



HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH

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E-mail: holycrosschurchstx@gmail.com



Rev. Fr. Louis K. Kemayou
Pastor

Most Rev. Jerome Feudjio
Bishop

St. Mary's Catholic School

Tel: 340-773-0117 or 340-643-5915

Email: officeatstmary@gmail.com

Principal: Sr. Edith Itor, SST.



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FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

February 22nd, 2026

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Lent begins in the wilderness. Before Jesus teaches, heals, or gathers disciples, He steps into a place stripped of comfort and noise. The wilderness is not a punishment; it is a place of preparation, where the heart becomes clear enough to hear God again. Scripture reminds us that the wilderness is often where God draws closest. Israel discovered God's faithfulness there. Elijah heard God's whisper there. Jesus found strength there. The wilderness is where God forms people.

As we enter this holy season, we are invited into our own kind of wilderness—not to prove ourselves, but to make room for God to shape us. Lent is less about what we give up and more about what we make space for: space for prayer, space for compassion, space for God's voice to rise above the noise.

This Sunday, we are also invited to widen that space beyond ourselves. The Bishop's Appeal calls us to remember our brothers and sisters who live in a wilderness not of choice but of circumstance—the poor, the hungry, the homeless, and all who struggle to find stability and dignity. Our Lenten practices take on deeper meaning when they move us toward those who need hope the most.



SANCTUARY CANDLE

If you would like to donate the sanctuary candle in memory of someone or in celebration of a special occasion, please call the office and schedule a date. A free will donation is welcome.



THE MASS INTENTION

IS OUR APPEAL TO GOD FOR OUR LOVED ONES.

PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE

AT 340-773-7564

SICK MINISTRY



The Sacrament of the Sick is a fundamental practice in the Catholic Church intended to provide comfort, peace and spiritual strength to those who are seriously ill or aging.

Communion to the Sick by Priest: First Friday of the month. Or call the Church Office.

"TOGETHER BUILDING THE KINGDOM OF GOD."

REFLECTION

Supporting the Bishop's Appeal is one concrete way to let our faith become shelter, nourishment, and mercy for others. In giving, we participate in Christ's work of lifting up the vulnerable and reminding them that they are not forgotten. If the wilderness feels unfamiliar or uncomfortable, take heart. Jesus has walked it before us. He knows its terrain, its temptations, and its gifts. And He walks with us still. May this season open our hearts, steady our steps, and draw us closer to the One who leads us—and all God's people—from wilderness to life.

MASS INTENTIONS: February 21-22

Sat. 21st 4:00 p.m. +Sonia L Smith r/b Fr Delroy Thomas
Sun. 22nd 7:00 a.m. For the people of the parish
9:00 a.m. Special Intention Shireen Wilson r/b Sister
Special Intention Joycelyn Schuster
11:00 a.m. Healing of Michelle Albany-Crispen

DAILY MASSES February 23rd — 27th

Tue 24th 6:30 a.m. B/D Leonard Chapman r/b mother & son
B/D Anita Nibbs r/b Rodgers family
Wed 25th 6:30 a.m. + Irene Valdez r/b Family
Thu. 26th 6:30 a.m. +Sonia L Smith r/b Fr. Delroy
8:15 a.m. Healing of Michelle Albany-Crispen
Fri 27th 6:30 a.m. +Sonia L Smith r/b Fr Delroy

NEXT WEEKEND February 28th –March 1st

Sat. 28th 4:00 p.m. + Sonia L Smith r/b Fr Delroy
Sun. 1st 7:00 a.m. For the People of the parish
9:00 a.m. + Dr. Ralph DeChabert r/b Mr. & Mrs Lang Family
11:00 a.m.



Sanctuary Candle: February 22nd–28, 2026

+ Jouean Jacobs & Debra Christian r/b Judy & Family

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING.

Father, all elements of nature obey
Your command. We praise and thank
You for Your protection during the hur-
ricane season.

We ask You again to guide us through
this new year and keep us safe from
all natural disasters and all acts of ter-
rorism. Bless our families and bring
peace to all nations. We ask this
through our Lord, Jesus Christ who
lives and reigns with You and the Holy
Spirit, one God forever and ever.
Amen.

Prayer to Saint Michael the Archangel

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us
in battle; be our defense against the
wickedness and snares of the devil.
May God rebuke him, we humbly pray,
and do thou, O prince of the heavenly
host, by the power of God, thrust into
hell Satan and all the other evil spirits
who prowl about the world seeking the
ruin of souls. Amen.

23-Monday

Lv 19:1-2,11-18
Mt 25:31-46

24- Tuesday

Is 55:10-11
Mt 6:7-15

25- Wednesday

Jon 3:1-10
Lk 11:29-32

26-Thursday

Est C:12,14-16,23-25
Mt 7:7-12

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27-Friday

Ez 18:21-28
Mt 5:20-26

28- Saturday

Dt 26:16-19
Mt 5:43-48

01- Sunday

Gn 12:1-4a
2Tm 1:8b-10
Mt 17:1-9

Sacraments

Baptism

Please register at the office between 9-2 p.m. The Sacrament is celebrated the last Sunday of the month after the 11:00a.m. Mass.

Reconciliation

Saturdays: 9:00—10:00 a.m. or by appointment

Marriage

Please call the Parish Office at least six (6) months before the wedding date.

Funeral

No Funeral on Thursdays or Weekends. Please contact the Church Office.
No date is to be set without consulting the Church Office.

Directory

Pastor: Rev. Fr. Louis K. Kemayou Fr. Tou-
chard Tignoua

Sabbatical: Fr. Rodrigue Takoudjou Dzomo

Deacons: Rev. Mr. David Capriola

Rev. Mr. Vincent Coliani

Rev. Mr. Reynold Modeste

Rev. Mr. Benjamin Parilla

Missionary of Charity: (Tel: 340-473-7055)

Sr. Lourdes, M.C. ,

Sr. M. Ancella, M.C., Sr. Manjulica, M.C.

Sisters of St. Therese of the Child Jesus

Secretary:

Accountant: Mr. Kenneth Guye

Office Assistant: Ms. Deviann Leonce

BISHOP APPEAL 2026

The 2026 Bishop's Appeal reminds us of our call to conversion of heart, mind and life.

As we enter the holy season of Lent, let us reflect on its significance in our spiritual journey. This year's theme, "**Strengthening Our Church, Transforming Lives,**" invites us to support the mission of the church and help bring healing, hope, and new life to our communities.

Through faith-filled generosity, we build a stronger church, transforming lives and bringing Christ's love to all. Support the Annual Bishop's Appeal. Thank you for your generosity.

"And let us not grow weary in well-doing, for in due season we shall reap." (Galatians 6:9)



PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

▪ **Welcome At Holy Cross Church:** The Holy Cross Catholic Family would like to welcome our newly ordained Priest, Rev. Father Modestus Dike and his sister in our midst. Fr. Modestus will be celebrating thanksgiving masses with us this weekend. We pray for God's countless blessing upon him as he minister in the catholic church and the people of the Virgin Islands in particular.

▪ **Office Secretary:** We are in need of a Volunteer who can assist with the daily activities of the Parish Office.....If you are willing please speak to the Pastor.

▪ **Church Maintenance:** Abundant blessings and thanks to the group that cleaned our church this weekend. May God richly bless you! Next cleaning is on Saturday, February 28th 2026@ 8a.m. Please pray about giving just one hour each month to this ministry.

▪ **Second Collection** Next weekend our second collection is for St. Mary's School. Thank you.

Ministry of Hospitality

The Holy Cross Church Ministry of Hospitality will have coffee, tea & snacks at the McAlpin Hall on the last Sunday of each month after the 9:00 a.m. mass. The next social will be held on March 29th, 2026.

▪ **Stations of the Cross :**

Stations of the Cross will be celebrated in the church every **Friday** during the Lenten season at 1:00 p.m. with St. Mary's School Students and at 5:30pm followed by mass at 6:00pm.

▪ **Condolences:**

Our condolences to the relatives of Fr. Delroy Thomas on the passing of their mother Sonia L Smith. The Christian burial is scheduled for February 24th, 2026 @10:00am May her soul and those of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

Donations:

Holy Cross Catholic Church donations and payments are now being accepted using the available PayPal QR Code on the bulletin. Please cover the associated fees when using this method. Thank you.

New Phone Number:

The **Missionaries of Charity**, who serves the poor, has a new contact number. Their number is **340-208-9622**.



Please scan and Donate



Rodney Felix
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**THE HAIL MARY
PRAYER WITH THE
PETITION TO
BLIND SATAN.**

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord
is with Thee, blessed are Thou
among women, and blessed is
the fruit of Thy womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray
for us sinners, *spread the effect
of grace of Thy Flame of Love
over all of humanity*, now and at

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“Our mouths were filled
with laughter, our
tongues with songs of
joy.” Psalm 126:2

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