The Murphy Center for Ignatian Spirituality continues to celebrate the 500th Anniversary of Ignatius’ conversion with a series of programs focusing on those moments that cause us as individuals, organizations, nations, and as a global society to examine our lives and choose pathways that lead to wholeness, the promotion of human dignity, and harmonious existence with all of creation.

- **Ten-Week Ignatian Encounter** – A one-on-one prayer journey available to anyone who is interested in deepening their relationship with God, facilitated by a trained spiritual director. No prior experience with Ignatian spirituality necessary.

- **Spirituality & Aging** – Rev. John Murray, S.J., ’76 Assistant Director of the Murphy Center will continue his series on Aging with Grace, Part VIII. The text will focus on “Wayfaring” by Margaret Silf.

- **Virtual Retreat Series** – A series of zoom retreats will focus on Jesuits who have contributed historically and spiritually to the Ignatian charism. Retreats are open to anyone who has an interest in deepening their understanding of Ignatian Spirituality.

- **Lenten Retreat for Women** – an opportunity to gather, pause and reflect on the unfolding graces that permeate our daily lives. Date TBD.

- **Monthly Spiritual Direction** – An ongoing invitation for people of all faith backgrounds to continue your prayer journey and discover where and how God is inviting you. All seekers welcome – no religious background necessary.

- **Walking Examen** – Coming this spring, MCIS, in collaboration with Fairfield University, will unveil the “Walking Examen” on campus. Representing the five movements Ignatius taught as a prayer method for finding God in all things, the Examen walk will lead participants on a pilgrimage around campus.

For more information visit our website at [fairfield.edu/MCIS](http://fairfield.edu/MCIS).
FROM THE DIRECTOR’S DESK

As you well know, the end of this past year included a resurgence of Covid-19 in the form of the Omicron variant. Even in this difficult context, grace abounds. God continues to strengthen us and redeem us amidst the struggles of this pandemic. God labors to deepen our relationship with God by giving us God’s very being — grace. The challenge, during these uncertain times, is to quiet ourselves and listen to God. We must learn God’s language which is silence. At the Murphy Center, we continue to journey with people who are engaged in this Mystery. We encourage seekers to pursue a deep intimacy with God through prayer and discernment. Our hope lies in the reality of grace touching the hearts and minds of the people who participate in the Murphy Center’s programs with perseverance and resiliency in the face of adversity in this time of the pandemic. Know that you are indeed in our thoughts and prayers during these difficult times.

Peace,

Denis G. Donoghue, S.J., Director of the Murphy Center for Ignatian Spirituality

MEET THE JESUITS

THREE QUESTIONS FOR... Rev. John Mulreany, S.J., Superior of Fairfield University Jesuit Community

What have I done for Christ?
Prior to arriving at Fairfield, I was associate pastor at the Church of St. Francis Xavier, where I was heavily involved in the parish’s racial justice initiatives which focused on deepening parishioners’ and my own understanding of racism in the United States. Prior to my role at St. Francis Xavier, I was assigned to Yap, Micronesia, where I helped to start Yap Catholic High School and did a great deal of parish ministry. In each of my assignments, the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola have been an important part of my ministry.

What am I doing for Christ?
As the superior of the Fairfield Jesuit Community, my primary work is caring for the spiritual and physical well-being of the men in the Jesuit community. As superior, I also have some role in animating the works of the Society on campus through contact with the directors of the works and through a ministry of presence. Through sacramental ministry, I offer spiritual care for students, staff, and visitors to campus. I’m also one of the weekend sacramental ministers at St. Anthony of Padua and see several people for ongoing spiritual direction.

What ought I do for Christ?
The most important work I can do for Christ at the present moment is to help people realize that they can be in direct, intimate relationship with the God that loves them infinitely. God is always communicating with us. As a spiritual director, I help my directees listen carefully to the promptings of the Spirit in their hearts. In my preaching, I first listen to God’s word and then relay how God’s word challenges and consoles us in the present moment. I look forward to continuing to listen to God’s promptings in my heart, directing me to how I might best be of service in this present moment.