



2026

Ave Maria

MT. KILIMANJARO

Expedition

“Without sacrifice, there is no love.” – St. Maximilian Kolbe



This is more than a climb. It is a missionary pilgrimage — an ascent offered for the glory of God, the triumph of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, and the building of the **St. Benedict House of Studies** in Puma, Tanzania.

From August 1-17, 2026, faithful Catholics will journey together to the summit of Mt. Kilimanjaro via the Alternative Lemosho Route, supported by professional mountain staff and accompanied by a priest offering the **Traditional Latin Mass** daily according to the 1962 Missal. Each day will be marked by the Holy Rosary, devout conferences, and the spirit of reparation so dear to Our Lady of Fatima.

At journey's end, pilgrims will spend time with the **Missionaries of the Holy Cross** in Puma, where the **St. Benedict House of Studies** forms young men to be priests in the True Faith. The House of Studies urgently needs new dormitories, classrooms, and chapel space.

Each climber will seek to raise \$5,000 in support of this mission and to secure the future of the Traditional Latin Mass.



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PILGRIMAGE

- 8-day guided Kilimanjaro climb with KPAP-standard porters and cooks
- Daily Traditional Latin Mass, Rosary, and spiritual meditations
- Private Ngorongoro Crater safari with a certified guide
- Mission stay in Puma with the Missionaries of the Holy Cross
- Single-occupancy Four Seasons trekking tents
- All park fees, permits, transfers, and most meals included

Cost: US \$3,950 per pilgrim (plus required insurance)

Fundraising Goal: US \$5,000 per climber to help continue the construction of the St. Benedict House of Studies

August 1-17, 2026

Following the 1962 Traditional Latin Mass Calendar



INCLUDED

- ✓ 8-day guided Kilimanjaro Alternative Lemosho Route trek
- ✓ All park fees and climbing permits
- ✓ Professional mountain guides, porters, and cook (KPAP-standard wages)
- ✓ High staff-to-climber ratio for increased safety and support
- ✓ Single occupancy in spacious two-person Four Seasons trekking tents for each climber
- ✓ Private dining tent with chairs and tables for comfort on the mountain
- ✓ Daily medical checkups, including pulse oximeter readings
- ✓ All meals on the mountain prepared by a professional expedition cook
- ✓ Hotel accommodations in Arusha before and after the climb, breakfast included
- ✓ Private 4x4 Ngorongoro Crater safari vehicle with certified guide
- ✓ Full-day Ngorongoro safari, including park fees and picnic lunch inside the crater
- ✓ Daily Traditional Latin Mass with accompanying priest
- ✓ Transfers to and from Kilimanjaro International Airport
- ✓ Transport to Puma mission and return
- ✓ Mission stay lodging and meals in Puma



NOT INCLUDED

- ✗ International airfare to/from Kilimanjaro International Airport
- ✗ Tanzania entry visa fees
- ✗ Personal travel and medical insurance (required; available through Nomad)
- ✗ Emergency evacuation insurance (required; available through Nomad)
- ✗ The mountain staff tip - usually around \$300.



ITINERARY

Day 1 – Saturday, August 1, 2026

St. Peter in Chains; Commemoration of the Holy Maccabees, Martyrs – III Class Feast (White)

ARRIVAL



- Arrive at Kilimanjaro International Airport.
- Transfer to Arusha (Outpost Lodge or Mvuli Hotel).
- Evening: Traditional Latin Mass – St. Peter in Chains.
- Overnight at Outpost Lodge or Mvuli Hotel.
- **Altitude:** 1,400 m / 4,593 ft
- **Hiking:** None

Day 2 – Sunday, August 2, 2026

11th Sunday after Pentecost – II Class Sunday (Green)

ORIENTATION



- Breakfast at hotel.
- Rest and acclimatization day; optional Arusha town or coffee plantation tour.
- Afternoon: Gear inspection and pre-trek briefing with Chief Guide Robert Masha; baseline pulse oximeter readings.
- Evening: Traditional Latin Mass; blessing of climbers.
- Overnight at Outpost Lodge or Mvuli Hotel.
- **Altitude:** 1,400 m / 4,593 ft
- **Hiking:** None

Day 3 – Monday, August 3, 2026

Feria – IV Class (Green)

CLIMB DAY 1



- Transfer to Lemosho Gate (2,100 m / 6,890 ft); registration and permits.
- Hike to **Mt. Mkubwa Camp**.
- Evening: Traditional Latin Mass – Feria.
- Overnight in Four Seasons tents (2 per tent).
- **Altitude:** Start 2,100 m / 6,890 ft → End 2,650 m / 8,694 ft
- **Distance:** 3.1 mi / 5 km
- **Hours:** 3–4 hrs

Day 4 – Tuesday, August 4, 2026

St. Dominic, Confessor – III Class Feast (White)

CLIMB DAY 2



- Trek Mt. Mkubwa to **Shira 1 Camp**.
- Afternoon rest on Shira Plateau.
- Evening: Traditional Latin Mass – St. Dominic.
- Overnight in Four Seasons tents.
- **Altitude:** Start 2,650 m / 8,694 ft → End 3,610 m / 11,843 ft
- **Distance:** 4.9 mi / 7.9 km
- **Hours:** 6–7 hrs

Day 5 – Wednesday, August 5, 2026

Dedication of the Basilica of St. Mary Major – III Class Feast (White)

CLIMB DAY 3



- Trek Shira 1 to **Moir Hut** via Shira plateau.
- Evening traditional Latin mass after the afternoon acclimatisation hike to Moir ridge.
- Overnight in Four Seasons tents.
- **Altitude:** Start 3,610 m / 11,843 ft → End 4,200 m / 13,780 ft
- **Distance:** 6 mi / 9.7km
- **Hours:** 6–8 hrs

Day 6 – Thursday, August 6, 2026

Transfiguration of Our Lord – II Class Feast (White)

CLIMB DAY 4



- Hike Moir Hut to **Second Pofu Camp**.
- Evening: Traditional Latin Mass – Transfiguration.
- Overnight in Four Seasons tents.
- **Altitude:** Start 4,200 m / 13,780 ft → End 4,033 m / 13,232 ft
- **Distance:** 6.2 mi / 10 km
- **Hours:** 5–6 hrs

Day 7 – Friday, August 7, 2026

St. Cajetan, Confessor – III Class Feast (White)

CLIMB DAY 5



- Trek Second Pofu to **Third Cave Camp**.
- Evening: Traditional Latin Mass – St. Cajetan.
- Overnight in Four Seasons tents.
- **Altitude:** Start 4,033 m / 13,232 ft → End 3,900 m / 12,795 ft
- **Distance:** 3.9 mi / 6.3 km
- **Hours:** 3–4 hrs

Day 8 – Saturday, August 8, 2026

St. John Mary Vianney, Confessor; Commemoration of Ss. Cyriacus, Largus & Smaragdus, Martyrs – III Class Feast (White)

CLIMB DAY 6



- Ascend to **School Hut Base Camp**.
- Early rest and summit preparations.
- Evening: Traditional Latin Mass – St. John Vianney.
- Overnight in Four Seasons tents.
- **Altitude:** Start 3,900 m / 12,795 ft → End 4,750 m / 15,584 ft
- **Distance:** 3 mi / 5 km
- **Hours:** 4–5 hrs

Day 9 – Sunday, August 9, 2026

12th Sunday after Pentecost – II Class Sunday (Green)

CLIMB DAY 7



- Midnight departure for summit via Gilman's Point.
- Reach **Uhuru Peak** (5,895 m / 19,341 ft) at sunrise.
- Descend to Millennium/Mweka Camp.
- Evening: Traditional Latin Mass – 12th Sunday after Pentecost.
- Overnight in Four Seasons tents.
- **Altitude:** Start 4,750 m / 15,584 ft → Peak 5,895 m / 19,341 ft → End 3,100 m / 10,170 ft
- **Distance:** 8.6 mi / 14 km
- **Hours:** 12–15 hrs

Day 10 – Monday, August 10, 2026

St. Lawrence, Martyr – II Class Feast (Red)

CLIMB DAY 8



- Final descent to **Mweka Gate**.
- Transfer to Arusha.
- Evening: Traditional Latin Mass – St. Lawrence.
- Overnight at hotel.
- **Altitude:** Start 3,100 m / 10,170 ft → End 1,640 m / 5,380 ft
- **Distance:** 6.2 mi / 10 km
- **Hours:** 3–4 hrs

Day 11 – Tuesday, August 11, 2026

Ss. Tiburtius & Susanna, Martyrs – III Class Feast (Red)

SAFARI



- Private 4x4 safari to Ngorongoro Crater.
- Evening: Traditional Latin Mass – Ss. Tiburtius & Susanna.
- Overnight at Outpost Lodge or Mvuli Hotel.
- **Altitude:** 1,400 m / 4,593 ft
- **Hiking:** Minimal

Day 12 – Wednesday, August 12, 2026

St. Clare, Virgin – III Class Feast (White)

TRANSFER TO PUMA



- Drive Arusha to Puma (3–4 hrs).
- Evening: Traditional Latin Mass – St. Clare.
- Overnight in Puma guest lodging.
- **Altitude:** ~1,100 m / 3,609 ft
- **Hiking:** Minimal

Day 13 – Thursday, August 13, 2026

Ss. Hippolytus & Cassian, Martyrs – III Class Feast (Red)

MISSION DAY 1



- Visit monastery, mission schools, hospital.
- Evening: Traditional Latin Mass – Ss. Hippolytus & Cassian.
- Overnight in Puma.
- **Altitude:** ~1,100 m / 3,609 ft
- **Hiking:** Minimal

Day 14 – Friday, August 14, 2026

Vigil of the Assumption; Commemoration of St. Eusebius, Confessor – II Class (Violet)

MISSION DAY 2



- Participate in monastery prayer.
- Evening: Traditional Latin Mass – Vigil of the Assumption.
- Overnight in Puma.
- **Altitude:** ~1,100 m / 3,609 ft
- **Hiking:** Minimal

Day 15 – Saturday, August 15, 2026

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary – I Class Solemnity (White)

**TRANSFER TO
ARUSHA**



- Solemn Traditional Latin Mass – Assumption of the BVM.
- Drive Puma to Arusha.
- Overnight at Outpost Lodge or Mvuli Hotel.
- **Altitude:** 1,400 m / 4,593 ft
- **Hiking:** Minimal

Day 16 – Sunday, August 16, 2026

**13th Sunday after Pentecost; Commemoration of St. Joachim,
Father of the BVM – II Class Sunday (Green)**

**SHOPPING IN
ARUSHA**



- Morning Traditional Latin Mass – 13th Sunday after Pentecost.
- Free day in Arusha for shopping, relaxation, or optional excursions.
- Overnight at Outpost Lodge or Mvuli Hotel.
- **Altitude:** 1,400 m / 4,593 ft
- **Hiking:** Minimal

Day 17 – Monday, August 17, 2026

Feria – IV Class (Green)

**TRANSFER TO
THE AIRPORT**



- Breakfast at hotel.
- Transfer to Kilimanjaro International Airport for departure.
- **Altitude:** 1,400 m / 4,593 ft
- **Hiking:** None

Adveniat Regnum Mariae! May the Reign of Mary Come!



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