



CHURCH INSIDER

UPDATES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR COMMUNITIES OF FAITH

MARCH/APRIL 2015



Absalom Jones Celebration

On Saturday, February 13th, St. James School took part in the DIOPA Absalom Jones Celebration for the second year in a row. St. James School students were honored to be given several special roles in the Absalom Jones service. Many students traveled with their families by bus to the Philadelphia Cathedral where they served as guards for the Absalom Jones wax image, readers of Hebrew Scriptures and Prayers of the People, as well as banner bearers during the opening procession. The service include soul-stirring music, an inspiring sermon and an opportunity to connect with friends throughout the Diocese of PA. It was a beautiful way to commemorate the achievements and struggles of Jones' life.

Born into slavery, Absalom Jones (1746-1818) bought his own freedom and that of his wife's through years of saving his wages. After experiencing discrimination at his church, Jones helped found the Free African Society, out of which grew The African Church. The African Church, located in Philadelphia, was officially accepted into the Episcopal Diocese of Pennsylvania in 1784 and renamed the African Church of St. Thomas. It was the first black Episcopal church, and Jones became the first ordained priest of African descent in the United States.

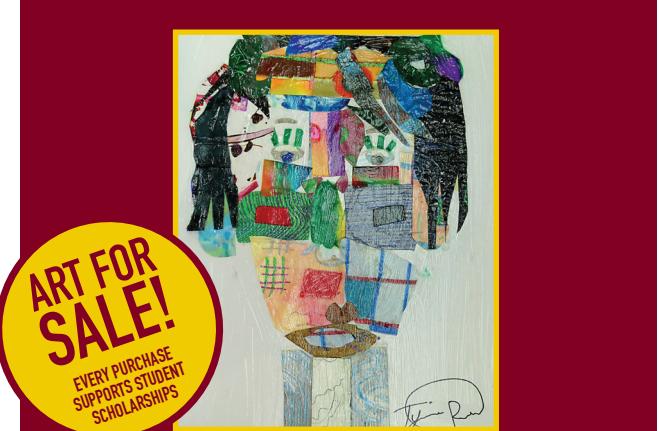


Learn More—Schedule a Church Visit

Are you interested in learning more about St. James School or sharing our mission with others? Invite us to your church's coffee hour or adult forum. Two of our teachers or staff will tell you more about our history, mission, and how you and your parish can partner with us to break the cycle of poverty through education. Please contact Mary Chris Lindsay at mclindsay@stjamesphila.org to set up a future visit.

“The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character...that is the goal of true education.”

— Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL STUDENT ART GALLERY
OUR GALLERY. OUR STORIES.

TUES APRIL 5 5-7pm

THE PHILADELPHIA FOUNDATION • 1234 MARKET STREET, 1800

RSVP Caroline Ramsey at cramsey@stjamesphila.org

or call 215.226.1276 ext 114



Parish Spotlight

The generous, book-loving members of St. George's Episcopal Church (Ardmore) have made it their mission to grow St. James School's library! Over the past several weeks, members have been ordering books from our wish list as well as collecting funds for new bookshelves. We have been so excited to check the mail every day as books continue to roll in! Thank you, St. George's, Ardmore, for expanding our students' book selection and getting them excited about reading.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Contact Nicole Green ngreen@stjamesphila.org to RSVP

ACADEMIC CLINICS

APRIL 2 • 10AM - 1:30PM (LUNCH IS PROVIDED!)

COMMUNITY SERVICE DAYS

APRIL 16 • 9AM — 12PM

LUNCH WITH STUDENTS

You're invited for a freshly prepared meal and a tour of St. James School!

SUMMER VOLUNTEER OPEN HOUSES

APRIL 6 • 6:30PM-7:30PM

APRIL 16 • 9PM-12PM

St. James School is already planning for our annual STEAM Summer Camp and City Camp programs, and we're looking for volunteers! If you're interested in getting involved or continuing your volunteer activities during the summer months, please drop by on either of these dates between the times listed to learn more about the opportunities available.

THANK YOU

Arch Street Presbyterian Church, St. Paul's Church (Elkins Park), Christ Church Episcopal, (Media), and St. George's Episcopal Church (Ardmore)

Hosting St. James School faculty and staff to speak to parishioners about our school mission and ways to get involved.



Dr. Audrey Evans

S C H O L A R S H I P

BENEFIT

MONDAY JUNE 6

The Union League of Philadelphia

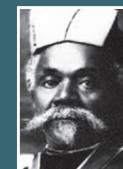
7:00-9:00pm • VIP Reception 6pm

Sponsorship levels start at \$1,500
Program book ads available!

For more details and information, visit www.StJamesPhila.org or contact Caroline Ramsey at cramsey@stjamesphila.org

The Church Remembers James Theodore Holly

James Theodore Holly, emigrationist, missionary, and Episcopal bishop, was born in Washington, DC, on October 3, 1829.



He married in 1851 in New York where he joined the Protestant Episcopal Church and became a deacon in 1855 (ordained as a priest in 1856). Soon after, Holly and his wife moved to Windsor, Canada, where Holly worked as an editor on the newspaper, Voice of the Fugitive, published by former slave Henry Bibb Holly also endorsed the Refugee Home Society and organized the Amherstburg Convention of free blacks in Canada.

They returned to the US in 1862—Holly served as priest at St. Luke's Church in New Haven, Connecticut, teaching in public and private schools. Holly began promoting black emigration to Haiti, and in 1861 led 110 men, women and children on a mission trip to the country. Holly's first year in Haiti was full of personal challenges—his mother, wife, two children, and 39 other members of his group died of yellow fever and malaria. He would become a Haitian citizen but returned to the US in 1862 for financing to establish a mission station, approved in 1865.

In 1874, Holly was consecrated missionary bishop of Haiti at Grace Episcopal Church in New York City, becoming the first African American Bishop in the Episcopal Church. In 1878, he was recognized as bishop of the Orthodox Apostolic Church of Haiti. After serving for over 30 years as bishop in Haiti, James Theodore Holly died in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, on March 13, 1911.



ITEMS MOST URGENTLY NEEDED

WOOD PENCILS

SNACKS

For Huskies
Hangout (alumni
lounge)

TISSUES

TOILET PAPER

PAPER TOWELS

CHICKEN FEED

BALES OF HAY

COPY PAPER

EXPO WHITEBOARD
CLEANER

ZIPLOCK BAGS

Snack-sized
Sandwich-sized

MAGNETIC DRY
ERASE BOARD
ERASERS

POCKET FOLDERS

Two file folders
Report presentation
folders

STAMPS

"Forever",
especially stamps
featuring
African-American
noteables



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WANT TO KNOW MORE? Contact Nicole Green 215.226.1276 or ngreen@stjamesphila.org

3217 W. Clearfield Street, Philadelphia PA 19132 • www.StJamesPhila.org

Located in the Allegheny West neighborhood, St. James School is a tuition-free Philadelphia middle school in the Episcopal tradition, committed to educating traditionally underresourced students in a nurturing environment. The school is a community that provides a challenging academic program and encourages the development of the moral, spiritual, intellectual, physical and creative gifts in its students.