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Art
Museum



Cyprian Jones

Absalom Jones

b. Delaware, 1746; d. Philadelphia 2/13/1818.

Born into slavery, Jones purchased his freedom at age 38 and helped to found the Free African Society in Philadelphia. They helped victims of the 1793 yellow fever epidemic. The first ordained African-American priest in the Episcopal Church, Jones spoke out against slavery from the pulpit of the African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas.

"It has always been a mystery. Why the impartial Father... permitted the transportation of... our fellow creatures to this country, to endure all the miseries of slavery."