



Well, I returned to the USA on August 2, after a three day journey that began on July 31. Accompanied by Phillip, Yohana, and their friend Juda Thaddeus, we drove for about 5 hours from Morogoro to Dar es Salaam.



Juda, who grew up in Dar es Salaam, was extremely helpful in negotiating through Dar es Salaam, as it is a huge city. The next day, we drove to the airport so that I could fly to Dubai, which is about a 5 ½ hour flight. Of course, we needed to be there about 3 hours ahead of time, but it all worked out well. I had a 9 hour layover in Dubai (from 11:00 p.m. until 8:00 a.m.) and then a 13 ½ hour flight to Washington Dulles Airport. After moving rapidly through customs, I arrived in Emmitsburg 1 ½ hours later.



Thanks for all the prayers that were said for my safe return . . . I needed every one of them!



Turning back the clock a bit, I would like to recount the final days in Morogoro before returning to the present. In the last blog, Phillip’s party was winding down. It was time for Bishop Telesphor to leave.



*Bishop Telesphor and Deacon Phillip Justinian, C.R.*



*Fr. Maciej, our local superior, thanks Bishop Telesphor.*

The novices were leaving soon, so I wanted to make sure that I had a photo with each of them.



*Fr. Jim with Emmanuel and Gervas.*





*Fr. Jim with Br. Michael and Emmanuel.*



*Fr. Jim with Mario and Francis.*





*Fr. Jim with Bryan and Peter.*



*Fr. Jim with Selestine and Leones.*





*Fr. Jim and Fr. Andrzej.*

I am not sure if you can see it, but our faces show great relief that the day is almost finished! We had set out together earlier in the morning to rendezvous with the Bishop in order to help him find our formation house. We waited at—what we thought was—the meeting place for about an hour. Finally, Fr. Andrzej’s phone rang and Fr. Maciej said, “Where are you guys? The Bishop is here at the formation house!” We then drove as fast as we could, only to get stuck in the mud on the road to our house. Luckily for us, we were stuck in front of the Holy Spirit Fathers’ formation house and some seminarians pushed us free.





*I love these guys: Peter, Francis, Selestine (above) with Vitalis and Mosses (below).*







*This is Abraham, our night watchman and friend! And someone else who did not want to be left out of the photos!*



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