THE MARQUETTE IRENAEUS PROJECT (MIP)

"For the glory of God is the human person fully alive; and the life of the person consists in beholding God ... the revelation of the Father that comes through the Word gives life to those who see God." - Saint Irenaeus of Lyons



MIP's Research

- The Marquette Irenaeus Project (MIP) is an interdisciplinary research initiative aimed at cultivating prayer practices from the Christian tradition in the everyday lives of students, faculty, and staff on campus, with expansion in a second phase to the larger community (for example, parishes, prisons, homeless shelters, and veterans' groups).
- MIP seeks to study the multidimensional effects of prayer on the human person. MIP's team proposes that prayer practices promote "fullness of life" by bringing the person and community into relationship with the Divine.

The MIP Plan

- MIP will teach Christian prayer practices to focus groups, and then study the
 effects on the human person (neurological processes, psychological health,
 general measurements of wellbeing) and on personal experience of God.
- It is our contention that the deepest Christian traditions of prayer/contemplation have measurable/quantitative psychological and neurological effects as well as subjective/qualitative transformative experiences for the individual and the community.

The MIP Innovation

- MIP's innovative contribution to the study of spiritual practice will be the bringing together of Western Christian prayer practices and the study of its effects using a mixed methodology to look at "hard" neuroscientific data together with the subjective experience of the person and community.
- MIP seeks to promote the formation of minds and hearts and the flourishing of the human person through this study. Our innovation is driven by an understanding that the "fully-alive" human person arises from the intentional and programmatic intersection of modern scientific insights, historical/theological wisdom, communal relationships, and cultivation of a relationship with God through prayer.

MIP's TEAM

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The MIP Milestone

- Research Stage: July 2019 January 2020
- Developmental Stage: January 2020 August 2020
- Implementation Stage: August 2020 May 2021
- Review Stage: May 2021 August 2021
- Expansion Stage: August 2021 July 2022

The MIP Prayer and Data Collection APP



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