

WINTER 2024 NEWSLETTER

Founder's Corner
Highlights from 2023
"God works in wondrous ways!"
Learn, Love, Lead with ChristLife Young Adults

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you.

And nations shall come to your light...

ISAIAH 60:1-3

DEAR BROTHERS AND SISTERS,

Greetings in this new year! Jesus' essential message in words and deeds was: In him, the kingdom of God is at hand. Therefore, repent and believe the Good News.

This message has been at the heart of the Church's mission from the beginning. "And Peter said to them, 'Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit" (Acts 2:3).

It is only when we repent—have a change of thinking and personally believe in Jesus as Lord and Savior—that we have forgiveness and grace (given in Baptism) to live a life in the light that helps us see and live correctly.

We can see a thick darkness covering people. "And he will destroy on this mountain the covering that is cast over all peoples, the veil that is spread over all nations" (Isaiah 25:7). St. Paul explains that when we reject God our minds are darkened (Romans 1:21; 28).

Can we agree that darkness covers the nations and that many are behaving irrationally and that it will lead to an obvious outcome?

Every person will inevitably stand before the judgment seat of Christ to receive eternal life with the Lord or perish eternally from the One who created us to joyfully live in his love eternally. He longs for all to be saved, to come to him through the Lord Jesus who died for our sins and was raised to restore us to friendship with God the Father.

In this critical time in the nations and the Church, the Lord calls you and I to let our light shine for the sake of those living in darkness.

He wants you and me to give witness to the Light of the world in word and lifestyle. Many people are living in fear, depression, and division without knowing what leads to life. We are to witness to them the power of the Good News.

"And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being changed into his likeness from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit" (2 Corinthians 3:18).

Dear sisters and brothers, Jesus is calling us to live fully devoted lives for the glory of the Father in the Holy Spirit and for the salvation of those living around us.

Consider taking time as we begin this new year to reflect on your life in Christ. I'm doing that. Consider committing to daily prayer and Scripture, going to the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and having fellowship with others who want to live as children of Light as well as grow as intercessors for the Church and the salvation of souls.



Love in our Lord,

Dave Nodar

Founder and Senior Leader

JOIN CHRISTLIFE IN PRAYER AND PRAISE



CHRISTLIFE COURSES

Thanksgiving for the lives that have been transformed through the ChristLife courses in 2023. And for a fruitful year of evangelization in 2024.

VISION FOR THE NEW YEAR

Prayers that ChristLife would be in step with the promptings of the Holy Spirit for our mission in this new year.

CHRISTIAN UNITY

We join the Church in praying for Christian Unity. That Jesus' prayer in John 17:21 would be fulfilled, "that they may all be one."

NEW WEBSITE

Pray for our website project, for the Lord to give our team clarity and creativity in creating a website that will serve many!

"GOD WORKS IN WONDROUS WAYS!"

In 2021, ChristLife began a partnership with the Diocese of Pittsburgh called 'Revive Us O Lord'. This partnership was part of their Leaven Initiative, aimed at equipping parishes and lay leaders with the tools they need for their evangelization efforts to flourish. Over the course of the last two years, we have presented three training conferences.

Melissa Viator, Pastoral Associate for Saint Mary Magdalene Parish, attended our training in June 2022. Her parish began running ChristLife shorty after that and, in November 2023, she joined us again as a leader to help encourage parishes in their journey to begin ChristLife. Below, she shares how she brought ChristLife to her parish.



MELISSA VIATOR

God works in wondrous ways! In January 2020, Saint Mary Magdalene Parish, in the East End of Pittsburgh, was officially formed. Three former parishes,

in close proximity, worked tirelessly to merge into one big, beautiful, blended family. The excitement of building new relationships and discovering ways to continue the local traditions of each former parish while creating new traditions together was quickly challenged with the pandemic. Zoom meetings ensued and live-streamed Masses kept us connected, but nothing is quite like being together.

When life began to look a little bit like it used to, we started to ask the question:

"How can we build meaningful relationships in our new parish?" A deep love for Christ and His Church, and a strong desire to serve, quickly emerged as our common threads. Where to turn? What to do? Who will help? The questions were endless, and the Holy Spirit responded with a solution for EVERYTHING and more.

In May of 2022, amid all these questions, I received an email invitation to attend a special training "aimed at the transformation of parishes" ... OK, Holy Spirit! I see you!

I registered for my first ChristLife training the very same day.

The training ignited a new fire inside of me and set me on a path with a clear goal in mind, bringing our parish family together to Discover, Follow, and Share Christ through the ChristLife program.

Our pastor said "Yes!" Volunteers came forward, our diocese offered training, financial and spiritual support, parishioners signed up, and ChristLife became the very first program of our merged parish.

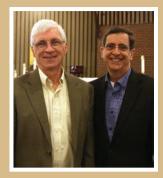
ChristLife has been a wonder to behold.

Lasting friendships have formed between people who had not previously had an opportunity to spend time together. The entire program helped to foster an atmosphere of trust which has led to beautiful encounter with one another. One cannot help but notice that when people are getting to know each other in this way, hearts are changing and the differences that we think are holding us back are strengthening us to do the work that God has called us to do. ChristLife has helped us to see that the unity and welcome that we seek as the Body of Christ is truly possible

> and indeed present through deep personal relationships with our Lord, Jesus Christ.



EQUIP CONFERENCE JUNE 19-21, 2024



SAVE THE DATE! We are pleased to announce that Ralph Martin will be a keynote speaker at our international Equip Conference! His prophetic voice for what the Lord is doing at this time will be an encouragement as we seek to evangelize in our daily lives!

Equip 2024 is the starting point of training for parishes who want offer the ChristLife process. This conference is for new parishes AND

new team members from veteran parishes to be set on fire and receive comprehensive training to run ChristLife.

Help us spread the word! Do you know a parish that would benefit from ChristLife? Share what ChristLife has meant to you and invite them to Equip.

Learn More: www.ChristLifeConference.org

HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2023

"[Our] responsibility is to equip God's people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ."

EPHESIANS 4:12 (NLT)





1 Evangelizing and Making Disciples

We estimate that over 6,000 people participated in ChristLife courses in 2023, primarily in the United States, but also in Mexico, Canada, Ireland, and New Zealand!

Photo: Following Christ participants from a course at St Peter Chanel Catholic Parish in Waimakariri, Canterbury, New Zealand.

Training and Strengthening Leaders

Over 325 church leaders representing 87 parishes attended ChristLife trainings in Yonkers, NY; Pittsburgh, PA; Baltimore, MD; and Arlington, VA.

Photo: Fr. Erik Arnold speaking at our 2023 Strengthen Gathering in Severna Park, MD.

3 New Technology to Equip Evangelizers

In 2023, ChristLife partnered with the innovative Catholic creative agency, Fuzati to develop a new website. Launch date April 1, 2024. The new



website will help many more people learn about ChristLife and offer a much better user experience to all visitors! Over 33,000 people visited our website in 2023!

Photo: ChristLife and Fuzati web development team.

4 Brazil Partnership

In September, we started a partnership with the *Association of the Lord Jesus* to bring ChristLife to Brazil! The Portuguese translation of Discovering Christ is currently



underway and a pilot course is planned to begin in February 2024 in the city of Campinas.

Photo: Fr. Eduardo O'Doherty, President of the Association of the Lord Jesus, with some of the ChristLife staff.



LEARN, LOVE, LEAD WITH CHRISTLIFE YOUNG ADULTS

BY: ISABELLA SCHATZ

This past fall season, ChristLife Young Adults began a fresh approach with our new seasonal model: Learn, Love, Lead. This model is directly tied into ChristLife's three steps of Discover, Follow, and Share. Each week we are blessed to have dynamic speakers share their personal stories and enrich our understanding of faith.

In September CLYA had the opportunity to bring Mike Gormley in as a speaker, host of two Catholic podcasts and pictured above with our Servant Leader team. This has been a wonderful season of growth in the ministry and we are so excited to see how the Lord calls us deeper!

At ChristLife Young Adults, we truly want to foster friendships, deepen connections, and grow in our relationship with the Lord!

Here are some quotes from our young adults:

CLYA always lifts my spirit; I truly feel like I have a home here."

- ANONYMOUS



ChristLife Young Adults has been vital in providing me with a faith community.

Not only have I developed new friendships and connections, but I've also grown exponentially in my relationship with the Lord!"

- MORGAN

ChristLife Young Adults is an outreach of ChristLife in the Archdiocese of Baltimore.

Visit www.christlifeya.com to learn more.



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

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