



CHRISTLIFE™
CATHOLIC MINISTRY FOR EVANGELIZATION

SUMMER 2022 NEWSLETTER

Bishop Michael Saporito invites you to the National Conference!

Answered Prayer:
New Workers for the Mission

On Mission As A Family

From Atheist to Catholic Evangelizer

“AT THE SIGHT OF THE CROWDS, JESUS’ HEART WAS MOVED WITH PITY FOR THEM BECAUSE THEY WERE CONFUSED, HARASSED, HELPLESS, TROUBLED AND ABANDONED, LIKE SHEEP WITHOUT A SHEPHERD. THEN HE SAID TO HIS DISCIPLES, ‘THE HARVEST IS ABUNDANT BUT THE LABORERS ARE FEW; SO ASK THE MASTER OF THE HARVEST TO SEND OUT LABORERS FOR HIS HARVEST.’”

MATTHEW 9:36-37

DEAR BROTHERS AND SISTERS,

I’d like to share a few observations about this Gospel passage.

When we read of the Lord Jesus’ compassion for the crowds in the Gospels, I believe he not only saw the crowds present to him at that moment, but also throughout all of history, until he comes to judge the living and the dead.

In response to the condition of humanity, he calls us to pray for more workers. Why? Because the harvest fields—those who do not know, love, and serve him—are so enormous! This is an urgent call to his people today. We need to invoke the power of prayer God has given us for the sake of his people and the lost.

Intercession must be a normal part of our daily lives.

Jesus said, pray to the Father for more workers, so I’m personally incorporating ways of interceding

in my daily life of prayer. I encourage you to do the same.

Immediately after calling his disciples to pray for workers Jesus, “... appointed seventy others, and sent them ahead of him, two by two, into every town and place where he himself was about to come” (Luke 10:1, cf Matt 10: 1). Jesus was saying that we are part of the answer to the prayers for workers. You and I are called to pray for and to be workers.

Jesus appointed you and me to tell others about how he has changed our lives and how he can change theirs. We do this by the witness of our lives and telling others our story! Pope St. John Paul II said, “no believer in Christ... can avoid this supreme duty: to proclaim Christ to all peoples” (Mission of the Redeemer, 3).

Each day ask the Lord to set up divine appointments to share his love. Be available to serve on your

parish’s ChristLife team. Pray and ask him how and where he wants you to enter the harvest fields.

We are so grateful to have this mandate from the Lord Jesus to serve together and be able to support one another in responding to his call. We are grateful for the ways we are growing as a community of brothers and sisters who are united by our commitment to bear witness to the good news of God’s merciful love and empowering presence in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Let’s press on to live for him, to build up the Church and to reach the lost.

Your brother,

Dave Nodar

Founder and Senior Leader of ChristLife

CHRISTLIFE NATIONAL CONFERENCE

INVITATION FROM

BISHOP SAVORITO



BISHOP MICHAEL SAVORITO INVITES YOU TO THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE!

The ChristLife Process is a practical tool that can transform ordinary Catholics into ardent followers of Jesus Christ. Bishop Michael Saporito, an auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of Newark, has seen this first hand many times in his parish communities.

Bishop Saporito, who will be speaking at the ChristLife National Conference, invites you to join him September 28-30 in Clarksville, Maryland.

Learn More and Register at
www.ChristLifeConference.org

Watch Bishop Saporito’s Video Invitation: youtube.com/watch?v=gS7ouotfLgU

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE LAST 12 MONTHS

*Your Support Makes
A Big Difference!*



6,000

People participated in ChristLife courses around the world



1,000

Leaders received evangelization training (live, online, and using self-directed resources)



175,000

Visits to the ChristLife.org website



5,000

Free ChristLife video rentals by groups and individuals



3

New resources launched

Weekly email prayer resource, Following Christ in Spanish, new ChristLife marketing brochure



**THANK YOU FOR
PARTNERING WITH
CHRISTLIFE!**

ANSWERED PRAYER:

NEW WORKERS FOR THE MISSION

We are excited to announce the addition of two new missionary disciples to our staff! Lisa and Isabella are truly answers to prayer and are already making a big impact for the Kingdom.

Please pray God blesses our new sisters in Christ with wisdom, strength, and apostolic creativity for the mission!



Lisa White

I'm excited to join the ChristLife staff. I've been involved with ChristLife for 12 years in my home parish and as a member of the Board of Directors. I'm thrilled for the opportunity to support the upcoming ChristLife National Conference as the Co-Administrator and am particularly looking forward to hosting it at my parish of St. Louis (Clarksville, MD)

at the end of September. It is a privilege to help others encounter Christ and is faith-building and meaningful to be part of a ministry whose work of evangelization is accomplished in such a powerful yet personal way. I hope to see and meet many of you at the National Conference in September!

Isabella Schatz



I'm the new intern here at ChristLife! For a long time I thought I wanted to work in the corporate world when I graduated from college, but after a turning point in my faith last summer, I discerned my desire was to work for a Catholic organization. This past spring, the Lord brought ChristLife into my life in such an unexpected way—a random email from someone I hadn't spoken to in months—Praise God! Throughout the upcoming school year, I will be focused on working with ChristLife Young Adults which I'm super excited for. ChristLife has already been such a blessing to me and I'm eager to see how God continues to work in my life here!

WHERE HAVE WE BEEN?

ChristLife is excited to be "back out on the road" at parishes and other events!



PHILADELPHIA

Dave spoke to Archdiocesan leaders in preparation for a regional Discovering Christ



PITTSBURGH

ChristLife presented diocesan training for several parish teams



BOSTON

Parish leaders represented ChristLife at the Boston Eucharistic Congress

ON MISSION AS A FAMILY

BY: ALLY ASCOSI



THE ASCOSI FAMILY AT ST. MARKS
(L-R) TERESE, LEYNA, ANTHONY, ALLY, SILAS, PETER

There is nothing like joining others in mission to really bind you and make you feel like family. But what if you are already a family?

Last summer, Fr. Santhosh George invited our family to bring ChristLife to his parish, St. Mark in Catonsville, MD. For a considerable part of our marriage, Peter and I ran ChristLife courses together. In the last few years, the demands of little ones have limited my involvement. But, amazingly, God had already been stirring in us a desire to run ChristLife together, so we said yes!

A team of wonderful people came together, people who were energized and drawn to the vision of growing in faith and community. After months of prayer and training, the Discovering Christ course was approaching. And then the setbacks started. In particular, an uptick of Covid cases forced us to get creative, changing the start date and cutting the dinner.

From the beginning, we desired to run a Discovering Christ for Kids, so families could come together, enjoy a meal and then participate simultaneously. But with the changes and increased safety measures, we wrestled about whether to have an

offering for kids. After much prayer, Peter was convicted.

It wasn't just about doing something for the kids, but engaging our kids in this mission together.

I remember the shift, it happened at the dinner table one night, when Peter announced that we were doing this together and each of us had an important role to play. Instantly our kids went from passive to fully engaged.

After seeing the simple invite cards we made, Leyna, my 12-year-old said, "If we want kids to come, we need them to be more fun! With more color!" It was true!



THE COLORFUL INVITE CARD OUR DAUGHTER APPROVED

One afternoon, the pastor and our family went door-to-door and invited all of St. Mark's neighbors to come. I was hesitant to knock on doors, wanting to just leave the invite in the mailbox, but my kids boldly knocked and invited anyone they saw!

My daughter even reached out to many of her unchurched neighbor friends, and several came!

The kids not only helped with invites, but helped with setup, clean-up, kids activities, and greeting.

The course turned out to be a huge success. We had a packed parish center, with many more participants than expected. Our hospitality team made it feel so special with nice desserts and decor. God was faithful, many people had a personal encounter with Jesus or their faith became truly real to them.

And as for the kids, although it was a small group, we had several children come who were able to hear the gospel for the first time. One child said, "Jesus is a King!?" Wow, I didn't know that." Many wanted to come back each week, and our own kids looked forward to Tuesday night with enthusiasm!

The relationships we've made and experiences we've shared through ChristLife have made our new parish feel like home.

And doing it as a family allowed us to discover, follow, and share Jesus together!

Ally Ascosi is a ChristLife speaker, volunteer, and her husband Peter is Assistant Director of the ministry.



ST. MARK'S CHRISTLIFE INFO SESSION

FROM ATHEIST TO CATHOLIC EVANGELIZER

BY: COLIN REITENMEYER

Before I met Jesus, I was an Atheist. I believed that humans just made up God to control society. My life was boring and routine. I had no sense of purpose in my life, and I went from day to day doing things that felt good, regardless of if it hurt others. I was restless and was searching for something that would truly make me happy.

One day when I was Thirteen years old I was listening to a podcast, and the man speaking was a Christian. He argued that if a society of people is what determines good from evil, what if you were teleported to a world where Nazi Germany had won WW2. Would what their society said about what is Good and Evil be correct? Of course not. Something higher than humanity must determine what is right and wrong.

I then concluded that God must exist. But where would I find him?

I looked into multiple religions and I found Christianity interesting in particular. The idea that we humans are broken and Jesus died that we may have eternal life resonated with my heart. I spent the years 2020 and 2021 reading books and watching videos on the internet about Christianity. I went to Mass for the first time and I was amazed at the sacredness of what I saw. The beauty that I saw there was what I had been searching for my entire life. I then joined RCIA and converted to the Catholic Faith. I was confirmed in February 2022, and it was the happiest time of my life.

Ever since then Jesus has blessed my life. My once restless heart is now satisfied by the God who loves me. I grew in friendship with many of my fellow Catholics and have a new loving and supportive church family at my parish.

Jesus truly made me happy and has given me a sense of purpose and mission in my life.

A few weeks before my confirmation, I was attending Mass and afterwards a man gave an announcement that a series called Discovering Christ was starting at my parish. I felt a



COLIN'S PROFESSION OF FAITH AT HIS CONFIRMATION WITH HIS PASTOR, FR. SANTHOSH GEORGE

calling of the Holy Spirit to give ChristLife a chance. The week after my confirmation we had our first session, and it was fascinating. Many of the questions presented by Discovering Christ were important questions and ones I did not have centered in my mind. I began to discuss these questions with my friends and classmates; such as what is the meaning of life or why is Jesus so important, and I saw the seeds of evangelization being planted in them.

I loved the Discovering Christ course, and I met good friends and community there as well.

A few weeks after we finished Discovering Christ we started Following Christ. This series was amazing for my faith life. I learned how to forgive others who had wronged me, and my relationships with them improved. And most importantly I learned how to be a Spirit-Empowered disciple of the Lord and carry that out into my daily life. I saw great changes and opportunities in my life. A classmate had been cruel to me that year and I had fallen into the temptation to be cruel back. But the Holy Spirit called me to apologize to her for not living the Christian way of loving your enemy. This is how ChristLife helped me to be a better disciple of the Lord.

Colin Reitenmeyer is a sophomore in high school. He lives in Catonsville, MD and attends St. Mark Parish.



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

STAFF

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

VOLUNTEER STAFF
Marg Oehrli, Mary Giesey

ChristLife
600 Cooks Lane
Baltimore, MD 21229
1-888-498-8474 (toll-free)
info@christlife.org
www.christlife.org

[facebook.com/ChristLifeOrg](https://www.facebook.com/ChristLifeOrg)
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[youtube.com/ChristLifeMinistry](https://www.youtube.com/ChristLifeMinistry)