# Christopher Highlights



t the 70th annual Christopher Awards ceremony this past May, our 2019 Christopher Leadership Award was presented to Frank Siller, Chairman/CEO of the Stephen Siller Tunnel to Towers Foundation, which financially supports catastrophically injured veterans, first responders, and Gold Star families. Inspired by their parents' devotion to St. Francis of Assisi and his mantra, "While we have time, let us do good," Frank and his siblings created the Foundation to honor their brother Stephen, a firefighter who was killed on 9/11 during rescue efforts at the World Trade Center.

On our "Christopher Closeup" radio show and podcast, host Tony Rossi has interviewed many notable people who are living out their faith in ways that help others. Featured guests include ABC News correspondent Paula Faris discussing her "Journeys of Faith" podcast – and actor Gary Sinise sharing his mission to bring hope and healing to our nation's military veterans.



#### The Christophers' 75th ANNIVERSARY / 2020



Next year we celebrate the 75th anniversary of The Christophers. We couldn't have made it this far without the generous support of people like you. Thank you for always remembering us. With your continued support, the legacy of hope we have built together

will endure for many years to come. Thanks, and God Bless!





You Can Change the World!

"I Can't Lose. (Why?) I'll tell you why...because I have Faith, Courage & Enthusiasm!"

Leadership Course Motto

## The Christopher **Leadership Workshop**

Saint Mary of the Lake, Mundelein, Illinois

We held our annual Leadership weekend at the University of Saint Mary of the Lake in Mundelein, Illinois....This popular course (for 30+ years at Mundelein) continues to change lives and empower the next generation of leaders to improve their

communities and remain true to their faith. One graduate wrote, "This opportunity is an invaluable gift that changes lives, my own and others. It's inspirational to go out into the world as a light of Christ and make a difference. Thank you!!!" This popular course continues under the guidance of lead instructor Pam Hammond, along with Annmarie Mauro and Gloria Henry.





#### Helping the Poor & Imprisoned

Jim Collins is an excellent example of a Christopher Leadership Course graduate who continues to put faith into action in his life. Jim has worked with the poorest of the

poor in Jamaica as a volunteer with the Missionaries of the Poor. He also helps to run retreats for prisoners through Residents Encounter Christ. Talking about his work with prisoners, Jim says, "The thing about these retreats is that you seem to go in focused on the idea that you're bringing Christ to these people, and you realize when you go there that you're taking Christ home with you to share with your community."

WINNERS of the 31st Annual Video Contest for College students ... and the 29th Annual Poster Contest for High School Students:

The winner of our 31st annual video contest was Brandon Gosselin for his autobiographical film "One Person Can Make a Difference: Never Give Up," which tells the story of his comeback from a trau-

matic brain injury. Gosselin's story shows the tremendous struggle that accompanies brain injury and the determination, adaptation, and creative thinking needed on the part of all in society to chart a course of recovery for those who are suffering.

First prize in our 29th annual poster contest went to Logan Hoyt for his hand painted scene

of a girl planting flowers, which so beautifully illustrates how each person can improve the world around them one act at a time.

# **Basic Leadership Training**

This past May and June, Christopher leadership coordinator and instructor, Pam Hammond, presented training segments in public speaking and communication skills for religious education leaders in the Archdiocese of New York. Communications Skills is one part of the Archdiocese's required Basic Leadership Training Course for all new Directors and Coordinators of



Religious Education. Eighteen dedicated leaders participated in the Saturday workshops held at parishes in the Bronx and Middletown, NY.



#### **Christopher Prison Ministry:**

By sharing inspirational materials that we produce, The Christophers serve countless deacons, chaplains and prisoners across the country, helping to uplift their spirits by adding God's light to the darkness in their lives.

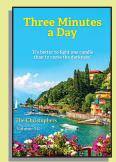
"We wanted you (and your benefactors) to know how much your generous and faithful support of our ministry has meant to us and the souls in our care. May God

continue to bless each of you and your work on behalf of those who seek Him." - Deacon Peter André, Director of St. Petersburg Prison Ministry

**Light One Candle columns** are offered free of charge to diocesan newspapers across the country.

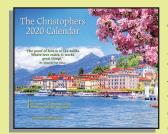
If your diocesan newspaper is not carrying our columns, we encourage you to reach out to their editorial staff to request they do so. The wisdom and hope we share in these columns is an uplifting addition to any Catholic newspaper.

# NEW Inspiration for You! To Order: www.christophers.org or 1-888-298-4050



# NEW! Three Minutes a Day book (2020)... is on its way!

Volume 54 of our daily reflection series will soon be hot off the presses! **Pre-Order today!** Give this gift of encouragement to yourself or to others...and let God's light guide you throughout the year!



## NEW! The Christophers 2020 Calendar

This uplifting calendar features bits of wisdom to reflect on each day of the year. With plenty of room to make notes

about scheduling for the day, it will become an indispensable fixture in any home.

## **NEW!** Get Yourself Spiritually Fit

Get Yourself Spiritually Fit, one of our latest News Notes, exemplifies how our print materials have the power to plant seeds that can blossom into life-changing experiences. It is a beautiful meditation on building a relationship with Christ through a combination of prayer and action.

