

# THE M O S H I SEMINARIAN

DECEMBER 2025

Ordination to the Priesthood January 8, 2026



Ordination to the Diaconate January 5, 2026



**Ordination to the Holy Priesthood for  
17 Transitional Deacons  
8 January 2026**

**Christ the King Cathedral in Moshi, Tanzania  
Please pray for them!**

<b>Deacon</b>	<b>Sponsor</b>
Deacon Albani Leonard Mtey	Matt & Jayme Orn
Deacon Alpheus Paul Bahati	Brian & Tonya Martin
Deacon Aretas James Amani	Henedine & Ben Aldana
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Deacon Michael Tumaini Tarimo	Jose & Debbie Ventosa
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No new sponsors this issue. 93 Deacons and seminarians are blessed to have sponsors (wow!). 58 seminarians are praying to have sponsors soon. If God has placed it on your heart to sponsor a seminarian (or maybe sponsor another seminarian), information on sponsorship can be found on the back cover. Thank you!



Above: The 2025/2026 Formation Group reported to St. Charles Lawanga Formation Centre on 30th Sept, 2025. These are the young men who are discerning whether they are ready for senior seminary. Let's pray for their spiritual year journey. Submitted by Fr. Andrew Asantemungu who was sponsored in the seminary by John and Teresa Peach.

## YES WE PRAY... BUT HOW?

A certain man was passing through the jungle and as he was walking abruptly he met face to face with the master of the jungle that is, the Lion. As he was running, he felt tired that he couldn't run anymore. The man remembered the Scripture (Matthew 7:7): "Ask and it will be given to you, seek and you shall find, knock and it shall be opened to you." So the man knelt down and prayed to God as follows: "God our Father, can you please make this lion to be a Christian? For I know nothing is impossible to you."

As the lion drew near to him it bowed down and say: "God thank you for providing this food, let me eat it in your name, Amen."

Dear people of God, as we are praying, we should be specific and reasonable on what we are asking from God, so that we may not be like that man who was killed by the lion for he failed to be specific on his prayers.

**Frater Emmanuel Amani**  
1st Year Theology  
Kipalapala Senior Seminary  
Sponsored by T.O. Bennett



## TO LOVE IS TO SERVE

You hear it all the time! You know...how important it is to take care of those around you. From your little brother or sister to the homeless you see in the street, it seems like society constantly reminds you how important it is to be concerned about others. You might ask, why is service to others so important, I know it helps them, but how does it help them, but how does it help me? How will serving others make a difference in my life?

The answer is quite simple. When you decide to notice, when you decide to act when you decide to make a difference even in the smallest way, you have taken the first step in the changing the world around you.

What is in it for you? Your actions will not only be appreciated, but chances are, they will touch the lives of both the people you meet and many people you may never even see. The greatest reward of serving others is how it makes you feel about yourself. That special feeling is God's way of telling you thank you! Thank you for caring! Thank you for making a difference in the world.

This burning desire to save souls will keep our priorities straight. "The world is on fire", St. Teresa of Avila said, and this is no time for "things of little importance". Keeping your eyes fixed on what is primary allows other priorities to fall into their proper place.

Finally, Jesus tells us time and time again how important service to others is as a part of leading a Christian life. A genuine commitment to others is ultimately a commitment to Christ. It will make a difference in the choices you make and even the vocation that you are called to. (Mat 25: 3-40).

**Frater Victor Raphael Tumaini**  
3rd Year Philosophy  
Peramiho Major Seminary  
**Praying to soon have a sponsor**

Frater Victor with a choir of children at Nahibili Parish



Excerpt from...

## The Incarnation: God's Gift of Hope and Transformation at Christmas

The Christmas season lies at the theological core of the Catholic faith, celebrating the **Incarnation** which is the pivotal mystery that defines Christianity. The Incarnation signifies that Jesus Christ, the eternal Word and Second Person of the Holy Trinity, became fully God and fully human (the *Hypostatic Union*). This truth is encapsulated in St. John's Gospel: "**And the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us**" (John 1:14). This moment was not merely an event in history, but a cosmic act of divine love. By taking on human flesh through the consent of the Blessed Virgin Mary whom the Church honors as the **Mother of God** (*Θεοτόκος* i.e., *Theotokos*), God completely entered into the human experience.

The Incarnation occurred primarily to save us and reconcile humanity with God. Separated from our Creator by sin, we needed a perfect bridge back to Him. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* clearly states the purpose: "**The Word became flesh for us in order to save us by reconciling us with God**" (CCC 457). This act is the ultimate demonstration of divine affection, so that, as Scripture affirms, "**God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life**" (John 3:16). Furthermore, by uniting humanity to Himself, Christ granted us the capacity to share in His divine life, fulfilling the goal "**to make us partakers of the divine nature**" (2 Peter 1:4). St. Athanasius taught that Christ became what we are so that He might make us what He is.

This theological truth carries immense practical weight. The humble birth in Bethlehem reminds us that God chose to enter the world in solidarity with the poor and marginalized. The poorness of Jesus's birth serves as a powerful theological statement, completely subverting the expectations of earthly royalty and power.

Ultimately, Jesus's vulnerable birth inverted the world's definition of power, establishing an eternal kingdom founded on humility, service, and justice for the oppressed.

The mystery we celebrate calls us to live out the commandment of love, making Christ's presence visible in the world. As the Church teaches, the Incarnation is the foundation for all Christian life: "**Christ, sent by the Father, is to be found in the service of the poor and the weak; it is by giving to them that we are giving to Christ himself**" (CCC 2443).

*Your generous support, therefore, is a profound echo of the Incarnation, making Christ's transformative love and hope tangible for those in need today. We pray that the grace of this great mystery fills your hearts with joy and the deep peace of participating in God's redemptive work this Christmas season.*

**Merry Christmas and Happy New Year 2026**

**Frater Andrea Shukuru**

3rd Year Theology Kipalapala

**Sponsor: Rosey Gombos**



# CHRISTMAS

By The Term Christmas We Mean:

1. Incarnation of God: It marks the mystery of the Incarnation, where God took human nature (John 1:14) and dwelt among us to bring light and redemption to humanity.
2. Fulfilment of Prophecy: It fulfils Old Testament prophecies about the coming of the Messiah (Isaiah 9:6).
3. God's Love Revealed: Christmas shows God's immense love, "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son" (John 3:16).
4. A Time of Joy and Peace: The angel announced "good news of great joy" (Luke 2:10), bringing peace to humanity.
5. Beginning of Salvation: Christmas begins the earthly mission of Christ, leading to His death and resurrection for our salvation.

So, Christmas is not just about Jesus' birthday, it is about God's entry into human history to save, heal, and unite us with Himself.

More over, we too, in this Christmas season are called to share Christ whom we have received, through works of mercy, evangelization, love, and the witness of our lives, just as Mary who did not keep Jesus for herself; she shared Him with others (for example, by visiting Elizabeth – Luke 1:39–45).

St. Paul says, "It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me" (Galatians 2:20)

Every Christian is like a "new Mary," called to carry Christ in the heart and bring Him to a world that longs for salvation.

**Merry Christmas and Happy New Year 2026**

Frater Kelvin Bariki  
2nd Year Theology  
Segereia Senior Seminary  
Sponsor: Edna Nowell





Above: The Seminarians of the Catholic Diocese of Moshi from St. Paul the Apostle - Kipalapala Seminary.

Below: This photo was taken on the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, who is the Patron and Intercessor of the Catholic Diocese of Moshi. 4<sup>th</sup> Year Theology



## Pray for Tanzania

The beautiful people of Tanzania need our prayers for a miraculous conversion of many in the country. Things have not gone well since the 29 October presidential election. There is much tension between the people and the government.

**Please join in praying to Our Lady of Guadalupe for conversion of those who are disrupting the peace of this beautiful country.**

**Our Lady of Guadalupe, please pray for peace in Tanzania**



At Ngaleku Children's Care 1 & 2: Frt. Amedeus Mamkamba together with some students from St. Paul Secondary School who had a chance to visit Ngaleku Children's Care, found in the Catholic Diocese of Moshi. This was a kind of charitable deed done by the Students.



Ngaleku Children Center was founded for the purpose of giving children who are orphaned, abandoned or neglected, an opportunity to make use of the facilities and be taken care of and loved so that they may survive the perils of having no parents or relatives to take care of them. The Centre's vision is to provide nutritional care, accommodation, health and education for the disadvantaged children regardless of their religions, ethnic origin or gender.

**Frater Amedeus Josaphat Mamkamba**  
4th year Theology  
Kipalapala Senior Seminary  
**Sponsored by Athens Catholic Friends**



Group visit to St. Paul Secondary School: Mama T. O. Bennett and other benefactors together with the staff members of St. Paul Secondary School during their visit to the school in September this year. St. Paul Secondary School is owned by the Catholic Diocese of Moshi.

## A Christmas novena for you



**KMHO gives thanks to Almighty God for His abundant blessings.**

This year, 2025, has been filled with graces and gifts from above.  
We praise you, Lord. We give you thanks for Your Great Glory.

**The benefactors of KMHO have made a tremendous difference  
in the lives of many of our brothers and sisters in a land that is  
distant, but it is close in our hearts.**

Your financial generosity is an inspiration. Your prayers affect so many  
in Tanzania and in USA.

**To thank you for your generosity,**

**93 holy priests of the Catholic Diocese of Moshi**

**will celebrate a novena of Holy Masses**

**20-28 December for your intentions.**

**Thank you holy priests!!**

***Let us join together in prayer.***

We wish you a Merry Christmas  
and a very Holy, Happy New Year.  
God bless us all.

Gerry and Justine Santoro brought this beautiful Tanzanian Nativity  
home with them from their visit to Moshi in 2024.

## ALL SAINTS AND ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

God's Mercy is greater than human sins. God's Mercy is hidden in the mystery of God's Grace. Always God provides us with the abundance of graces so that we may change from our negative ways into the way of perfection or holiness.

Departed are those who have died and gone to the spiritual realm. Those who followed God's commandments, enter in heaven where they live with God forever, rejoicing in the reward of their righteous lives. These are the ones we call Saints or the Triumphant Church. Those who are still living on earth are called the Pilgrim Church – like pilgrims journeying toward the Holy City of God, the Heavenly Jerusalem.

Praying for the dead is recommended among the acts of charity. As the result of human weakness, many of our brothers and sisters die without being in a perfect state of grace. Due to the stains of sin, they remain in purgatory, being purified so that they may enter in heaven clean. These souls in purgatory rely on God's mercy, the prayers and good deeds offered by those on earth and by the intercession by Saints in heaven.

God Himself emphasizes in the Holy Scriptures on praying for the dead. As we read from the book of Maccabees, Judas offered silver to pray for the dead, believing in God's forgiveness in the life after death (2Maccabees 12:45 - 46). Also, the Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches that it is right and worthy to pray for the dead (CCC 958).

In a special way, the Holy Mother Church sets a special time each year in the month of November to remind us that praying for the dead is an act of fraternal love. It is a reminder that the dead are our brothers and sisters, our fellow human beings – meaning that their souls do not disappear, but continue to live in a new realm.

Our departed remind us of this important message: *“Once we were like you, and one day, you will be like us.”* Beloved, ask yourself: Am I ready to be called by the Lord? If your answer is “Yes,” keep persevering in your spiritual journey. But if your answer is “No,” then make every effort to begin your spiritual transformation from now.

As pilgrims of hope, we are invited to continue praying for the departed souls, knowing that one day we shall join them in that endless joy together with saints in Heaven.

**Frater Victor Raphael Tumaini**  
3rd Year Philosophy  
Peramoho Major Seminary  
**Waiting to pray for his sponsor(s)**



From the cover...

## Ordination to the Transitional Diaconate

# 5 January 2026

Christ the King Cathedral in Moshi, Tanzania

Please pray for the seminarians who will be ordained!

The date for the ordination to the priesthood has not been communicated yet...stay tuned!

Seminarian	Sponsor
Frater Abel Bahati	Ray & Randi Guarendi
Frater Alfred Maguezi Kavishe	Don & Louise Nguyen
Frater Amedeus Mamkamba	Athens Catholic Friends
Frater Anatol Master	Mark Van Derveer
Frater Charles P. Shukuru	Linda DiRuzza
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Frater Ibrahim M. Beno Tumaini	Quinn Family
Frater Melkior R. Safari	Beth & Chris George
Frater Primi Shukuru	Beth Petro
Frater Richard Baraka	Regina Rwegasira

*Wishing you and your families a Christmas and New Year filled with peace and joy. May God Bless you abundantly for all that you are doing in support of God's Universal Catholic Church!*

*KMHO and the Seminary Sponsorship Mission*

**The donation to sponsor a seminarian is \$1000/year.**  
Sponsorships can be shared; choose a full or half sponsorship.

**To inquire about seminarian sponsorship, please contact:**

T.O. Bennett [kmho.tz@gmail.com](mailto:kmho.tz@gmail.com) 330-497-6149 (landline)

## Prayer For Seminarians

O Lord Jesus Christ, great High Priest, I pray that You call many worthy souls to Your holy priesthood. Enlighten the Bishop in the choice of candidates, the Spiritual Director in molding them, and the professors in instructing them. Lead the seminarians daily in Your unerring footsteps; so that they may become priests who are models of purity, possessors of wisdom, and heroes of sacrifice; steeped in humility and aflame with love for God and man; apostles of Your glory and sanctifiers of souls. Amen.

Mary Queen of Clergy, pray for us!

*Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary*

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For comments or questions on the magazine, please contact:

**Linda DiRuzza [Ldiruzza@att.net](mailto:Ldiruzza@att.net) 330-754-8205**

Please remember KMHO in your will.

**KMHO mailing address: PO Box 5125 Portland OR 97208**

**Asante sana!**

**Thank you for your continued support for the Moshi Diocese!**