the Sunday Bulletin and digital Spearhead should be received on **Monday by 12:00 Noon**. If you have any questions, please contact Gladyce in the church office, (215) 473-3065.
 - Please submit a "**Request for Meeting Space**" form to the office for all meetings in the Church, Anderson Hall, Absalom Jones House, parking lot and/or the Great Lawn two weeks prior to the event. Please refrain from approaching the sextons. The church office maintains the calendar for all events. If you have any questions or need a form, please contact the church office at (215) 473-3065 or email 1792@aecst.org.
-

NEW MEMBER AND CONFIRMATION CLASSES are ongoing.

The schedule for the remaining Zoom class is **Monday 5/18/2026 at 6:00 PM - Sunday 6/7/2026 – Confirmation Day!**



CONFIRMATION/REAFFIRMATION/ RECEPTION

The following individuals will be confirmed, reaffirmed, or received during the upcoming Bishop's visit to St. Thomas, Sunday, **June 7, 2026.**

Please keep them in your prayers as they make final preparations to receive a special sacramental blessing:

Cadega Alexander	Alonda Lord
Dane Bowrin	Michelle J.P. Mack
Dominic Bowrin	Dr. Stephen Mack
Vanessa Bowrin	John Maxwell
Melissa Chatman	Derrick McBride
Ryan Chatman	The Rev. Jermaine McDonald
Regina Diane Culmer	Paula Milbourne
Robert Newton Davenport	Mercy Natt
Karen Davis	Ingrid Nembhard
Donna Mae Fraser	Velma Morris Nembhard
Hossein Gharavi	Chinwe Onyekere
Renard Golden	Wendy Puryear
Dr. Derek Griffith	Kareem Ragin
Nazir Henry	Todrick Ricks
Samantha Richardson- Ingram	Charlie Stiff
Cathryn Irvis	Stephenie Smith
Evelyn Johns	TajMarie Thornton
Garry Jones	Marie Wallace
Kayma Sherman Knuckles	The Rev. Joseph Watkins
	Stephanie Watkins



Church Pictorial Directory Committee

***All ads and patrons for the Church directory are due by May 31st ***

In addition to our member and family photographs, the new pictorial St. Thomas Church Directory will include:

- our bountiful history
- a special in memorial page (listing members who have transitioned since 2017)
- greetings from the rector
- group photographs of AECST ministries

A new category has been created entitled:

“With Love and Blessings.”

You can add your name to this section with patron, business or ministry ads. It would be wonderful to have your support and expressions of gratitude included in the directory.

Patron ads - \$5.00 per name

Business or Ministry ads:

- Full page \$150.00 - 8”x10” portrait
- 1/2 page \$75.00 - 8”x5” landscape
- 1/4 page \$50.00 - 4”x5” portrait
- 1/8 page \$35.00 - 4”x 2 1/2” landscape

Please see a committee member to place an ad, or you may:

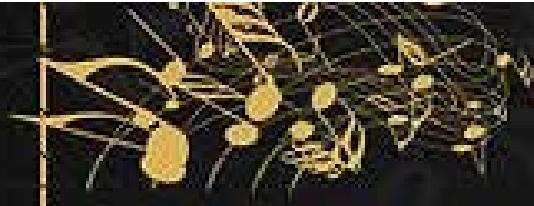
Email: Camera ready ads to: churchdirectory@aecst.org

Checks may be mailed and payable to:

The African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas
6361 Lancaster Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19151

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.



VOCALISTS & MUSICIANS *Wanted*

**To Join
A Professional Recording Gospel Choir**

The St Thomas Gospel Choir
Directed By, Walt Blocker
of the
African Episcopal Church of St Thomas
Philadelphia, PA

WWW.STTHOMASGC.ORG

(484) 816-STGC (7842)

OUR DEDICATED OUT-OF-TOWN FAMILIES

We give thanks to God for these active and dedicated members of St. Thomas who presently live in other cities, states, and countries, but remain connected weekly by various media platforms:

Constance Anderson - Florida

The Rev. Dr. Paul Bach & Dr. Julie Hergerather - Bloomsburg, PA

Deadra Cannon - Georgia

Nora Corbin - Illinois

Paula Cropper - North Carolina

Lee Daniels - New York

Stacey Davis - New York

Andrew and Lisa Renee Dumas - Portugal

Rashid, Christie, and Gabrielle Faisal - Michigan

The Rev. Dr. Wil Gafney -Texas

Richard & Gwenda Hart - South Carolina

Yvonne Hyde-Carter - New York

Dr. Calvin Johnson - Florida

Bettie Jones - North Carolina

Richard Jones, Jr. - Virginia

Dr. Sheila Jones-Smith - South Carolina

Steven & Jameela Lewis - Colorado/California

Gregory Lyles - Switzerland

Nohjay Nimpson -Texas

Zennetta Peters - North Carolina

Richard & Rebecca Scales - Florida

Shelly and Ann Stewart - Florida

Howard Tucker - Brazil/Philadelphia

Allison Young - Maryland

**The Bible Readings For
the Sixth Sunday of Easter
May 10, 2026**

The First Lesson - [Acts 17:22-31](#)
[Psalm 66:7-18](#)

The Second Lesson - [1 Peter 3:13-22](#)
The Holy Gospel - [John 14:15-21](#)

**The Holy Gospel Readings for the
week of May 11, 2026**

Monday - [Matthew 13:1-16](#)

Tuesday - [Matthew 13:18-23](#)

Wednesday - [Matthew 22:41-46](#)

Ascension Thursday - [Matthew 28:16-20](#)

Friday - [Matthew 7:22-27](#)

Saturday - [Matthew 7:28-8:4](#)



PILGRIMS ON A JOURNEY

BIBLE STUDY is on Tuesdays
at 7:00 PM via Zoom.

If you are interested in joining
the ministry, please contact Fr. Jay
at associatepriest@aecst.org.

ALTAR FLOWERS

Flowers on the High Altar are in Thanksgiving for the fabulous 85th birthday of **D. Lynn Joell**, given by her children, Robert, Debra, Roger, and grandchildren D'Lalah & Andrea.

Flowers on the Columbarium are in loving memory of **Nancy Kent**, given by Paula Kent Boone.

To order flowers, please return the form with payment to Alfreda Brockman or Gladyce in the church office.

Flowers on the High Altar - \$80.00 each
Flowers on the Absalom Jones Altar - \$70.00 each
Flowers on the Columbarium - \$60.00

Please use the QR Code below to order flowers or contribute to our church ministries.





CALLING ALL DANCERS!!!!

Opportunity awaits if you want to praise the Lord in dance and worship. The “Angels in Motion” dance ministry, a multi-generational ministry welcomes all ages, and skill levels in ballet, modern, jazz, and African dance to join! Interested? Please contact, Director, [Pamela Johnson](#).



VERGERS NEEDED!

Are you being called to this exciting ministry?
Want to know more about what a Verger does?

The Verger Guide may be found [here](#)

Please speak with Karen Ragland or
the Rector for more details.

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. 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](#).

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR PARISHIONERS WHO ARE:

IN THE HOSPITAL:

Patricia Walker Ellison - Abington Hospital; Calvin Thompson-Lankenau Hospital

IN REHAB:

Francine Norris - St. Francis Nursing Home, Vernetta Dow-The Rittenhouse Rehab

IN LONG-TERM CARE RESIDENCES:

Helena Allen - Simpson House; Linda Holmes - Saunders House; Gwendolyn Langford - Arden Courts of Cherry Hill; Ola Bass - Atria Lafayette Hill; Ridart "Butch" Farmer-Centennial Healthcare and Rehabilitation Center

AT HOME:

Robert Brown, Shirley Caldwell, Cornelia Camp, Thelma Silvers, Mary Ann Jones, Wendell Whitlock, Verger Stephen Hannum, Joyce Stewart, Virginia DuBrey, Alice Bowman-Cropper, Guy Booth, Alletta Parris Olday, Jurdina Koilor, Victoria Rivers, Carolyn Summers

KEEP IN PRAYER:

Justin Trotman, Cathy Stafford, Daryn Stewart, Adinah Edwards, Teena Watson-Matthews, Waltier Blocker, Santee Ruffin, Angela Holloway, Yvonne Syndor, Carl Dean, Arlene Gray, Adrian Gray, Sharon Harper, Quincina Edmonds, D. Lynn Joell, Edita Gauthney, Carmen Brown, Lisa Woodley, Richard Jones, Jr., Regina Meacham Devero, Katrina Harris, Karen Ragland, Roosevelt Harris, Sr.

WE PRAY FOR:

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

CALLING ALL YOUTH



What's an Acolyte? Am I old enough? Why do I want to be one? These and other questions can be answered by Father Daren! No prior experience is necessary to serve in the **Acolyte Ministry**. Rehearsals are on Sundays, immediately after service. This is an excellent opportunity for children and youth to become involved in the life of the church. Contact [Fr. Shaw](#) for details.

YOUTH ACHIEVEMENTS

We want to highlight the achievements of our youth and young adults! If your child has excelled in academics, sports, the arts, or community service—or you are a young adult working on a significant personal or professional project—we would love to hear about it. Please contact [Fr. Shaw](#) so we can share your story with the congregation!

THE YOUNG ADULTS (ages 20's and 30's) meet immediately after service every 4th Sunday of the Month in the Absalom Jones House.



IMPORTANT NOTE FROM THE RECTOR

St. Thomas celebrates children and youth not only as the church of TOMORROW, but also the church of TODAY! We welcome and encourage their full presence and participation in our Sunday worship.

Church School begins at **10:00 AM** in the **Undercroft**.

You need to register your child for church school for the 2025-2026 school year. Please use this [link](#) to register your child/children.

Call for Church School Teachers - If you feel the calling by God to volunteer your time in church school, please fill out the registration [link](#). If you were a teacher last year, please fill out this year's registration.



Tiny Tykes Temple is now located in the beautiful library of the Absalom Jones House for infants, children (under 3 years old) and parents. Parents who may find it necessary to step away from mass for a moment are encouraged to take advantage of this wonderful space.

STEWARDSHIP NEWS

HOW CAN I BE FAITHFUL TO GOD AND THE CHURCH THROUGH STEWARDSHIP?

“Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver”. 2 Corinthians 9:7. NIV

The **Stewardship Committee** of the African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas recognizes that stewardship may take form in several ways: your time, talent, or treasures. The one commonality is that each of us must prayerfully ask God to guide us in making the right choices and have faith that He will guide us to the right decision.

Our church has a tremendous congregation that is thriving and growing. The ministries that we have serve all of God’s children near and far. These endeavors require all three forms of stewardship: but especially your sharing of treasure.

Prayerfully consider donating by using the QR Code below:



OTHER 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 Historic African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas
c/o Fiscal Administrator
6361 Lancaster Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19151

3) Bring your check directly to the Fiscal Office during regular business hours, Monday - Friday, 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM. 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> 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.

5) REALM CONNECT - Members and visitors who use GIVI must use **Realm Connect**. If donate via the church website, either directly or by using the QR code, you will soon see a new webpage and corresponding QR code.

6) Cellphone: Text "AECST" to 73256 to donate.

IMPORTANT: Please make sure your name, envelop number and amount is placed on the offering envelope. This is particularly important for bookkeeping accurate. If you are unsure of your number, please email stewardship@aecst.org. We appreciate your assistance.

IMPORTANT: Please make sure your name, number, and amount is placed on your offering envelope. This is very important to keep bookkeeping accurate. If you're unsure of your number, please email stewardship@aecst.org. We appreciate your assistance.

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](#) and select the Building Fund button on our Capital Improvement Donation button on our [website](#).

MINISTRY STAFF

Bishop	The Rt. Rev. Daniel G P Gutierrez	
Rector	The Very Rev. Canon Martini Shaw	rector@aecst.org
Associate to the Rector		associaterector@aecst.org
Associate Priest	The Rev. Fr. Gerald (Jay) Collins	associatepriest@aecst.org
Associate Priest	The Rev. Patricia Downing	psdowning@verizon.net
Associate Priest	The Rev. Dr. Wil Gafney	wilgafney@gmail.com
Associate Minister	The Rev. Dr. Paul Bach	pauljaybach@gmail.com
Executive Asst. to the Rector	Gladyce DuBrey	1792@aecst.org
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THE VESTRY

Rector's Warden - Richard Jones | Accounting Warden - Deborah Camp-Frye
Clerk of the Vestry - Pamela Johnson | Treasurer - Albert S. Dandridge, III Esq.
Stewardship Chair - Judy Tillman | Property Chair - William J. Burke

Dr. Tim Barksdale
Judith Simkins Booth
Deadra Cannon

Clare Mae Daniels
Mary Sandra Dean
Elaine Gillison

Eugene Golson
Monica Lewis Jones
Deborah Matthews

THE AUXILIARY VESTRY

Brenda Johnson Best
Sharon Bullock
Ronnie Collins

Gwenda Hart
D. Lynn Joell
Kelvin Johnson

Cynthia Muse
Dr. Monica Johnson Taylor
Darryle (Bobby) Tillman

DELEGATES TO THE DIOCESAN CONVENTION

Albert S. Dandridge, III Esq. | Dr. Cassandra Ruffin | Alternate: Tyrone Keller

DELEGATES TO THE SCHUYLKILL DEANERY

Phyllis Cater | Mary Sandra Dean | Alternate: Tyrone Keller