

THE MOSHI SEMINARIAN

JUNE 2025



PLEASE PRAY
THAT THEY REACH
THEIR GOAL!

From the cover...

Transitional Diaconate Ordination
31 July 2025
Christ the King Cathedral in Moshi

The following seminarians will be eligible for ordination to the transitional diaconate. Please pray that they reach this important milestone on their journey.

Seminarian	Sponsor
Frater Albani Leonard Mtey	Matt & Jayme Orn
Frater Alpheus Paul Bahati	Brian & Tonya Martin
Frater Aretas James Amani	Henedine & Ben Aldana
Frater Damian Ndoine	Catholic Men's Guild - 2020
Frater Deogratias Zawadi	Linda Muntean / Brittany Daub
Frater Eric Pascal	Cindy & Eric Karell
Frater Fulgence Mosi Njau	Brady & Sarah Wilson
Frater Gasper Raymond Mosha	Val & Dave Rodenbucher
Frater Gervas Gabriel	TCC Junior/Senior High School
Frater Godfrey Mkwe	Nadia Mitchell
Frater Godfrey Stephen Lyimo	Deacon Chris Germak
Frater Ignas Mringi	Jim & Joan Peck
Frater Ignatius Nicholas Shayo	Joyce Stoneberg
Frater Innocent Ruaika	KofC Bolivar
Frater Japhet Baraka	Caroline Katigbak
Frater Joseph Shirima	TCC Elementary School
Frater Livin Matumaini	Nadia Mitchell
Frater Michael Tumaini Tarimo	Jose & Debbie Ventosa
Frater Michael Gerald Safari	Steve & Linda Marchand
Frater Nicholas Majaliwa Mosha	Victoria Carpio

A special thank you to our newest sponsors!!

Sponsors	Major Seminarian	Seminarian Parish
Dr. Jack and Judy Burnham	Frater Josaphat August Kessy	Uparo St. Francis of Assisi
Paul and Joan Rovnak	Priscus Liston Lello (Karanga Formation Centre)	Nkombole St. Francis Xavier

From the cover...We need to pray fervently for our seminarians. The evil one does not want them to reach their goal of serving as priests at the Lord's altar. Pray! Pray! Pray!

In a transcript of Pope Francis's off-the-cuff speech to seminarians studying in Rome, which he gave March 16, 2018:

"Be prepared, for when the demons of life arrive," Francis told the more than 2,000 students of the Roman ecclesial colleges gathered in the Paul VI hall at the Vatican, "and for when many other challenges will arrive, all born from original sin and the temptation of the devil."

"The devil exists!" Francis said. "And the devil – as Peter says – patrols, like 'leo rugens' [a roaring lion]."

<https://cruxnow.com/vatican/2018/06/pope-to-seminarians-beware-of-the-devils-temptations-keep-a-sense-of-humour>



Left: **Frater Gastor Riziki**, 2nd year Theology at Segerea Senior Seminary, makes some new friends on his Zanzibar retreat. They will not accompany him on his journey to the priesthood but maybe you can!!



Left: **Frater Francis Tumaini** is in the **Basilica of Saint Peter** where he normally goes for pastoral work and services

Below: **Frater Galgano Shukuru** is in the **Metropolitan Cathedral of Saint Mary of the Assumption** where he does pastoral work. It is also in the area of knowing and learning about the great churches that existed here in Rome.



Frater Galgano Shukuru and Frater Francis Tumaini are both in their 1st Year of Theology studies at Santa Croce Pontifical Ecclesiastical University in Rome. They had to learn the Italian language to study there and to serve in the local parishes. And they are still smiling!!! It will be a few more years until they get to go home to see their families. **Frater Shukuru is sponsored by Dr. Liwanag Calibag.** **Frater Tumaini is sponsored by the Third Order Franciscans.**

SACRIFICE IS A SOURCE OF JOY

Done with generosity and love, mortifications will help us to become Saints. There can be no holiness without sacrifices, and suffering increases our capacity to love. Generous sacrifice can be a surprising source of joy in our lives. With it we will be at peace, we won't be afraid of dying if we have already died, in many small ways, throughout our daily lives.

Sacrifice is centered on the life and teachings of Jesus Christ, who sacrificed himself for humanity's salvation. His ultimate sacrifice is viewed as an act of love that brings spiritual joy, peace, and redemption to those who believe. We also find joy in the act of self-sacrifice as it reflects love and devotion to God and others.

Suffering is a way of sharing in the Cross of Christ, to apply the cross in our lives. Suffering we endure is among the Lord's choicest gifts, as St. Francis de Sales says: *"The everlasting God has in his wisdom foreseen from eternity the cross that he now presents to you as a gift from his inmost heart."* Brethren, we who are pilgrims of hope are invited to turn our suffering into a sacrifice that is pleasing to God and also beneficial to us and others.

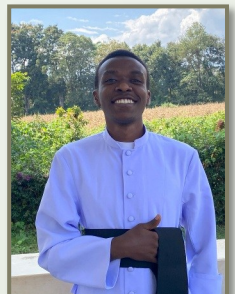
After the sacrifices that God sends us, the next best ones are those that help us fulfill our duties in life. As St. Mother Teresa points out: *"It is not how much we give but how much love we put into giving."* This is to remind us that the act of sacrifice, done with love and care, brings peace and joy not just to others but to ourselves as well.

As we are Seminarians our primary task now is academics; doing it with love and generosity is an excellent way of embracing the cross of Jesus. We should always remember that, before we can become good priests, we must first become good followers of Jesus Christ, which means to become *"Friends of the Cross."* Brothers, despite our daily difficulties in our academic arena, we should keep in mind that suffering is indispensable for our journey to Priesthood. So, let us be more courageous keeping on in struggling towards better achievement in our studies, so that our joy is witnessed in our mission and in our lives.

Moreover, as we are in the Jubilee Year, we should remember that being generous with our sacrifices will help us to be genuine followers of Jesus. St. Simon of Cyrene was closer to Jesus when he was helping him to carry the cross. It was his moment of conversion and brought him on the way to sanctity. Simon reminds us that every act of service is meaningful. Through this self-offering, we find joy in serving God's will and this makes a way for us towards heavenly glory.

Frater Victor Raphael Tumaini
2nd Year Philosophy
Peramihio Major Seminary

Frater Victor is anxiously waiting for pray for his Sponsor(s)! Will that be you?



FAITH AND WISDOM

Episode 4: The Power of Saying the Truth

**"Honesty is the first chapter in the book of wisdom."
— Thomas Jefferson —**

Telling the truth has great power. Thomas Jefferson said that honesty is the first step to becoming wise. When we tell the truth, we build trust, show respect, and help others feel safe with us. In a world where lies are often used to avoid trouble or pain, truth becomes a light in the darkness. Truth in general is conformity between thought and thing. In Ethics there is Logical truth, Ontological truth, verbal truth and Moral truth. Being honest means our words match our heart. It means we don't pretend. Even when it's hard, telling the truth shows we are brave and strong inside. People who speak the truth become good leaders, good friends, and good family members.

Jesus said, "Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free" (John 8:32). Telling the truth gives peace. Lies bring fear, shame, and confusion. But truth brings healing and freedom. It may hurt for a moment, but it helps in the end. Truth helps us grow. The Catechism of the Catholic Church says that being truthful shows respect for others and for God (CCC 2468). Telling the truth every day builds a strong character. We can sleep with peace knowing we've been honest. We don't need to hide or pretend.

As seminarians, we must learn to be honest in our daily lives. Let us not say we are going to Rombo when we are really going to Moshi, or claim we are drinking soda when we are secretly using alcohol. If we don't know how to do something like playing music or leading prayer, we should simply say so and be ready to learn. There is no shame in not knowing, but there is harm in pretending. Likewise, we should not say we have prayed or read the Bible when we haven't. These small lies may seem simple, but they form habits that are dangerous for our vocation. As future priests, our words and our lives must match. What we preach must be what we live.

Dear friends, let us choose to be honest in every part of our lives. In our homes, at school, at work, and even in small things - truth matters. There is a Swahili saying, "**Ukweli hauozi**," which means, "**Truth does not rot**." This shows us that truth lasts forever. Another Swahili saying goes, "**Wongo haudumu**," meaning, "Lies does not last." Lies may work for a short time, but truth always wins. During this Easter season, let us be people who speak the truth even though some truths are damaging to ourselves and to others. Let us ask God for the strength to be honest, even when it's hard. May our hearts love truth and our lips speak it kindly. "Keep your tongue from evil and your lips from telling lies." (Psalm 34:13)

May the Risen Lord fill our hearts with peace, renew our strength, and guide us always in truth and love. Christ is truly risen..... Alleluia!

"The Lord detests lying lips, but He delights in people who are trustworthy." (Proverbs 12:22)

FAITH AND WISDOM

Episode 5: The Strength of Patience

"Patience is not simply the ability to wait, it's how we behave while we're waiting."

— Joyce Meyer —

Patience is a gift that helps us stay calm when things do not go our way. It teaches us to wait with hope and peace, knowing that God's time is the best.

According to Joyce Meyer, patience is shown not just by waiting for something, but by having the right attitude while we wait. If we complain, become angry, or lose hope while waiting, then we are not really patient. But if we stay calm, trust in God, and keep doing good, then we show strong and mature patience. In our formation or daily struggles, how we act during hard times says a lot about our faith.

We often face delays, difficult people, or slow progress. But with patience, we learn to trust God and grow stronger in our faith. "But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently" (Romans 8:25).

Patience also helps us in our relationships. When we deal with a tough formator or a challenging frater, patience allows us to see them with love and understanding. When studies become hard or when things take longer than we expect, patience helps us stay focused and not give up. As Swahili wisdom says, "*Subira huvuta heri*" (Patience draws blessings). Just like a tree takes time to grow and bear fruit, our formation needs time and care.

God rewards those who are patient. Job remained faithful even when he suffered much. In the end, God restored his life and gave him double what he lost (Job 42:10). This teaches us that patience has a reward. "***Mvumilivu hula mbivu,***" (the patient one eats ripe fruit). This means blessings come to those who wait with trust. Patience is not weakness; it is the strength to keep believing even when nothing seems to change.

Let us ask the Risen Lord to fill us with patient hearts. May we walk each day in peace, knowing that God is at work in silence. Happy Easter season to you all. May the joy and hope of the Resurrection give us strength in our formation and beyond.

"Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him" (Psalm 37:7).

Frater Josaphat August Kessy

2nd Year Philosophy

Kibosho Senior Seminarian

Sponsors: Dr. Jack and Judy Burnham



STAY WITH US LORD

“Stay with Us, Lord” is a plea for Christ’s abiding presence in the Church and in our lives, inspired by the Emmaus story (Luke 24:13–35). It reflects a deep desire to encounter and remain with Jesus through His Word, Sacraments, ministers, the Eucharist, and the community of believers (our fellow human beings).



In The Eucharist

The Eucharist is “the source and summit of the Christian life” (Lumen Gentium, 11 & CCC. 1324). In the breaking of the bread, the disciples recognized the risen Lord because their eyes were opened (Luke 24:30-31). The Eucharist presents the sacrifice of Christ and unites us closely to him. Pope Benedict XVI emphasizes that in the Eucharist, “Jesus Christ is truly present, whole and complete, in the reality of his body and blood” (Sacramentum Caritatis, 66). Now the real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist should remind us of the duty that we must fulfill as good Christians, that is before receiving Christ himself in the Holy Eucharist, we must prepare ourselves, body and soul, remembering that it is the bread that comes down from heaven (the bread of angels), which sustains us on our journey here on earth. Let us always receive the Holy Eucharist with great reverence and humility. Thus, being moved by the power of the Eucharist, we are invited to join the disciples of John the Baptist in asking Jesus, “Rabbi, (that is, Teacher), where are you staying?” Jesus will answer, “Come, and you will see.” (John 1:38-39)

Frater Kelvin Bariki
1st Year Theology
Segerea Senior Seminary
Sponsored by Edna Nowell



Right: Poem written by
Frater Sosthenes Laurent Gift
 1st Year Theology
 Kapalapala Major Seminary
 Praying for the gift of having a
 sponsor



HE HAS TRIUMPHANTLY RISEN, ALLELUIA!

Christ the Lord is risen,
 The chains of death are broken.
 Hark! The angels sing,
 Their voices heavenward soaring.

The temple they destroyed,
 In three days He restored.
 Our sins He washed away,
 By His cross's sway.

Weary not in singing,
 Our salvation proclaiming,
 In faith believe and see,
 We are redeemed and free.

Darkness now is banished,
 By the Risen Light.
 The battle now is ended,
 He has won the fight.

"He has Truly Risen, Alleluia, Alleluia!"

@SoLaGi25; Sun, Apr 20.



Left: In the photo is the
Palm Sunday procession at
 the **Parish of Ovada**. **Frater**
David Mubaraka is in the
 procession carrying the cross. **Frater David**
Mubaraka, 2nd Year
 Theology - Santa Croce
 Pontifical Ecclesiastical
 University Rome is
Sponsored by Dave
Reinhard and
Susie Finegan

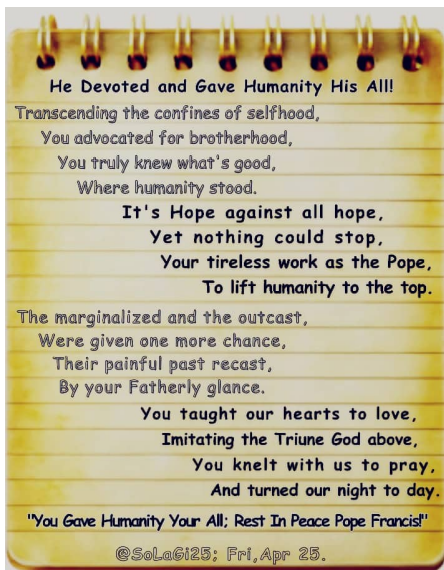


IMPORTANT

Seminarians hoping for a sponsor can be found here:

<https://www.kmho.org/sponsorships/seminarian/>

Or Contact T.O. Bennett at 330-497-6149 (landline)



Left: - Praised be our Lord Jesus Christ, Attached is a short poem paying tribute to the late Pope Francis

Poem written by
Frater Sosthenes Laurent Gift
 1st Year Theology
 Kapalapala Major Seminary
 Praying to have a sponsor soon



Frater Augustini Soka provides a little glimpse of the Palm Sunday celebration at HOLY FAMILY NATIONAL MAJOR SEMINARY- MWENDAKULIMA located in the Catholic Diocese of Kahama.

It was a beautiful and spirit-lifting day, marked with solemn reflections, joyful songs, and a vibrant procession as we commemorated Christ's triumphant entry into Jerusalem. The palm branches, the prayers, and the fellowship all came together to remind us of the depth of God's love and the journey we are called to walk. We truly felt God's presence among us.

Hope these pictures carry a bit of the joy and peace we experienced.



Submitted by **Frater Augustini Soka**
 2nd Year Theology
 Mwendakulima Senior Seminary

Sponsored by Laszlo Krompecher



The Fruitfulness of Time for Personal Spiritual retreat, Prayers and Pilgrimage to a Seminarian.

I would like to share my experience on my recent personal spiritual retreat, prayers and study journey. It took place on my short midterm break out of the Seminary. I decided to take this journey at St. Joseph's Cathedral in Zanzibar and I got the chance to go to other places.

This journey was a deeply enriching experience for me both spiritually and intellectually. I got the Chance to pray for my vocation, my Diocese, My Bishop, Priests, sponsors and Seminarians as whole.

Why 'a personal Retreat' for a seminarian? The retreat provides a space for personal prayer, spiritual renewal, and reflection. It gives a time to recollect oneself and get new strength on the journey to priesthood. For me, it served as a spiritual nourishment and pilgrimage to the historical roots of missionary work in Tanzania, especially in Zanzibar.

Spiritual Enrichment:

During the retreat, one can spend time in personal prayers, attend Mass daily, and participate in guided meditations. The peaceful environments, coupled with moments of silence and reflection can allow one to deepen the relationship with God and renew one's vocation as a seminarian. I benefited from this! Visiting sacred places where the missionaries ministered gave me a profound sense of connection with the Church's missionary spirit.



This retreat and pilgrimage have strengthened my spiritual life, enriched my understanding of the Church's missionary history, and inspired me to continue my formation with greater zeal and commitment.

I thank God for this opportunity and pray that more seminarians may experience similar formative journeys.

Frater Gastor Riziki

2nd Year Theology

Segerea Senior Seminary

Patently waiting for a sponsor to choose him!

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 330-497-6149 (landline)

A 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 the Clergy, pray for us.

– *Diocese of Corpus Christi*

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For comments or questions on the magazine, please contact:

Linda DiRuzza Ldiruzza@att.net 330-754-8205

Please remember KMHO in your will.

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Asante sana!

Thank you for your continued support for the Moshi Diocese!