

THE MOSHI SEMINARIAN

SEPTEMBER 2025



WE HAVE NEW DEACONS - 17 OF THEM!!

They were ordained
31 July 2025
at Christ the King Cathedral

Please continue to pray that they reach their
goal of becoming holy, humble, healthy, happy,
and hard-working priests!!

From the cover...

Congratulations to the New Transitional Deacons and their sponsors!!

The Moshi Diocese has been blessed to ordain 17 new transitional deacons.
Please continue to pray that they finish their journey
to serve as holy priests at the altar.

The date for the priest ordination has not been communicated yet.
Stay tuned....

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

A special thank you to our newest sponsors!!

Sponsors	Major Seminarian	Seminarian Parish
Mike & Romaine Lee	Frater Julius Tumaini	Uru Sacred Heart of Jesus
Angela Beeves	Frater August Asantemungu Kessy	Uparo St. Francis of Assisi
Steve & Michele Valentine	Frt. Novath Valentine Akili	Kikelelwa Immaculate Heart of Mary
Deacon Mike & Dianne Capitena	Frt. Aidan Daudi Shukuru	Uomboni Queen of the Holy Rosary

Pastoral Assignment at Sambarai Parish - St. Gemma Galgani



Frater Blass Michael Imani is pictured with the members of the children's choir of St Gemma Galgani at Sambarai Parish. These kids are always happy and they love singing.

Submitted by Frt. Blass Michael Imani
3rd Year Theology
Kipalapala Senior Seminary
Sponsored by Mike and Romaine Lee



Pastoral Assignment at Mashati Parish - St. Joseph the Worker

One of the things that I have loved in my pastoral service at St. Joseph the Worker Parish-Mashati is a good tradition of celebrating the Holy Mass in all schools which are located in the areas where people are getting their spiritual services under St. Joseph the Worker Parish. This happens every year when students are approaching their national exams, which enable them to move from one level to another academically: from primary education to secondary education and from secondary education to university. The main intention of the Holy Mass being to pray for them the enlightenment of the Holy Spirit so that they may remember what they have learned in class and answer their exams well. This includes the priest blessing exam instruments such as pens, pencils, rulers and class rooms.



(left) In the left with black cassock is Fr. Alfred Minja, the Parish Priest at St. Joseph the Worker Parish-Mashati. The kids in the back are some of standard seven students at Rima Primary School carrying in their hands the instruments of doing their standard seven exams.

(right) Picture with kids preparing for the sacraments of First Communion and Confirmation when I was teaching them at Mashati Parish where I am doing my pastoral service.



Frater Novath Valentine Akili
1st Year Theology
Mwendakulima Senior Seminary
Sponsors: **Steve and Michele Valentine**



FAITH AND WISDOM – EPISODE 7

The Power of Breaking Bad Habits Before They Break Us

“Chains of habit are too light to be felt until they are too heavy to be broken.” Warren Buffett

We all live with habits - some that build us up and others that tear us down. Habits are repeated actions that shape our lives, our characters, and ultimately our destiny. While good habits strengthen our faith, discipline, and future, bad habits slowly eat away at us from within. If we do not confront them early, they will eventually control us and swallow us whole. Nearly 90% of what we do daily is guided by habits rather than deliberate choices. Habits are like seeds: once planted, they grow into trees that either nourish us or poison us. A good habit like daily prayer, kindness, or discipline can make us saints. A bad habit like lying, gossip, laziness, or addiction can destroy even the most gifted among us.

St. Paul warns us in Scripture: *“Do not be deceived: ‘Bad company corrupts good character.’” (1 Corinthians 15:33)* If wrong friends can shape our behavior, how much more dangerous are bad habits that live within us every single day? Bad habits are like invisible chains. At first, they seem small and harmless but, with time, they tighten around us until we can hardly breathe.

How Bad Habits Swallow Us

They weaken our willpower: The more we repeat a bad habit, the weaker our resistance becomes.

They damage our relationships: Habits like anger, gossip, or selfishness push people away.

They blind us spiritually: Sinful habits separate us from God, making prayer and holiness difficult.

They destroy our future: Addictions, laziness, and reckless choices can ruin careers, marriages, and even vocations.

How Can We Overcome Bad Habits:

Acknowledge them: We cannot fight what we deny. Let us be honest with ourselves before God.

Replace them with good habits: *“Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.”*

Seek accountability: Sharing our struggle with a spiritual director or friend helps us to stay on track.

Rely on God's grace: Human strength is never enough. Through prayer, the sacraments, and daily meditation, God gives us the power to change.

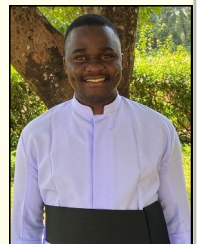
Brethren, bad habits never stay small. Left unchecked, they grow and eventually swallow us. But we are not hopeless. With discipline, faith, and God's grace, we can be free. Let us begin today, breaking the chains, refusing to wait until tomorrow, and replacing bad habits with holy, life-giving ones. We are not victims of our habits, we are masters of them, by God's grace. Every time we choose prayer over distraction, discipline over laziness, or truth over lies, we plant the seeds of greatness. The power of breaking bad habits is the power of choosing freedom in Christ.

“For God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.”(2 Timothy 1:7)

Frater Josaphat August Kessy

3rd Year Philosophy at Kibosho Senior Seminarian

Sponsors: **Jack and Judy Burnham**



Pastoral Assignment at Rundugai Parish - ST. JUDE THADE

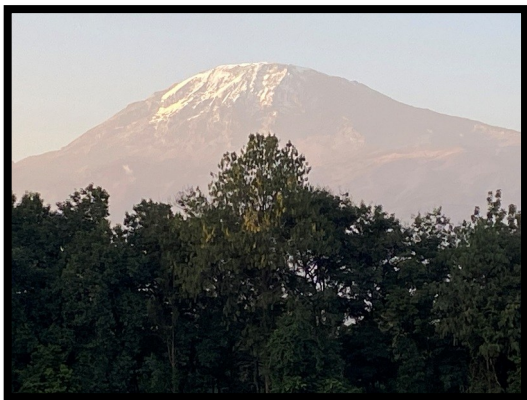
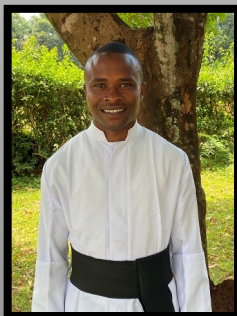
During my recent short pastoral assignment at Rundugai Parish, I had the opportunity to visit Chekereni Primary School. What struck me was the large number of students, particularly in Standard Seven. However, amidst this sizable student population, I was surprised to find that only four were Catholics.

This experience highlights the vast missionary potential in the Tambarare region. With such a small percentage of Catholics among the students, it's clear that more needs to be done to spread the message of faith and build a stronger Catholic community.

To effectively respond to this call, I firmly believe that more priests are needed in this area. Additional pastoral support would enable the Church to foster more mission and outreach, providing spiritual guidance and nurturing the faith of both existing and potential Catholic communities. By answering this call, we can work towards building a more vibrant and inclusive faith community in the Tambarare region.



Frater Ludovick Paul Shirima
2nd Year Theology
Segerea Senior Seminary
Praying to have a sponsor



We were blessed to see Mt. Kilimanjaro several times this trip...so beautiful.



Above: The standard seven pupils from Virgin Mary of Mount Carmel Parish in Moshi Diocese gathered for a photo after celebrating Holy Mass praying for invocation of Holy Spirit in preparations for their exams to accomplish primary education in this month. The Mass was celebrated by Fr. Francis Furaha, assistant parish priest.

Photo shared by **Frater Priscus Shukuru**
3rd Year Theology
Segerea Senior Seminary

Ready to pray for his sponsor(s). Will that be you?



THANK YOU ROSARY MAKERS!!



Children from Uru / Sacred Heart of Jesus parish came out to greet us and receive Rosaries. A **HUGE THANK YOU** to everyone who makes and donates rosaries for our trip. We take thousands (no exaggeration) and you can see why...The people of Moshi Tanzania love the Rosary.

Sponsor Edna Nowell visits her "son," Frater Kelvin Bariki



From Edna: My visit to the Seminarian Kelvin family's home was an unforgettable memory, I couldn't express with words my feelings when we gathered there. Meeting his family and feeling like a part of theirs was wonderful! When we looked at each other and embraced, feelings of joy, gratitude and deep connection filled our hearts. I felt very fortunate to meet this lovely family, and for the gift of enjoying the natural beauty of this part of Tanzania. I'm very grateful to the Lord for allowing me the opportunity to accompany this young man in his life mission. My love and prayers will be my constant support of his chosen path. God bless him every step he makes.



From Frater Kelvin Bariki - 2nd Year Theology at Segerea Senior Seminary:

Psalms 133:1,3b "Behold, how good and pleasant it is, when God's people live together in unity!....For there the LORD bestows his blessing, even life forevermore."

Thanks for your generosity and love to our Diocese, we well know that you sacrifice most of your time because of us. We don't have anything to pay you more than praying for you always. May the Almighty God still pour out His blessings upon you always. □

Sponsor Mike Lee visits his "son," Frater Julius Tumaini



From Mike: Pictured is Frater Julius Tumaini along with his parents Anthony and Agripina and sponsor Mike Lee. Frater Julius is from Sacred Heart of Jesus - Uru Parish. Frater Julius and his family and neighbors hosted the group to a wonderful lunch at their home. They even surprised Mike with a cake celebrating Mike and his wife Romaine's 48th wedding anniversary.

From Frater Julius Tumaini: 3rd Year Theology at Kipalapala Senior Seminary

It was so great to meet Mike and spend little time together. Mike gave me a prayer book to guide and strengthen me in prayer and encouraged me to always pray without ceasing. Also a book of St. Thomas Aquinas to continue study and gain knowledge.



Sponsor Mike Lee visits his "son," Frater Blass Michael Imani



From Mike: Pictured in this photo is Frater Blass Michael Imani (second from the left) as the group visited his grandmother and uncle. From there the group traveled to Msuni village to meet Frater Blass's parents Michael and Justina as well as other family and neighbors. The group was treated to a welcoming luncheon, as gifts were presented to Frater Blass and his parents. Rosaries were blessed by Deacon Mike and handed out to family, neighbors, and all the children.

From Frater Blass Michael Imani 3rd Year Theology at Kipalapala Senior Seminary

A great joy to see Mike who sponsors Frt. Julius Tumaini and me. We're really excited to have seen not only him but many more friends from America. They're all part of our family of Moshi Diocese.



As part of the visits to the homes of the sponsored seminarians, visits were also made to the home parish. In the case of Frater Blass Michael Imani and Frater Julius Tumaini, the home parish was the same - Uru /

Sacred Heart of Jesus. Gifts for the parish and the parents were presented by Mike and very joyfully received!



Sponsor Mark Van Derveer visits his "son," Frater Anatol Master

From Mark: When you feel the welcoming embraces, you know you are with family.

From Frater Anatol Master 4th Year Theology at Kipalapala Senior Seminary

Psalm 133:1-3 *How good, how delightful it is to live as brothers all together!
It is like a fine oil on the head, running down the beard, running down Aaron's
beard, onto the collar of his robes.*

It is like the dew of Hermon falling on the heights of Zion; for there Yahweh bestows his blessing, everlasting life.

Having Mark and his friends from US in our family was so joyful. We enjoyed their stay. We thank them for their gifts especially the sacramentals.

You are most welcome again in our home whenever you come to Tanzania.



Michele and Steve Valentine visit the home of their "son," Frater Novath Valentine Akili on Michele's birthday!!



From Michele: Michele and Steve Valentine with seminarian son, Frater Novath Valentine Akili. Frater Novath's family threw me the best birthday party ever!

From Frater Novath Valentine Akili, 1st Year Theology at Mwendakulima Senior Seminary

I would like to thank God for choosing me among the many young people in my village to follow the sacred call of the priesthood.

On behalf of my family members, I would also like to extend our sincere gratitude to all friends of Catholic Diocese of Moshi, particularly Steve and Michele Valentine who are my sponsors on this journey towards the priesthood. As a family, we have truly seen the great love you have for us and our Diocese of Moshi in general, demonstrated by your willingness to travel all the way from afar to Tanzania.

My family was very happy that Michele Valentine chose to celebrate her birthday at our home as she could have chosen to celebrate it elsewhere and with other people, but she chose to celebrate it with my family. That will be a great memory to my family.

May almighty God bless you abundantly.



Deacon Mike Capitena visits his "son," Frater Aidan Shukuru

From Deacon Mike: Frater Aidan and family! The welcome we received was a once in a lifetime event!

From Frater Aidan Shukuru, 1st Year Theology studies

One among my memorable days is when our sponsors (eight in number) among them Deacon Mike (my sponsor) visited my home place at Marangu, Moshi. On the first of September, they made a long journey to Marangu, Moshi. My family and neighbors were overjoyed to welcome them, and together we witnessed something truly special that day. Thank you, dear sponsors, for the wonderful work you are doing in supporting us seminarians. May the Lord continue to bless you abundantly. You are most welcome to visit us again.



Above is one of the photos taken on the 1st of September. Frt. Aidan is at the center; on his right are his parents (father and mother), followed by his sponsor Deacon Mike and his grandfather Michael. The others in the picture, who are not sponsors, are his relatives.

What a blessing! My sponsor, Deacon Mike, met his namesake—my grandfather Michael. He was overjoyed to meet him.



Mama T.O. visits her "son," Father Richard Barnos



He is not a seminarian anymore. Father Richard Donasian Barnos invited Mama T.O. and the group visiting Tanzania this year to come to the Lindi Diocese to visit his parish and outstations. We confirmed that Fr. Barnos is a Holy, humble, healthy, happy and hardworking priest!!

Here we are with Bishop Wolfgang Pisa, OFM Cap, and Fr. Barnos in the chapel at the bishop's house. We were invited to a wonderful dinner on the veranda. It was a long journey to arrive in Lindi - but it was worth it!

Thank you, Bishop Pisa and Father Barnos, for your warm welcome and hospitality.



Happy Fraters' Day!!



2025-2026 Moshi Seminarians...and 30 are missing from the picture!!

Sadly we missed the seminarians who are studying in India, Rome, Kenya and John Bosco Seminary. And third year Theology seminarians from Kipalapala Senior Seminary were asked to help prepare the seminary for the 100 year Jubilee...but we saved "doo dad bags" and raffles prizes for them!!



And the new Deacons joined us as well!!



Every seminarian gets a "doo dad bag" which contains pens and small sacramentals such as prayer cards, small statues, key chains, and rosary rings. For the raffle, we use tickets to raffle off books, larger statues, crucifixes, and pictures. Everyone wins a prize. And in addition to our fun raffle, we had a special treat for our Happy Fraters' Day...Keki!! (Roasted goat)

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 Priests and Seminarians

Father, we ask you to raise up generations of saints in our priests and seminarians.

Give them the courage to run boldly after You and the grace to not grow weary.

Let them be valiant in the pursuit and practice of virtue. Fill them with Your Spirit as they climb to the heights of holiness.

Help them to be heroic in the face of temptation and desolation.

Teach them to be patient and gentle with their humanity, always humbly submitting to Your mercy when they fall. Unite them so closely to Your heart that they too may be filled with fatherly compassion, understanding, and love for us, Your children. May we never fail to support our priests and seminarians in prayer as they sacrifice and lay down their lives for us daily. We entrust our priests and seminarians to the loving and maternal care of Mother Mary and we ask all of this in the name of Your son, Jesus.

Amen.

– *Diocese of Cleveland, Ohio*

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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!