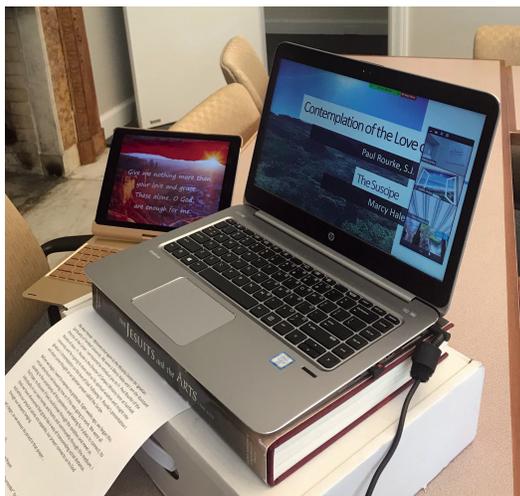


FINDING GOD IN ALL THINGS

Murphy Center Programs for Fall 2020

Virtual Programs Connecting Individuals and Communities on Campus and Around the World

The Murphy Center has responded to the current challenge of Covid-19 by broadening our reach beyond the campus and local community. MCIS is committed to supporting the faith lives of students, faculty, staff, and anyone who is seeking to find God, particularly during this time of uncertainty. All programs will be virtual and all are welcome to participate. For more information on any of the following programs, please visit our website at fairfield.edu/MCIS.



- **Ten-Week Ignatian Encounter** – spiritual direction for students, faculty, staff, and others.
- **Spirituality & Aging** – *God and You* Lecture Series with John Murray, S.J.
- **The Inigas Series** – Women and Spirituality celebrating 50 Years of Women at Fairfield University
- **Monthly Spiritual Direction** – an opportunity to meet monthly with a spiritual director
- **Spiritual Direction** – formation, training, and support

1

ST. IGNATIUS

While only 5'2", St. Ignatius teaches us how to stand tall in our own truth.

2

SPIRITUAL DIRECTION

is available to people of all backgrounds and faiths. No prior experience necessary.

3

DOLAN HOUSE

Dolan House is home to MCIS, which belonged to a community of nuns before becoming part of Fairfield University.
fairfield.edu/map

HOW TO FIND US

fairfield.edu/MCIS
 (203) 254-4000, ext. 3468



"In seeking God we often find ourselves."

MCIS HOURS

The Murphy Center is open Mon. through Fri. 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Hours for students are Mon. through Wed. 10 a.m. to noon, or by appointment.

f Murphy Center for Ignatian Spirituality
@murphycenterfairfieldu



Finding Peace in the Pandemic – A New Way to Be

March 2020, when the campus and the world closed its doors, the Murphy Center quickly transitioned to virtual ministry to offer spiritual direction, virtual retreats, formation programs, lectures, and outreach to the students, faculty, and staff of Fairfield University and the broader community. MCIS also responded to the growing need for pastoral care and services for first responders and hospital workers, inviting Jesuits, spiritual directors, and local clergy to be trained in the spirituality of trauma. The Center is working with Bridgeport Hospital to offer the staff spiritual support

via Zoom, Skype, or phone. Fr. Gerry Blaszcak, S.J., VP of Mission and Ministry of Fairfield University, said, “Now in the pandemic, people are searching for an immediate, direct response of God’s presence. The hunger is immense. The response that we have had affirms the importance of paying attention to this deep spiritual hunger. We don’t claim to have esoteric knowledge. We don’t have a magic key. But our programs focus on the reality that God is already present in and acting in people’s lives.”

MCIS James M. Bowler, S.J. Award Dinner in honor of Fr. Charlie Allen, S.J. Postponed Until Spring 2021

Fairfield University is committed to the health and safety of Fr. Allen, our community, and our benefactors. Given the popularity of this event, accommodating the number of people who are interested in attending with Covid-19 capacity limitations will be unlikely in 2020.

Moving the dinner to the spring 2021, after students have left campus, will provide the best scenario for the event. MCIS should have a better understanding of protocols and procedures at that time, and will communicate with more information in the future.

MEET THE JESUITS: THREE QUESTIONS FROM ST. IGNATIUS

Michael F. Tunney, S.J.

Rector and Professor of Fine Arts and Religious Studies



What have I done for Christ?

For years, I have used a five-point checklist on my day as part of my examen. Each point “wins” me 20 points out of 100. The points are these: swim, pray, paint, teach, preach. This mix of personal, professional, and pastoral activities is a window onto where my energies, disciplines, and zeal have led me on a given day. While other aspects of my examen are more probing, these five points provide a good snapshot on my daily priorities. Blessed, indeed, are the days I score 100!

What am I doing for Christ?

These days I describe myself as ‘at large’ on the Fairfield campus. The Jesuit community and my brothers-in-Christ are my first priority. Fast on their heels is everything else: teaching undergrads in religious studies, directing souls through the MCIS, supporting second-year students in the res college program, serving as a governor at Prep and trustee at the University, pastorally and sacramentally making some Good News at St. Anthony of Padua Church with the People of God, and serving on some Jesuit committees. I run to stand still with Jesus.

What ought I do for Christ?

Restless Jesus keeps striking out ahead of me. Remain available for new work, I remind myself. Be kind and generous, Natalie Merchant sings in my memory. Grow in God’s love and grace, Ignatius teaches me daily to pray. I hope these will be enough for me.