

# THE MOSHI SEMINARIAN

JUNE 2023



**Pastoral Year -  
Candidates for  
Transitional Diaconate ordination  
July 27, 2023**

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From the cover...



Please pray for these seminarians as they prepare for ordination to the Transitional Diaconate on **27 July 2023**. God willing, they will be ordained to the priesthood in 2024.

**Thank you to the sponsors, most of whom have prayed for these seminarians through all the years of seminary study. That's many years of prayer and sacrifice.**

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## MY VOCATION STORY

As far as I can remember, there are two notable stories about my priestly vocation. My memory evokes environmental circumstances which made my discernment to priestly vocation. These are as follows:

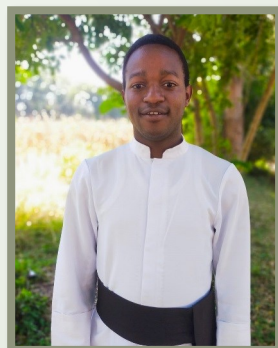
First, By the fact of being just nearby to my home parish it was obvious that many times I had an encounter with both priests and sisters, many times they were coming at our home for some reasons, in my young age I could see how my parents received them fervently, served them then finally they said a prayer for us, blessed us and got away. I could hear them pray Mass, singing, wearing cassocks, driving parish car which was only one in the entire parish covering about eight villages. So all these circumstance moved me to aspire becoming a priest.

Another clear event I can remember is when I was in standard two by the year 2004, I was passing just beside the Sacristy door, and soon the nun who used to work in parish Sacristy opened the Sacristy door and immediately saw me, and she called me, in fact I was so little shabby with uncombed hair, bare footed, wearing torn worn out trouser and I thought she was going to punish me because of being so rough. Instead she gave me a bucket and asked me to get water for her. I took the bucket and went my way to fetch water in the furrow flowing outside parish fence.

When I came back, I knocked the door and a nun opened and became so astonished seeing the bucket full of water, why? Because, she could not expect that as little as I was, I could be able to bring to her a bucket full of water; in her joy she uttered to me in Swahili, "Utakuwa Padre mzuri." That means you shall be a good priest. Since then, those words grew with me wherever I go, whatever I do, whenever I think. Such words have never departed from my mind and it is in this spirit, I wish she could be alive so that in that particular hour of my ordination I could tell her a tale of how strong her words have been to me for all these years.

Six years later, I went to minor seminary from 2010 to 2016, then to major seminary in 2017. Now, I am in third year of Theology at St. Charles Lwanga Senior Seminary in Dar es Salaam.

Submitted by **Fr. Aretas James Amani**  
Finishing up Third Year Theology at Segerea  
Senior Seminary  
**Sponsored by Henedine and Ben Aldana**



## SHORT STORY ABOUT THE BEGINNING OF MY VOCATION TO PRIESTHOOD

My name is Frater Agapiti Mahoo, from Catholic Diocese of Moshi in Tanzania. Born in a Catholic family. My parents are Mr. and Mrs. Justine and Febronia.

As to my desire to become a priest, two things influenced or motivated me very much from my childhood. That I can say, it was out of these that contributed to the beginning of my feelings and ambitions toward becoming a priest.

First my vocation to priesthood started with my ambition to be an altar boy, just to assist a priest during the Mass. This made me to love the ministry of serving at the altar and to be near to priests. So, from this I started feeling inside me the vocation to be a priest when I was still at primary school. At that time although for me it was difficult to tell or to rationalize to know; why and where such feelings and all ambitions of becoming a priest came from.

Thanks to God that through the assistance from the priests I met encouragement from my parents and my relatives; I came to realize that God was the one calling me and is still calling me till today. So, this is my second thing I can say influenced me or assisted me toward realization of my vocation. Thus, in a nutshell this is the short history of my vocational story.

***Fr. Aristides Ngawiliau is the one who took me to St. James Seminary first time to sit for the examination test.***

**Submitted by Frt. Agapiti Mahoo**  
Finishing up - 4th Year Theology at Kipalapala  
Senior Seminary  
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Fr. Aristides Ngawiliau



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to all our sponsors!!**

**No New sponsors this quarter**

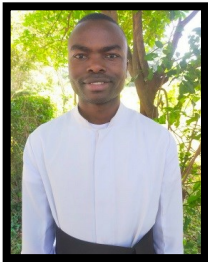


## WE ARE ALSO FORMED TO OVERCOME LAZINESS

Participating in various activities as a part of priestly formation helps to eradicate Laziness in priestly life. In our seminary "Kipalapala" the issue of doing activities especially Agricultural ones, is a normal thing. This helps the seminary to have enough food in all seasons of the year. Working gives four benefits:

- ❖ Helps easy access of basic needs.
- ❖ Helps keeping the body in a good health.
- ❖ Helps limiting the chances of sin because, there will be no time to allow the devil to tempt the life of a person.
- ❖ The one who works effectively is loved by people.

Laziness leads a person to get into many troubles. According to Holy Writ, the book of **Ecclesiasticus (22:1-2)** speaks very well, warning people from the issue of Laziness, he writes with a very special emphasis so that people should stop Laziness and work hard in order to live well. If a person is lazy people will run away from him or her because he or she eats theirs and exploits them, but also diseases such as heartache, swelling of legs etc. will attack him/her. Sin will also follow. He who works gets tired and sleeps, he narrows down the opportunities for sin. Other parts of the Holy Writ which insist on the avoidance of Laziness are; **Proverbs 6:6-11, 20:13, 24:30-34, Ecclesiastes 4:5, and 2Th. 3:10b-13**. Thus, in accordance with priestly formation, we seminarians are formed to participate in manual works in seminary so as to be able to prepare well ourselves to carry the future ministry of priesthood.



Submitted by **Frt. Deodati Didas Silayo**  
Completing 1st Year Theology at Kipalapala  
Senior Seminary  
**Praying to soon have a sponsor**

Right: Frt. Aretas James Amani sent a picture from his pastoral assignment at Umbwe parish with candidates for first communion and confirmation.



Excerpt from

## Visit at Segerea Senior Seminary – St Karol Lwanga Seminary

By: **Stephen Kirama**

The family of Stephen and Cecilia were honored to visit, our son, Frt Arnold Bahati at Segerea Seminary on 30<sup>th</sup> April, 2023. We have been planning to pay him a visit throughout the four years he has been at Seminary, but could not make it before, and then, finally God allowed and enabled our long planned visit.



*From Left: Cecilia, Lynnetta, Frt Arnold, Lemuel and Stephen*

Myself, Cecilia and our kids Lynnetta and Lemuel were expecting to meet only Frt Arnold, but to our surprise we were very much honored to have a grand reception of almost all the Seminarians from Moshi Diocese (DoM), including the leaders of DoM Seminarians at Segerea Seminary. We were short of words, meeting the joyous, smiling and very confident Seminarians who were active throughout our engagement.

We had quite an informative round table discussion in which each one of us made an introduction, the parish they are coming from and even the parish priest! It was a good moment of hearing from one another at such a meeting and each had its own way of entertaining.

It was a moment for me to remember some of the activities in the seminary, the scheduled prayer time, the manual labor, days for the outdoor plays and even the short nap after lunch, which still has the name siesta.



During our brief round table discussion with the Seminarians, myself and Cecilia managed to give them our advice on a number of issues. The life they are inspiring ahead is a life of sacrifice; the sacrifice is huge, but the One who has called them will always give them strength to move across successful to their hearts desire. Even during the loneliness now and then, we should always remember, *God is still there...* We the laity always come for prayer or service during the day at the church and leave them alone in the evening... In that loneliness God is there... Even in the event God is deciding otherwise on the Call, it is important to know God's will is final. Whatever it takes, it is good to keep every good behavior, knowledge and the unique way of life learnt in the seminary as a powerful instrument for the life ahead.





An excerpt from:

## THE MYSTERY OF PRIESTHOOD

Vocation is a gift from God. He is the one who planted that seed in our heart, and we are the ones to nurture it until the maturation. All kinds of vocation including the holy vocation of priesthood, marriage, single life, or consecrated life is from God. In a nut shell we shall see the mystery of priesthood in particular:

In my way towards priesthood, from the time I realized myself to this special call from God, I experience the power of God when I pass through many challenges and hardships of life in giving up from this vocation. I never pass in very smooth way but also in a rough way. I always reflect whether I am really called or not, but what encourages me always is the life of Christ which was not so smooth and easy.

It is likely to say, even if we face difficulties and challenges of priestly formation, we should not fear because God is still with us in our journey towards priesthood. Since the harvests are plentiful and the workers are few, Luke 10:2, God sends his people to change our wrong directions so that at the end we may become workers, that is priests, who are going to work in the farm (the Church) which is full of harvests (the faithful). We should listen to whomever corrects us or advises us because it is through them we can get a good direction willed by God.

**The grace of God is enough, let us collaborate with it**

**Submitted by Frt. Melkior Safari**

Finishing up 2nd Year Theology at Kipalapala Senior Seminary

Sponsored by: **Beth and Chris George**



Left: Segerea Fourth Year Theology took a photo after Palm Sunday Mass. Photo sent by Frt. Arnold Furaha. **Sponsored by Joan and James Peck, and their granddaughters Maria and Olivia.**



## PLEASE, DO THIS FOR THE CRUCIFIED JESUS

Dearest friends, it is true that even if brothers die for brothers, still no martyr's blood is shed for the forgiveness of the brothers' sins - this is exactly what Christ did for us. The RANSOM He paid for our salvation is very costly; neither in silver nor in gold but His PRECIOUS BLOOD.

The truth is that we cannot really pay Him back. Our difficulties in life and struggles with sin cannot equal what He suffered, because, among other things, we have not suffered/struggled to the point of shedding our own blood (Cf. Heb 12:4). So, how best can we thank our beloved JESUS?

We can only be GRATEFUL to Him by always making conscious efforts to AVOID sins and NOT to be comfortable in sins. When we fall into sin due to human weakness, we should REPENT and then rush to the Sacrament of CONFESSION. Remember what our Catechism teaches us thus: "... Our Saviour died for our sins and those who SIN grievously CRUCIFY again to themselves the Son of God, making him a MOCK-ERY" (Cf. CCD, n. 291, Heb 6:6). Again, He Himself said: "If you LOVE me, obey my COMMANDMENTS" (Cf. Jn 14:15).

Submitted by **Fr. Fidelis Lemnge**

Completing 2nd Year Theology at Kipalapala Senior Seminary

**Sponsored by Deb Morrison**



THE COMMUNITY OF KIBOSHO SEMINARY HAD A JOYFUL CELEBRATION OF OUR FORMATOR AND PROFESSOR DR. FR. ROGATUS MAVUMILIO WHO WAS CELEBRATING HIS SILVER JUBILEE (25 YEARS OF PRIESTHOOD). THIS JUBILEE WAS ACCOMPANIED BY A FOOTBALL MATCH COMPETITION BETWEEN OUR FORMATORS AND SEMINARIANS WHEREBY THE STAFF TEAM BECAME THE WINNERS AND DR. FR. BECAME MAN OF THE MATCH.

Submitted by **Fr. Priscus Shukuru**  
3rd Year Philosophy at Kibosho Senior Seminary

Hoping to soon have a sponsor to pray for



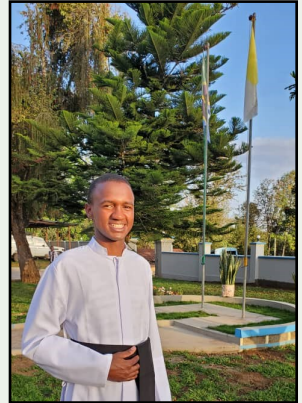
## HELP OTHERS

My beloved in Christ, we are called to be happy following the example of the Risen Lord. This happiness we are called to, is found through helping others especially those in need, so that Christ the Risen may be their hope and consoler.

Helping others sometimes can be as simple as getting your course mate a cuppa when you visit the campus cafe. A little kindness can go a long way to achieving that happiness we all crave. Think about this for a second. If you're having a bad day and a friend complimented a piece of work you did or brought you a drink when you felt too busy to make one yourself – you'd feel so grateful your day may even brighten just that little bit.

Spreading a positive attitude is equally as rewarding as receiving it. You never know what goes on in the lives of those around you and your kindness could be exactly the thing that person needed to restore their faith in humanity. Whenever you get the chance, we advise helping others to achieve their goals and desires. We're not promising you'll live longer or anything. However, a good deed promotes similar behavior and those same people you helped could potentially be your rock the next time you're having a bad day and need some support. (Matthew 25: 34 -40) "... Amen I say to you, whenever you did this for one of these, the least of my brothers, you did it for me."

Submitted by **Fr. Bruno Majaliwa**  
Completing 2nd Year Philosophy at Kibosho Senior Seminary  
**Sponsored by Jim and Mary Elco**



Left: Chrism Mass on 4th April 2023 with Bishops, Priests, Deacons, Seminarians and the Laity at Bukoba Cathedral

Submitted by **Fr. Michael Tarimo**  
3rd Year Theology at Kipalapala Senior Seminary  
**Sponsored by Jose and Debbie Ventosa**



# THE THIRD DAY

Dearest friends, the world is filled with the JOY of the Risen Christ which took place on the THIRD DAY. This 'Third Day' took many centuries to arrive but when it arrived, it transcended all the years before it and became the DAY of days. This 'Third Day' became, not only a sign of RESURRECTION and VICTORY, but also that of PRAYER, ENDURANCE and FAITH.

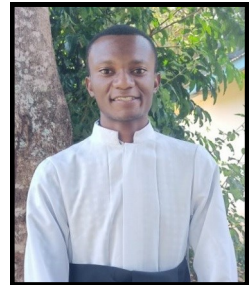
The truth is that, as Christians, we are meant to always experience this THIRD DAY in our daily lives here on earth and eventually get to that 'Ultimate Third Day' which would bring us to heaven to meet our Lord and Master, Jesus Christ. Thus, the Catechism affirms: "The "resurrection of the flesh" means not only that the immortal soul will live on after death, but that even our "mortal body" will come to life again" (cf. CCC n. 990). Thus, the Bible gives us assurance of the above thus: "If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit who dwells in you" (cf. Rom 8:11, CCC n. 989). Thus, the Victories of Jesus Christ would always be our own if we follow in his footsteps.

However, the problem is that many of us Christians find it very difficult to always wait for the 'THIRD DAY' in our life challenges. Quite often, we lack those dispositions of PRAYER, ENDURANCE and FAITH that bring about the 'Third Day.'

As we all rejoice on this 'THIRD DAY' that announces the Victory of the RISEN CHRIST over death and shame, may God, through the powerful intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, endow us with the GRACE to always meet our own 'Third Days' in our life endeavors and at the end, enter into heaven which will be for us, the 'ULTIMATE THIRD DAY'. Amen.

Remain blessed!

Submitted by **Fr. Fidelis Lemnge**  
Finishing up 2nd Year Theology at Kipalapala Senior Seminary  
**Sponsored by Deb Morrison**



**Left:**  
**Chrism Mass - 2023**  
**Christ the King**  
**Cathedral - Moshi**



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**Asante sana!**

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