

# MUKULU,SJ

For Greater Love and Service

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## *Be A Jesuit*

### **Become a Jesuit: Answering the Call to Serve**

A Jesuit vocation is a profound calling to dedicate one's life to God through service, community, and spiritual growth. Rooted in Ignatian spirituality, becoming a Jesuit means embracing a life that balances prayer, study, and active service. Here's a brief overview of the journey:

1. **Discernment:** Begin by exploring the Jesuit mission and spirituality. Reflect on how your talents and passions align with the Jesuit ideals of being a “man for others.”
2. **Formation Process:** The path to becoming a Jesuit is structured into stages, each designed to deepen one's commitment to God and to service. These stages include:
  - **Candidacy:** Initial exploration of the Jesuit way of life.
  - **Novitiate:** A two-year period focused on spiritual growth and learning about Jesuit life.
  - **First Studies:** Academic training in philosophy and humanities.
  - **Regency:** Hands-on work in Jesuit ministries, living in community.
  - **Theology:** Preparation for priesthood with advanced theological studies.
  - **Tertianship:** A final reflective stage before taking final vows.

3. **Vows and Commitment:** Jesuits take vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience, fully dedicating themselves to God and the mission of the Society of Jesus. Some may also take a fourth vow of obedience to the Pope for specific missions.
4. **Roles and Ministries:** Jesuits serve in many capacities—teachers, scientists, writers, social activists, pastors, and more. They work to promote justice, educate, and spread the Gospel around the world, guided by their commitment to “the greater glory of God.”
5. **Resources for Discernment:** Connect with local Jesuit communities, make Ignatian retreats, and speak with Jesuit vocation directors. If you feel called to this path, visit the **Eastern Africa Province** website (<https://easternafricajesuits.org/become-a-jesuit/>) or the **Jesuits Global** site (<https://www.jesuitseast.org/become/>) for more information.

Becoming a Jesuit is a transformative journey that nurtures deep faith, personal growth, and a lifelong commitment to God’s people.

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