



**CHRISTLIFE™**  
CATHOLIC MINISTRY FOR EVANGELIZATION

## SPRING 2023 NEWSLETTER

We Need A New Pentecost!

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Investing in the Future

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## WE NEED A NEW PENTECOST!

FOUNDER'S CORNER BY: DAVE NODAR



When I was a young man in the late 1960's and 70's, I was radically transformed by the love and mercy of our Lord Jesus that—unbeknownst to me—was part of a great outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

While it was a time of great turmoil, division, and sin in the U.S., it was also a time where many Christians were praying for a new Pentecost. Pope St John XXIII summoned all Catholics after each Mass in pre-praying for the Vatican II Council, for a New Pentecost! Many other Christians were also crying out to the Lord to pour out his Spirit.

Many of God's people saw what was most needed at that time and responded in prayer. And God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us (Eph.2:4), answered the prayers of his people and sent a great outpouring of his Spirit! Millions of

people were renewed, converted, and baptized in the Holy Spirit.

Do we need a new Pentecost today? I know I need it! And certainly, as God's people, we need it to fulfill Jesus' missionary mandate to bring the Gospel to all nations and peoples.

How do you and I enter into the promise of a new Pentecost, both personally and as God's people? What is necessary for the Lord to come to our assistance? The Scriptures tell us what is necessary.

The Lord calls us to remember his mighty works, return to him, and pray together united by faith in his faithfulness to revive us again. Pray on a few of these passages: 2Chronicles 7:14-15; Joel 2:12-13; Mark 1:15; Acts 2:38; Rev. 2:4-5).

Reviving us is something only the Lord can do (think dry bones, Ezekiel 37) and it is something he wants to do. The Lord Jesus wants us to ask for the Holy Spirit. "If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!" (Luke 11:13).

We who are baptized have received the Holy Spirit, but we need renewed power today. Let's turn to God in prevailing prayer, personally and together, to cry out to our Father to send the Holy Spirit.

I long for a new personal and worldwide Pentecost. Perhaps we are seeing some early signs of a new outpouring of the Holy Spirit? See Dr. Mary Healy's commentary in the National Catholic Register titled: What Does Eucharistic Revival Look Like?



**READ DR. MARY HEALY'S COMMENTARY**

We are excited to share with you that this summer, August 17-19, ChristLife will hold Strengthen 2023, a gathering to build up, renew, and strengthen ChristLife teams from around the world. Please pray about joining us.

In Christ Jesus we were born for such a time as this!

Dave Nodar  
Founder and Senior Leader

## Strengthen 2023

*A new event designed to strengthen parish teams in the Lord*

**August 17-19, 2023**

**St. John the Evangelist in Severna Park, MD**

Strengthen 2023 is an opportunity for your parish team to be encouraged in your personal walk with Jesus, grow in relationship with other ChristLife teams in our common mission, and experience a time of training to take your ChristLife Process to the next level. **Learn more at [www.ChristLifeConference.org](http://www.ChristLifeConference.org)**

*Save the Date!*

**Strengthen 2023**  
*A ChristLife Gathering*

"Seek the Lord and His strength,  
seek His presence continually."  
PSALM 105:4

# "I JUST WANT TO BRING PEOPLE TO JESUS CHRIST."

BY: FR. CHRISTOPHER ARGANO

During my five years as director of vocations for the Archdiocese of New York, I met with many young men considering the priesthood. With each man I would ask the intentionally open ended question, "Why do you want to be a priest?" This would yield a variety of answers, but the one that has most stuck with me is the man who said, "Father, I just want to bring people to Jesus Christ."

***This young man's response is at the heart of ChristLife.***

I first encountered ChristLife through my friendship with Dianne Davis, currently ChristLife's Director of Mission Expansion. As a seminarian I spent three summers at Dianne's parish, St. Martin de Porres in Poughkeepsie, NY. Shortly

after my ordination in May 2009, Dianne became involved with ChristLife. Through our conversations, she told me about the program and encouraged me to run it at my parish. I assembled a team, attended the training, and ran Discovering Christ.

In the first weekend promoting it, we maxed out the attendance. Roughly fifty people attended as participants and I know of more than one family which came back to the Church through their experience. I was transferred to another parish less than a year later, but the team in place continued running Following Christ and Sharing Christ.

In my next parish, I was involved with ChristLife being run at a neighboring church on a larger scale. Through giving talks and just being with the people it was



FR. CHRISTOPHER ARGANO  
ARCHDIOCESE OF NEW YORK

remarkable to see hearts open to the Lord and lives literally transformed.

Now, as a pastor myself, I will be running ChristLife in my parishes. I have seen the results, I believe in the mission and am confident that through this more people will have that life changing encounter with Jesus of Nazareth.

Fr. Christopher Argano serves as Pastor of St. Mary's in Washingtonville and St. Columba in Chester, NY.

## INVESTING IN THE FUTURE

### *New Website and Technology Upgrades Set for Fall Launch*

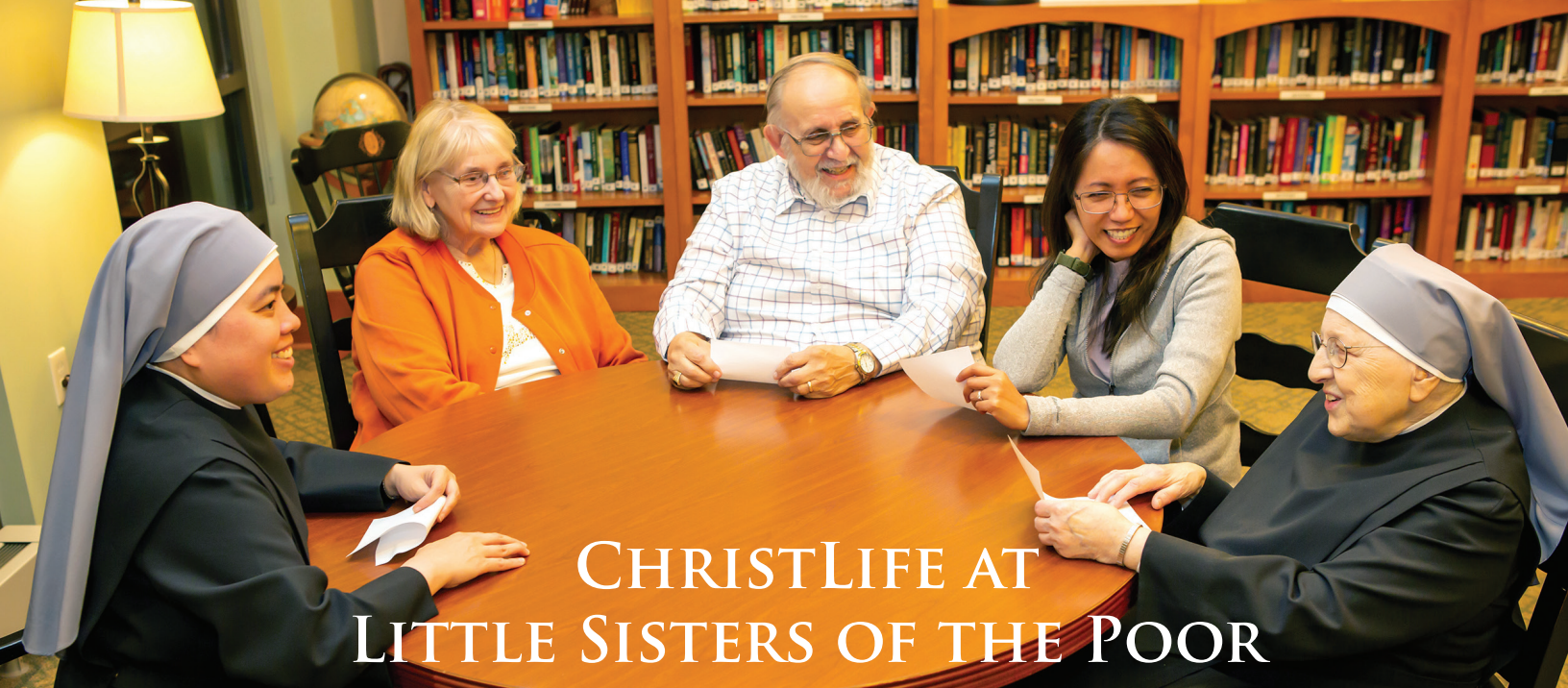
Thanks to the generosity of many brothers and sisters in Christ, our new website project was fully funded in 2022. Since last summer we have been hard at work developing the new website, which among many improvements, will streamline digital access to all of ChristLife's videos and guides—serving individuals and parishes throughout the world. The team guiding this effort includes

experienced staff members and volunteers with business and technical backgrounds. In a particular way, we've been blessed to partner in this work with a Catholic communications agency called 5 Stones based in Chicago, IL.

The website is scheduled to launch in early Fall. Please pray that this new platform will advance our mission of proclaiming the Lord Jesus!







# CHRISTLIFE AT LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR

BY: TOM FAMULARI

Recently ChristLife' program *Discovering Christ* was presented to the residents of the Little Sisters of the Poor home in Baltimore, MD. *Discovering Christ* had never been tried in a nursing home setting.

Due to the setting of the facility a few modifications needed to be made to fit the needs of the residents and the home. One of the modifications was instead of running it in the evening and providing a dinner, we decided to hold the sessions on a Saturday afternoon after lunch since they would already be eating together.

We were not sure how many residents would come, but we knew that the Holy Spirit would bring those who needed to be there. We were blessed to have 27 residents come. They came with their walkers and wheelchairs, and ranged in ages from ages 70 to nearly 100 years old. Even some of the sisters joined us.

*Discovering Christ* started out with songs that were projected on a big screen television, followed by prayer and the video teaching. We then broke up into four small groups to discuss the teachings.

***This is where the Holy Spirit took charge.***

The discussions were very open. One example was a resident in her 80's, who described herself as

a religious person. During one conversation, she started to cry. When asked, "Why?", she responded, "I never knew *why I was here, now I do.*" She just praised God for this revelation in her life.

***It goes to prove that you are never too old to be renewed in the Spirit.***

Many residents shared that they were very uplifted and excited by the talk and the small group sharing. Several said that they had gone through Catholic schools and attend Mass, but were never touched as personally as they were with this program. Several said they feel they **truly** discovered Christ.

The news of what was done here and the results spread to other homes and they have asked that *Discovering Christ* be brought there. Plans are in the works to serve those homes.

We should not assume that the elderly and infirmed have it all together. ***They too can discover Christ and get to know Him better.***

*Since the writing of this article, plans have been made to begin ChristLife at the Little Sisters of the Poor homes in Indianapolis and Washington DC. Tom and Mary Jane Famulari, residents at St. Martin's Home in Baltimore, MD, introduced ChristLife to Little Sisters of the Poor in 2022.*

# REMEMBERING TWO BELOVED SERVANTS OF THE LORD

*Mark Nehrbas and Marty Kersse remembered for their joyful service to ChristLife's mission*

BY: PETE ASCOSI

Within the span of two weeks, both Mark Nehrbas, age 71, and Marty Kersse, age 65, passed away after a battle with cancer. Though they didn't know one another personally, they each contributed mightily to the advance of the Church's mission of evangelization, helping thousands to experience a closer relationship with the Lord Jesus.



## Mark Nehrbas

introduced ChristLife to his parish, Holy Family, in Steubenville, OH in 2017. He served as a key member of the core team, helping establish the ChristLife Process in his parish.

When his health prevented him from serving physically, he united his sufferings

to the Lord and continued serving through the vital role of intercessor.

For the national ministry, he applied his love for the Lord and professional background as former Director of Development for Franciscan University, to helping ChristLife grow its fundraising efforts, forming the ministry's first ever Development Committee. His deep faith in the Lord, humility, warmth, and radiant joy, even through suffering, will not be forgotten.

## Marty Kersse served

selflessly as a ChristLife team member from 2013-2022 at Our Lady of Perpetual Help, in Ellicott City, MD. Over many years of running ChristLife courses, he was "all in" as he helped in a variety of ways: from cooking meals, to facilitating small groups, to telling jokes as emcee, and much more. At the national level, he served as a key member of our meal team for three National conferences. As a result, conference attendees experienced an extraordinary level of hospitality—which modeled how Discovering Christ meals go a long way in building community. Even through Marty's battle with cancer, he continued volunteering behind the scenes, helping with our efforts to follow-up on new purchases, ensuring parish leaders were fully supported as they launched the ChristLife courses. Marty's surrender to the Lord through his final sufferings, along with his joy and selfless service over many years, will be long remembered.



“We are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses.” Hebrews 12:1a



ChristLife is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Donations are gratefully accepted in support of the essential mission of evangelization.

All donations are tax-deductible.

[www.ChristLife.org/donate](http://www.ChristLife.org/donate)

## STAFF

Dave Nodar, *Founder and Senior Leader*  
Leo Rudegeair, *Assistant Director*  
Peter Ascosi, *Assistant Director*  
Dianne Davis, *Mission Expansion Director*  
Jennifer King, *Communications Director*  
Aster Evenson, *Parish Resources Coordinator*  
Lisa White, *Conference Administrator*  
Isabella Schatz, *Intern*

## VOLUNTEER STAFF

Marg Oehrli, Mary Giesey, Tom Lauer

ChristLife  
600 Cooks Lane  
Baltimore, MD 21229  
1-888-498-8474 (toll-free)  
[info@christlife.org](mailto:info@christlife.org)  
[www.christlife.org](http://www.christlife.org)

 [facebook.com/ChristLifeOrg](https://facebook.com/ChristLifeOrg)  
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