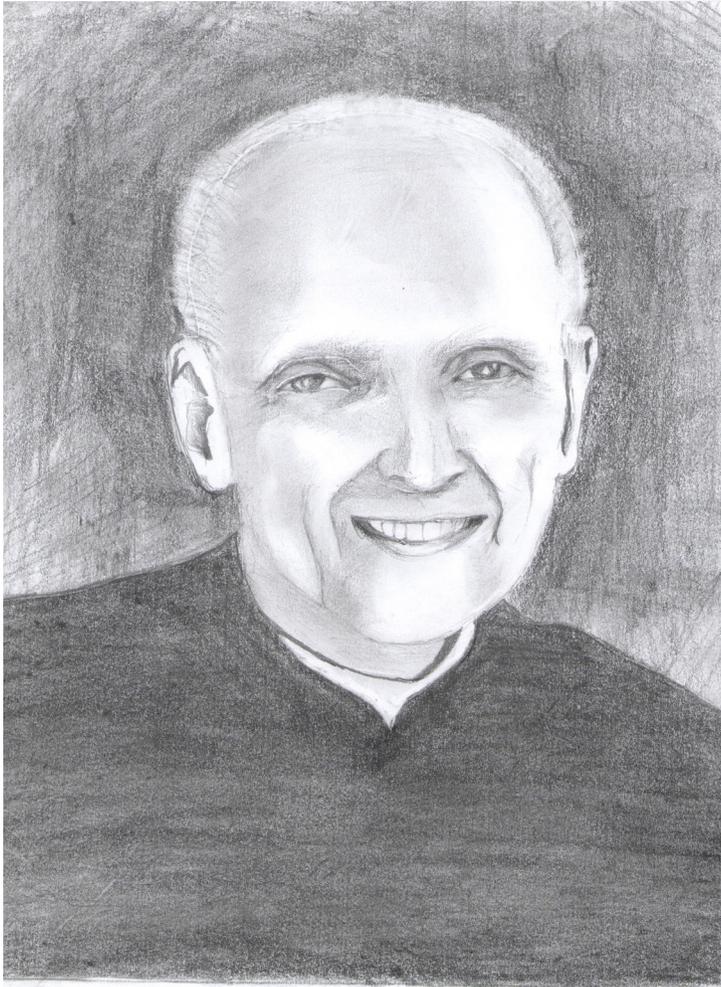


# PEOPLE FOR AND WITH OTHERS

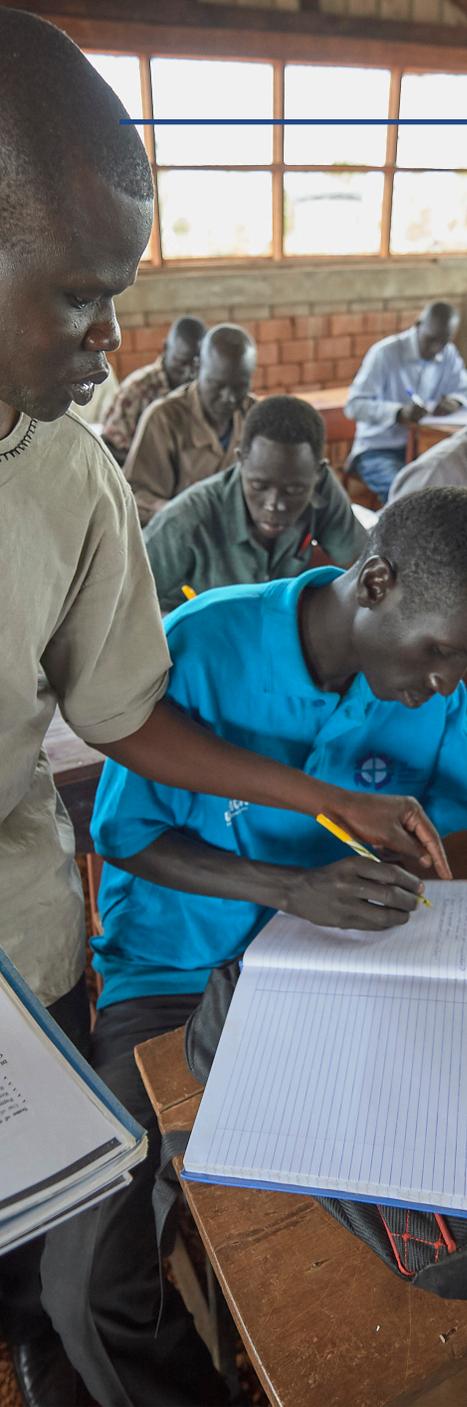


Name: Ahmad Agha  
Class: A2  
Shift: 3





Refugee students in Bourj Hammoud, Lebanon.



# INTRODUCTION

The phrase “Men for Others” was used by Fr. Pedro Arrupe, S.J., Superior General of the Society of Jesus, in an address to a group of Jesuit high school alumni in Valencia, Spain in 1973. At that time, most alumni from Jesuit high schools were in fact male. Since that time, the phrase has been expanded to encompass the whole host of people who follow the Jesuit or Ignatian tradition. Currently many characterize this Jesuit value as developing “People for and with others.”

In his address, Fr. Arrupe called for personal and social change that prioritizes concrete actions of love and service. This derives from St. Ignatius’ fundamental belief that we are to share in God’s work of healing and living a life of service. It is also St. Ignatius’ belief that we are most human, most fulfilled, when we live a life of service and compassion.

Seven years later, devastated by images of Vietnamese refugees fleeing their homeland, Fr. Arrupe stated that the situation of refugees in Southeast Asia presented “a challenge to the Society [of Jesus] we cannot ignore if we are to remain faithful to St. Ignatius’ criteria for apostolic work.” On November 14, 1980, Fr. Pedro Arrupe, S.J. founded Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) to “render a service that is human, pedagogical, and spiritual” for refugees.

Superior General Fr. Arturo Sosa, S.J. has invited the global Ignatian family to recognize November 14 as JRS Day, the anniversary of the founding of JRS. Together, we hope to celebrate and honor the women and men whose lives have been changed through JRS, and the generous service of so many lay colleagues, religious, and Jesuits. At JRS/USA, we depend on the support of “People for and with others” and the greater Ignatian-inspired family as we continue the legacy of Fr. Arrupe by accompanying, serving, and advocating for and with refugees.

This JRS Day, we invite you to reflect on the life of Fr. Pedro Arrupe, S.J. and be inspired by his call to “give ourselves to others in love—love, which is our definitive and all-embracing dimension, that which gives meaning to all our other dimensions” as you renew your commitment to forcibly displaced persons. No matter your role in your community, whether it be administrative, educational, social, or pastoral, you can contribute to the JRS mission of accompaniment, service, and advocacy.



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# HOW TO USE THIS RESOURCE

We encourage your community to honor the life and legacy of Fr. Pedro Arrupe, S.J. and the mission of JRS on November 14.



## This resource can be used in the following ways:

- 1 Guide for both personal and communal prayer/reflection
- 2 Resource for pastoral ministry initiatives, social justice clubs, and Ignatian awareness activities
- 3 Content for the classroom when teaching about refugees, forced displacement, and humanitarian responses
- 4 Toolkit for planning an event to honor the legacy of Fr. Pedro Arrupe and Jesuit Refugee Service on **November 14**

Photo: A JRS volunteer with refugees at the border between Ukraine and Romania. (Marco Giarracca/Jesuit Refugee Service)

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# LIFE OF FR. PEDRO ARRUPE, S.J.

Fr. Pedro Arrupe, S.J., was born on November 14, 1907, in the Basque region of Spain. He pursued a medical career until he decided to leave that behind and join the Jesuits in 1927. His care for others that motivated his medical studies only grew during his time as a Jesuit.

While living in the outskirts of Hiroshima during World War II, Fr. Arrupe witnessed the destruction of the atomic bomb dropped by the United States. In response to the injured and dying, Fr. Arrupe used his former medical training to turn the Jesuit residence into a makeshift hospital. They cared for over 100 people.



**Pedro Arrupe, S.J. in Medellin, Colombia in 1968 (Jesuits Global)**

Fr. Arrupe's leadership abilities were affirmed when he was appointed superior general of the Jesuits in 1965. It was during this time as leader of the Jesuits that Fr. Arrupe founded Jesuit Refugee Service, but he also guided the Jesuits through the reform of Vatican II and made a commitment on behalf of the Jesuits to address the needs of the poor. When speaking about the goals of Jesuit education, Fr. Arrupe famously said: "Today our prime educational objective must be to form men-and-women-for-others" an objective that Jesuit schools continue to work towards today.

Fr. Arrupe suffered a stroke in 1981 and had to resign from his post as superior general in 1983. He passed away on February 5, 1991, leaving behind a legacy that continues to guide the work of the Jesuits. On February 5, 2019, the Roman Catholic Church began a process towards his beatification and canonization.

Learn more about the  
founding of JRS by Fr. Arrupe



# A CALL FOR JUSTICE

Today, over 110 million people are forcibly displaced worldwide. This number includes people who have crossed national borders and received protection, are displaced within their country of origin, or are seeking asylum at the port-of-entry of another country.

Increasing conflicts, natural disasters, and instability are weakening efforts toward achieving a peaceful future. When hope is hard to find, divisions provoke frustrations, social conflicts, and violence. In such unstable situations, refugees and forcibly displaced people are among those paying the highest price.

While there is no singular direction towards peace, the first step is recognizing our shared humanity.

When we welcome our neighbor with compassion and empathy, we acknowledge the inherent commonalities of our existence. “People for and with others” are persons who cannot conceive of love of God without love of neighbor. True love and charity cannot exist without justice. Is not justice the minimum measure of charity? In this kind of world, love takes the form of a preferential option for the marginalized and the oppressed because that is the only way to love all human beings.



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# THE MISSION OF JRS

When Fr. Arrupe S.J. founded the Jesuit Refugee Service in 1980, he did so out of a concrete call to serve his brothers and sisters forced to be displaced and leave their homes in Vietnam because of the war.

Arrupe was always a man who tried to put the Gospel “more in deeds than in words.” From his feeling of being deeply in God’s hands and knowing that he was loved by Him, he was able to go out of himself and find in the service, accompaniment, and defense of those forcibly displaced a channel for his desire to love.



This motivation is still at the heart of JRS today as more than 8,000 members of JRS’s global staff accompany refugees on their journeys. The mission of Jesuit Refugee Service is to accompany, serve, and advocate on behalf of refugees and other forcibly displaced persons, that they may heal, learn, and determine their own future.

In response to this growing global political crisis of forced displacement, JRS is now present in 58 countries in different regions including North America, Latin America & the Caribbean, Europe, the Middle East, West Africa, Eastern Africa, Southern Africa, South Asia, and Asia Pacific.

Through our programs, JRS serves over 1.5 million refugees and other forcibly displaced persons in conflict zones, remote borders, and busy cities. JRS runs pastoral care and psychosocial support programs in detention centers and refugee camps and provides humanitarian relief in emergency displacement situations. Education and livelihoods programs provide skill development and opportunities for integration into host communities. JRS also advocates for the rights of refugees and articulates the obligation to protect the most vulnerable among us.

The mission of JRS shows us how our commitment as “People for and with others” can go from a global perspective to local engagement, where we look in the eyes of those living through the experience of displacement.

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# STORIES OF HOPE

*The Middle East region, suffering from protracted conflict, is experiencing an exponential loss of global attention due to crises in other parts of the world.*

Vulnerable and displaced populations in Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, and Syria face dire conditions. More and more people are suffering from hunger, have very limited access to the most basic services, and have no opportunities to earn an income for themselves and their families.

Each of these countries is also facing an internal division between host and displaced communities. Government restrictions, marginalization, and segregation are not only forcing refugees and internally displaced people to live in these critical conditions but are also preventing societies from healing. While there is no singular direction towards peace, the first step starts by recognizing our shared humanity. When we welcome our neighbor with compassion and empathy, we acknowledge the inherent commonalities of our existence.

Jesuit Refugee Service in the Middle East and North Africa region, in partnership with JRS/USA, invites you to meet your neighbors. Through a series of interviews with refugees located in Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, and Syria, you can listen to extraordinary stories of hope, perseverance, and humanity. Together, let us break the barriers of misunderstanding and build bridges of solidarity across borders.

Watch stories of  
inspiration here



**Like the refugees featured in these videos, each one of us can use our personal gifts to discern, as Fr. Arrupe did, how we feel called to respond to this crisis and how we can turn that call into concrete action.**

**After watching these videos, ask yourself the following questions:**

- What concrete situation of injustice with refugees and other forcibly displaced persons touches me the most?
- What feelings does it produce in me?
- What do those feelings move me to do?

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# PRAY WITH JRS ON NOVEMBER 14

As Jesuit Refugee Service recognizes JRS Day and the journey we have been on, we pray for those who have been our companions – people who have been displaced, benefactors, volunteers, staff, leaders, and partners in countries around the world – and ask for Fr. Arrupe’s continued intervention so that we can continue our mission with the help of “People for and with others” as long as a need exists.



**Fr. Pedro Arrupe, S.J. Prayer Card**

## *A Prayer for JRS Day*

### **On JRS Day, please join us in this prayer:**

God of all,

On this day in which we recognize Fr. Arrupe’s legacy in our institutions, we want to thank you for his life and tireless work through ministries such as the Jesuit Refugee Service.

Lord, make us feel moved by the experience of so many people who cross the borders of our world to escape injustice. And may this feeling move us to love and serve you more in the stranger who is also a neighbor, in the other who is also family.

We pray that you continue calling us to follow Fr. Arrupe’s example so that we can become People for and With Others.

May we keep alive this flame to continue shining a light on the rights, needs, and dreams of refugees.

Amen.

Visit our website to find  
downloadable versions of this prayer





Pierre Ceyrac, S.J. with Cambodian refugees in Site Two camp, Thai Cambodian border, 1986.

## Get social!

Please share on social media how your community is honoring the mission of JRS and the life of Fr. Arrupe on JRS Day, November 14.

Please use this QR code to access graphics created by JRS/USA



## Questions?

To share your plans for JRS Day, or if you have any questions, be sure to contact Clara Sayans at [clara.sayans@jrsusa.org](mailto:clara.sayans@jrsusa.org).



Graduation Day for refugee students in Kenya.



Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) is an international Catholic organization serving refugees and other forcibly displaced people. JRS's mission is to accompany, serve, and advocate on behalf of refugees and other forcibly displaced persons, that they may heal, learn, and determine their own future. Founded as a work of the Society of Jesus (Jesuits) in 1980, JRS today works in 58 countries worldwide to meet the educational, health, and social needs of more than 1.5 million refugees.