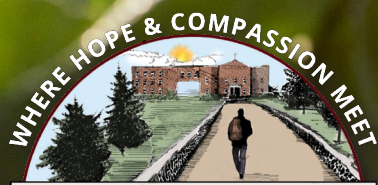


# INN *sight*

The Healing Newsletter of St. Christopher's Inn  
Restoring hope, dignity, and lives since 1909

Where hope  
takes root —  
and new life  
begins.



ST. CHRISTOPHER'S INN  
at Graymoor since 1909

ADDICTION TREATMENT & RECOVERY COMMUNITY

Summer 2026

A Ministry of the Franciscan Friars of the Atonement  
Walking with men on the path to recovery.

## IN THIS ISSUE



### A STORY OF HEALING

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A Brother Christopher's journey into recovery - and back to serve others.



### LIVING THE FRANCISCAN SPIRIT

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### A LEGACY THAT LIVES ON

#### The Pritchard Family

One family's generosity continuing to change lives.



### NEW FOR 2026

#### Brothers Christopher Legacy Society

A commitment to the future of healing.



### JOIN US

#### Be the Bridge Walk for Recovery

September 20, 2026

Walkway Over the Hudson



### STAY CONNECTED

#### Franciscan Circle of Hope

Sustaining the mission every day.

## A Message from Our Spiritual Director

There are moments when I am reminded that recovery is never a solitary act. It is always a shared grace. Here at St. Christopher's Inn, every step a man takes toward healing, and recovery is supported by a network of compassion: caring staff, fellow Brothers Christopher, and you—our faithful friends.

In this issue of InnSight, you will read about a Brother Christopher whose own story has been marked not only by struggle, but also by recovery and renewed purpose. You will meet a group of secular Franciscans who have made manifest the life of St. Francis by helping to support our work here at St. Christopher's Inn. And you'll meet a family and a business whose generosity lives on within our healing mission.

Though many of us have never met, our stories intersect here at the Inn in profound ways. They are stories of hope and stories that make hope possible.

We are happy to announce the establishment of The Brothers Christopher Legacy Society. This important legacy society is rooted in that same spirit of hope. It is a testament to those who believe that this work must endure, not only for today's Brothers Christopher, but for those who will come to us in the years ahead seeking healing. To make such a commitment is to say, "This mission matters beyond my lifetime." It, too, is an extraordinary act of hope.

As you read the pages that follow, I invite you to reflect on the important role you play here. You are not simply observers. You are a part of this mission and your kindness echoes in every breakthrough, every restored relationship, and every new beginning.

For that, and for you, I am deeply grateful.

Peace and all good,



*F. Dennis Polanco, S.*

Father Dennis Polanco, SA  
President & Spiritual Director

## Circle of Hope: A Franciscan Path to Recovery

Each day, men arrive at St. Christopher's Inn in crisis—seeking a place of safety, dignity, and a real path forward. Your monthly gift becomes a steady act of Franciscan hospitality—a way of walking beside our Brothers Christopher as they heal and begin again.



In the spirit of St. Francis, we are called "to heal wounds, to unite what has fallen apart, and to bring home those who have lost their way." As a member of the **Franciscan Circle of Hope**, you help make that call real—day after day—through sustained care, treatment, and spiritual support.

### Why become a Circle of Hope member?

Monthly giving allows St. Christopher's Inn to count on support we can plan with—so we can respond when needs arise and care must continue.

### Member benefits:

- Mission updates from Father Dennis
- Remembrance in a monthly mass celebrated at St. Christopher's Inn
- Special annual invitations to recovery celebrations and mission moments
- A 10% discount at the Inn's "That Nothing Be Lost" Thrift Shop.

Help us sustain the ongoing healing work of St. Christopher's Inn by giving monthly through our Circle of Hope.

Contact Audrey Warn, Mission Support at 845-424-2142 or [awarn@atonementfriars.org](mailto:awarn@atonementfriars.org)



[StChristophersInn.org/CircleOfHope](http://StChristophersInn.org/CircleOfHope)

## Introducing the Brothers Christopher Legacy Society: Hope for the Future

Every day, men arrive at St. Christopher's Inn with little left—but still holding on to hope that their lives can be different. They arrive seeking a second chance—and find a place of welcome, dignity, and hope. This healing work has always been sustained by individuals who believe in walking with others through their most difficult moments.

Today, we are honored to introduce the **Brothers Christopher Legacy Society**—a new way to ensure that this ministry of healing continues for generations to come.

The Brothers Christopher Legacy Society recognizes those who have chosen to include St. Christopher's Inn in their estate plans. Through a bequest, beneficiary designation, or other planned gift, you can make a lasting commitment to the future of the Inn and to every man who will walk through its doors in the years ahead.

A legacy gift is more than a financial decision—it is a quiet promise that this place of healing will be here when the next man arrives at our door. It says that the work of restoring dignity, rebuilding lives, and bringing hope where it is most needed must continue. In this quiet and enduring way, members of the Legacy Society help carry forward the Franciscan call "to heal what has been broken and bring home those who have lost their way."

If you have already included St. Christopher's Inn in your estate plans, we would be deeply grateful to welcome you as a founding member of the Brothers Christopher Legacy Society. If you would like to learn more, we invite you to reach out in confidence to **Audrey Warn at 845-424-2142**.

Together, we can ensure that the doors of St. Christopher's Inn remain open—today, tomorrow, and for every man still searching for a new beginning.

### Benefits of Joining the Brothers Christopher Legacy Society

- Personal Legacy Welcome from Father Dennis Polanco, SA, President & Spiritual Director of St. Christopher's Inn.
- Annual and daily Mass remembrance at the Inn.
- Prayerful remembrance within the Brothers Christopher Community.
- Inclusion in the Book of Remembrance, InnSight Newsletter, & St. Christopher's Inn Impact Report.

**A Legacy of Healing. A Future of Hope.**

**I am a good man, worthy of love and respect.**



*Hope for the Future*

## John B. : A Story of Hope

By his own admission, John B.'s life was "in total shambles" due to his substance use. By the time he arrived at St. Christopher's Inn, he had "given up on life and was just waiting for it to end." It wasn't for lack of trying to get help—he had already been through more than a dozen treatment programs in search of recovery.

When he entered St. Christopher's Inn, John was immediately greeted by its guiding principle of healing. Emblazoned on the wall of the large group room are the words: *"I am a good man, worthy of love and respect."*

At St. Christopher's Inn, healing takes many forms. Residents participate in individual and group counseling, 12-step recovery groups, and specialty groups that address topics such as grief, spirituality and fatherhood, as well as creative arts therapies and stress management. Yet, among all these offerings, many men say that being reminded of their inherent goodness and dignity, despite the damage caused by the disease of addiction, is what proves most transformative.

**"To be reminded that people care about us even when we don't care about ourselves—that is the entry point to our recovery,"** John says.

He explains that the program encourages the Brothers Christopher to reflect on who they want to become and supports them in removing any obstacles along the way. John understands this journey well. He has walked it himself.

After leaving St. Christopher's Inn, John trained to become a Certified Recovery Peer Advocate (CRPA). Today, he brings that same hope to others as a counselor, walking beside the very men he once stood among. John is a vital member of the St. Christopher's Inn care team.

You can catch a glimpse of John B.'s story by watching this short video:  
<https://StChsophersInn.org/News-And-Events/Videos>



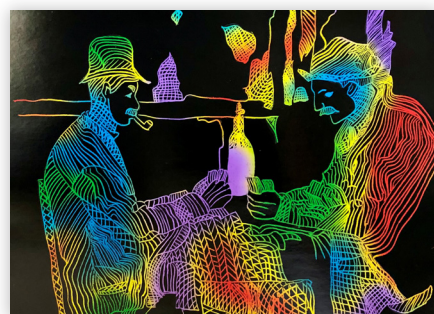
**"The Friars taught us that people care about us even when we don't care about ourselves." -John B.**

Use  
QR Code  
To watch  
Video



## Creative Arts Therapy: Hope through Expression

Creative expression is more than a hobby at St. Christopher's Inn. It's a therapeutic tool that supports emotional healing, brain recovery, identity rebuilding, and long-term resilience. Through the Inn's robust Creative Therapies Program, that includes visual art experiences, creative writing and even a Film Fest, many Brothers Christopher rediscover their voice, purpose, and a healthy outlet, that can become a meaningful part of sustained recovery.



## The Pritchard Family: A Legacy of Hope

**"I thank my God in all my remembrance of you." - Philippians 1:3**

Peter Pritchard, founder of Pritchard Industries—a nationwide leader in facility management and care—joined the St. Christopher's Inn Corporate Council in 2012. He brought both his business acumen and his deep commitment to service to the Council, which serves as an advisory and fundraising body for St. Christopher's Inn.



Peter poured his heart into this work. He introduced us to his wife, Zohreh, and his daughter, Saara, along with her husband, Tom, as well as his son Peter and wife Fatma, all of whom shared his passion for and dedication to the Inn. Through his leadership, Peter not only supported our fundraising events personally and through his business but also inspired colleagues and friends to do the same, providing vital funding for the Inn's operations and programs.



We lost Peter in 2021, but his presence has never left St. Christopher's Inn. We honored his memory and his spirit of generosity at our 2022 **Board of Directors Reception**. His kindness and compassion continue to live on as his family and Pritchard Industries remain steadfast friends and partners. For example, under the leadership of Erin Meehan, President and CEO of Pritchard Industries, Peter's presence continues with the gift of fresh baked holiday pies sent to the Brothers Christopher. Peter's beautiful desk was also gifted to us for use in our offices—an enduring symbol of Peter's continued presence and commitment.

Peter Pritchard's legacy reminds us how one life, one family, and one act of generosity can restore dignity and save lives.



### Ways You Can Offer a Legacy of Hope

- Give from your DAF (Donor Advised Fund) or IRA (Individual Retirement Account).
- Make a gift of Stock or Securities.
- Give through your Charitable Remainder Trust or Unitrust.
- Remember St. Christopher's Inn in your Will.
- Host an event or gathering that benefits St. Christopher's Inn.
- Celebrate your or someone else's special day by donating to St. Christopher's Inn.
- Honor and/or remember someone with donations to St. Christopher's Inn in lieu of flowers.

For further information or to speak about ways you can support the Inn, contact Audrey Warn, Mission Support Team at 845-424-2142 or [awarn@atonementfriars.org](mailto:awarn@atonementfriars.org). The Federal Tax ID EIN# for St. Christopher's Inn is 13-3668321.



# BE THE BRIDGE: Walk for Recovery

-Celebrating the 5th Anniversary-

Sunday, September 20, 2026,  
at the Walkway Over the Hudson  
61 Parker Avenue, Poughkeepsie, NY  
12:00 Check-in/Registration  
1:00 Walk Begins



Support Recovery at the 5th Annual  
Be the Bridge Walk for Recovery!  
Let's make our 5th Anniversary our  
most impactful Walk yet!

Together we'll honor our Brothers  
Christopher, past, present and support the  
lifesaving work of St. Christopher's Inn.

1. Help us carry this mission forward.
2. Make a team and Invite Your Friends and Family.
3. Spread the Word.

Every step raises awareness of St. Christopher's  
Inn and helps another man take his first step  
toward recovery.

To Find Out More, To Register or To  
Donate scan the QR code below or visit  
<https://go.rallyup.com/bethebridge>

**JOIN TODAY!**



## The Healing Spirit of St. Francis: Hope in Action

Across the region, Franciscan Secular Fraternities—faith-based communities of everyday people striving to live simply, love deeply, and serve others in the spirit of St. Francis—have become a powerful source of support for our Brothers Christopher.

Recently, around 50 members from throughout the area, gathered at Graymoor for a pilgrimage during this Jubilee Year of St. Francis. The day was sponsored by the San Damiano Fraternity of Brewster, NY who over 30 years ago, to fulfill an ongoing need at the Inn, started a socks and underwear collection during Christmas. "I don't know how it started, but I see that ripple effect throughout our District in support of the Inn," said Maureen Haege of the San Damiano group. Through ongoing "drives", throughout the year, members help ensure that the Brothers Christopher have access to seasonally appropriate attire and basic hygiene products. This allows us to direct limited resources to other priorities. Some are even crocheting blankets for our men. Every stitch is made with love and prayers.

Beyond material support, these fraternities extend their generosity in other meaningful ways. Financial contributions assist with rent for San Damiano House, our transitional living home, and for program costs.

Maureen has organized Team San Damiano, a fundraising team for our annual Be the Bridge: Walk for Recovery, which raises vital funds for the Inn.

The support, presence and prayers of this special group, serve as a reminder to the men that they are not alone.



## Join Us at the San Damiano Farmers Market on Summer Fridays

San Damiano Farm is an integral part of our healing program. Some men who have completed their treatment at St. Christopher's Inn are offered housing and vocational training on the farm, while they reside at San Damiano Farmhouse. We host a Farmers Market most summer Fridays from 10 am to 2 pm. **Proceeds help to fund the program.** Come cut a fresh bouquet of flowers, pick up some summer vegetables or find the perfect plant to adorn your home. The San Damiano Farmer's Market is a real community experience!





# A Night of Impact: Celebrating Hope, Building Futures. Twentieth Board of Directors Fundraising Reception

**Join us for an unforgettable evening in support of the  
lifesaving work of St. Christopher's Inn.**

An inspiring setting overlooking the skyline of New York City for a night of fellowship, gratitude, and purpose. Together, we will celebrate the transformative mission of St. Christopher's Inn, where men seeking freedom from the disease of addiction find healing, stability, and renewed hope.

## HONORING

Mark W. Goldberg  
Executive Vice President, Finance & Administration  
Rolex Watch U.S.A. Inc.  
Chairman, St. Christopher's Inn Board of Directors

## HONORARY CHAIR

Elizabeth Ailes

## EVENT DETAILS

Thursday, November 19, 2026 ~ 6:00 PM  
Bar SixtyFive at The Rainbow Room  
Rockefeller Plaza, New York City

## STAND WITH US. CHANGE A LIFE.

Your support of the **2026 Board of Directors Reception** directly sustains the lifesaving work of St. Christopher's Inn.

Reserve your place, make a gift, or become a sponsor today  
[www.StChristophersInn.org/BoardReception](http://www.StChristophersInn.org/BoardReception)

