



The Jewels

Arrupe Jesuit University Alumni Newsletter

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Editorial

Masuzyo Mwango Jumbe S.J

In Matthew 13:31–32, Jesus speaks of a man who planted a seed and watched it grow into a massive tree that attracted all kinds of birds in the world, and they came to settle and build their nests there. Our alumni are the seed that Arrupe Jesuit University hopes will blossom into a large tree as that which is mentioned by Jesus in the parable of the mustard seed. We hope that what they have received from Arrupe Jesuit University will gain them recognition and relevance in Africa and beyond, as they continue to spread the Ignatian attitude of love and service.

In this regard, the Arrupe Jesuit University Alumni Desk is very happy to present to our readers The Alumni Newsletter, which contains articles written by our alumni who are located all over the world. This newsletter attempts to update the Arrupe Jesuit University community with news concerning some of our alumni, including where they are, what they are up to, and how they have developed in the Ignatian tradition of igniting the world with love and service. I wish to express gratitude to everyone who contributed to the production of this newsletter.

“Zikomo Kwambiri”.



My Experience in AJU and After

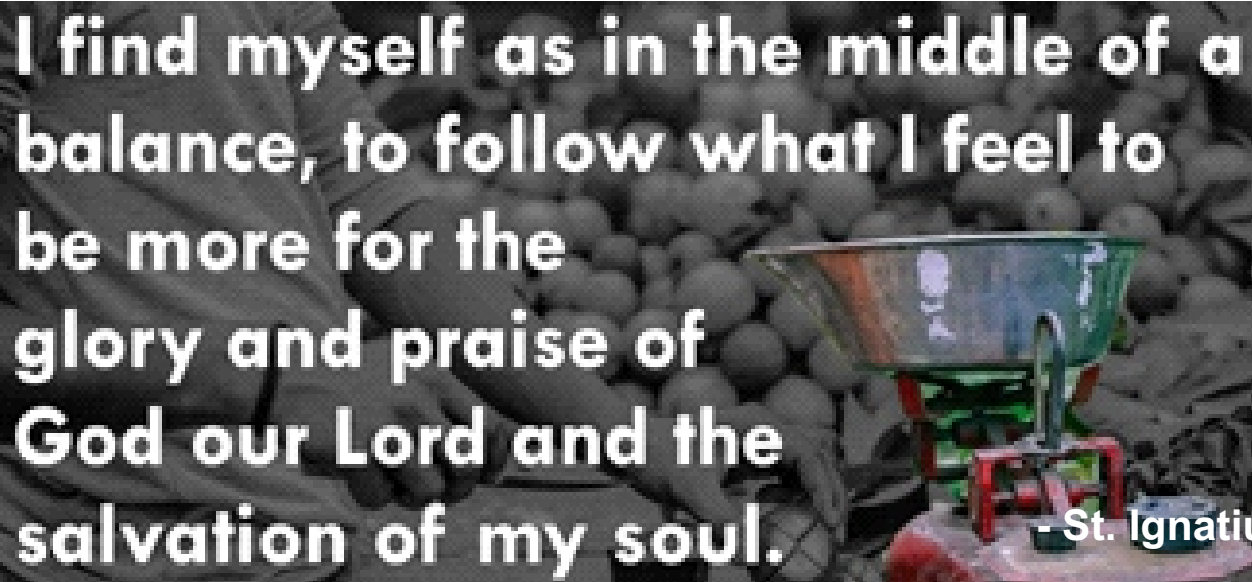
Chipo Mujere

Personally, AJU was for me a "home away from home." Her holistic approach to the lives of students is remarkable. Her hospitable reception cleared off all the initial worries I had about philosophy and the environment since I was the only female student at the time. Due to her diversity, I never experienced any monotony. Talk of lectures, I encountered profound philosophers. I recall an experience that I had when I did Introduction to Ancient Philosophy: I was overwhelmed with fear when I was given an assignment on Plato's allegory of the cave. I told myself that philosophy was going to confuse the confused me. Logic threatened me. It was a mountain too high for me to climb. I recall one day, at the end of the lecture, asking my colleagues what the lecturer was talking about, and to my dismay, they said that they were going to ask me the same question. I am glad that AJU is blessed with lecturers who have wisdom and patience to propound philosophies to knowledge-hungry minds like mine. Thanks to the rich resources at AJU—the library and the internet— These calmed my intellectual storms.

Some of the unforgettable experiences I cherish are the moments of spiritual upliftment I experienced during Wednesday masses. I enjoyed being a member of the choir. I enjoyed events like the cultural night and music concert. Marathons and karate helped me keep fit during my studies. Some of the refreshing moments I enjoyed were the tours to Chinhoyi Caves and Great Zimbabwe. After 5 good years of studies at AJU, I treasure all that I learned and hold dear the certificates that I attained: a Diploma in Philosophy and Theology and a BA Honors in Philosophy.

After my studies in 2016, I went to Kariba, where I got employment as a teacher. I have worked at Elite Christian College from 2017 until now, facilitating different grades. Philosophy has helped me have a critical and analytical approach to my daily experiences. I don't judge people when they utter illogical sentiments, but I wish they had passed through AJU. My studies at AJU have not gone in vain. The philosophy of education has helped me develop a child-centered approach in the teaching field.

At the end of it all, I affirm that at AJU I was molded intellectually, socially, physically, and spiritually. I look forward to upgrading my studies at AJU in the near future.



I find myself as in the middle of a balance, to follow what I feel to be more for the glory and praise of God our Lord and the salvation of my soul.

- St. Ignatius

IGNATIAN SPIRITUALITY AND THE YOUNG

Sr. Tabeth Marezva, CJ

As a member of the Congregatio Jesu (CJ), which has the Ignatian Spirituality as part of its DNA, I was so happy to have this opportunity to study the Ignatian Spirituality in depth at Arrupe Jesuit University. I had highly qualified lecturers who empowered me with the knowledge I needed. After my graduation, the ball was now in my court.

I found myself working with the young people, and I realized that most of them were seeking to find the truth in life, the meaning of life. I went on to help them in their struggles in life, and this has become part and parcel of my life. The best tool that helped me make the young people realise the importance of life and prayer was St. Ignatius's spirituality.

I believe that Ignatian spirituality is about "finding God in all things," and this is mostly appropriate for better decision-making. How would the youth find God in all things? I often ask myself this question. With much prayer and reflection, I realise that this could be achieved when one gets involved in Ignatian prayers, which in turn engages these young people to dive deeply, create meaning, and give them the opportunity to make choices in life. Ignatian spirituality provides powerful tools like the Examen. In this examen, I constantly emphasized to them on Self-awareness. To be more in touch with oneself, I recommended that they do this at least twice daily. Being a guided method of prayerfully reviewing the events of the day to awaken one's inner sensitivity to one's own, I encourage them to take this exercise seriously. This Examen should be done whenever they find time. Or it could be done at the end of the day, like other people who follow Ignatian spirituality.

I convinced them that the goals of Examen are to see where God is challenging them to change and grow and where God is calling the individual to a deeper reflection of their lives. Young people are constantly making decisions in life. Therefore, the Ignatian process of making good decisions acknowledges that decisions are often between two goods, understanding that the better goods, or "the more," is what we instinctively want and what God wants for us in all things, 'to love and to serve'.

I got convinced that another tool of Ignatian spirituality that the young people could use in their day-to-day activities is Ignatian contemplation and discernment. This gives them the opportunity to pause and notice what is happening in their lives. Most of the young people are wounded; some of them have lost meaning in life and have resorted to drug abuse; some have gone to the extent of drinking dangerous drugs called mutoriro. These young people could have their lives changed as long as they make use of Ignatian spirituality, and they need to be encouraged and helped all the time to make decisions based on discernment. I further explained how they could discern in order to have an introspective look at their lives and make amendments where necessary.

Ignatian spirituality invites young people to find God in their day-to-day routine. It is a spirituality that invites us to take a moment to ask the deep questions: What am I living for? What am I hoping to get out of life? Do I have a purpose? And then Ignatian spirituality gives the youth practices to help them get better at asking and answering those challenging questions.

I strongly feel that the spiritual exercise must be introduced to young people, especially these days when they are faced with difficulties in life. Where they are seeking meaning in life and where they are looking up to elders to answer their queries in life.

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My Ignatian Experience at AJU

Talent Mutungwazi

I wish all citizens of the earth had an opportunity to be introduced to the Ignatian pedagogy. I am grateful to have been introduced to the Ignatian Spirituality at Arrupe. “No matter where you go, remember the road that will lead you home” – sang Zanda Zakuza in the South African song “Skeleton Move” produced by Master KG (2018). The word Arrupe is engraved in my heart. Each time when I reflect on my path in academia, I cannot think of any better place other than AJU. Arrupe is not a university but a home. It is a place where family is re-defined using unfamiliar semantics. It is an institution that, once you engage with, you never want to leave. My journey at AJU began in 2014 when I enrolled in the Baccalaureate in Philosophy (PUG) program. I continued the journey until 2020 when I graduated with the Master in Philosophy. After AJU, I also pursued studies in pharmaceutical technology to be a practicing philoso-pharmacist. My philosophy background has been of great use in opening new avenues of life. My heart is filled with joy each time I hear echoes of AJU, especially how it has grown in the past years. I applaud its leadership. Wherever I go, people ask of my background and I do not hesitate to point back to AJU for the personality they caved and transformed me into. I am proud to be an AJU Alumni and will continue being an ambassador of AJU. It is my hope that one-day I will plough back to the Institution. It is said that home is where heart is. Indeed, wherever I go, Arrupe will always be my home



Arrupe Jesuit University Alumni Membership Membership is Free

Arrupe Jesuit University is a non-profit academic international institution, owned by the Southern Africa Province of the Society of Jesus on behalf of the Jesuit Conference of Africa and Madagascar (JCAM). The University's mission is to make a quality contribution to integral human formation through the development of women and men of intellectual competence, compassion, conscience and commitment in the service of justice and love based on research and innovation. It strives to maintain strong connections among its AJU alumni and collaborate together for the growth and development of the University.

Please fill out the form below

Name		
	First Name	Surname
Full address		
PhoneNumber		
E: mail		
Programme		
Year of Graduation		
Occupation		
Other groups you were involved in		

For further information please contact AJU Development Office Mobile: +263 772563213
Email: development@aju.ac.zw

Disclaimer All the information that will be collected is for the purposes of AJU development only and will not be shared with a third party.

The vision and objectives of the Alumni data base.

Vision

Inform, engage and inspire the Alumni to stay connected with each other and support the vision of AJU and contribute towards its success.

Objectives

- ❖ Create a WhatsApp group to make a direct communication link available for the alumni themselves and between the University and its alumni .
- ❖ To promote and foster mutually beneficial interaction between the Alumni and the present students of the university through the Alumni Desk .
- ❖ To identify and promote alumni success and achievements to advance the credibility and reputation of the University.
- ❖ To encourage the Alumni to take an active and abiding interest in the work and progress of the University.
- ❖ To maintain an alumni newsletter that encourages alumni to identify themselves with the University; to generate and sustain interest and participation in the University activities.
- ❖ To make the alumni contribute to the development of the University and the promotion of its good name and reputation, locally and internationally.
- ❖ Continuously build and nurture the university alumni network and facilitate assistance in organizing overseas alumni reunions .
- ❖ To encourage the Alumni to form its Association and to come up with their programme and activities.



AJU Alumni Network

Arrupe Jesuit University calls upon her illustrious daughters and sons who have graduated from the institution since its inception to date.

The aim is to create a network of AJU alumni to collaborate with the University towards the development of Arrupe.

Kindly contact
alumni@aju.ac.zw
to join the AJU alumni network

For further enquires

Contact the alumni helpdesk

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