

■ Ignatian Pedagogy in the Classroom ■

By Fr. Charlie Chilufya, S.J.

The Ignatian Pedagogical Paradigm (IPP) is a dynamic approach to teaching that helps young people grow not only in knowledge but also in wisdom, compassion, and freedom. It follows a five-step pattern: Context, Experience, Reflection, Action, and Evaluation.

■ 1. Context

Know your students — their backgrounds, struggles, strengths, and dreams. Context shapes how they learn. Start where they are.

■ 2. Experience

Invite students into active engagement. Use stories, images, activities, and real-life examples. Help them not only to think but to feel and experience deeply.

■ 3. Reflection

Give space for silence, journaling, and discussion. Ask: What does this mean for me? What am I learning about myself, others, and God?

■ 4. Action

Encourage students to apply what they learn. How will this knowledge or insight change the way they live, serve, or make choices?

■ 5. Evaluation

Go beyond grades. Evaluation asks: How has the student grown in freedom, responsibility, and love? How has this learning shaped their heart, not just their mind?

■ Practical Tips

- Begin class with a short moment of silence or prayer.
- Use the Examen at the end of the week for students to review their learning.
- Encourage group projects that connect learning with justice and service.

- Give feedback that highlights effort, growth, and values — not only performance.

■ Closing Thought

Ignatian pedagogy forms not only better students but also better persons. It nurtures minds, touches hearts, and moves hands into service.