



# Thank you for joining us for today's program

*The program will begin at 12 p.m. ET.*

*This presentation is being recorded and the recording will be made available to you.*

Catholic health care is on the front lines responding to the coronavirus outbreak in the United States. During this time, we pray for all those affected by the virus. CHA has created a webpage with information, prayers and resources from our members and other reliable sources related to COVID-19, available at:

**[www.chausa.org/coronavirus](http://www.chausa.org/coronavirus)**



## The Elderly – Our Future

A WEBINAR SERIES SPONSORED BY THE COMMUNITY OF SANT'EGIDIO, CATHOLIC CHARITIES USA AND THE CATHOLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES

# A New Document from the Pontifical Academy for Life

March 9, 2021



# Moderator

CHRIS LOWNEY

*Vice Chair, Board of Trustees  
CommonSpirit Health*





# ARCHBISHOP VINCENZO PAGLIA

*President*

*Pontifical Academy for Life*

[WATCH THE ARCHBISHOP'S VIDEO](#)



# Presenter

**FR. CHARLES BOUCHARD, OP, S.T.D.**

*Senior Director, Theology and Sponsorship  
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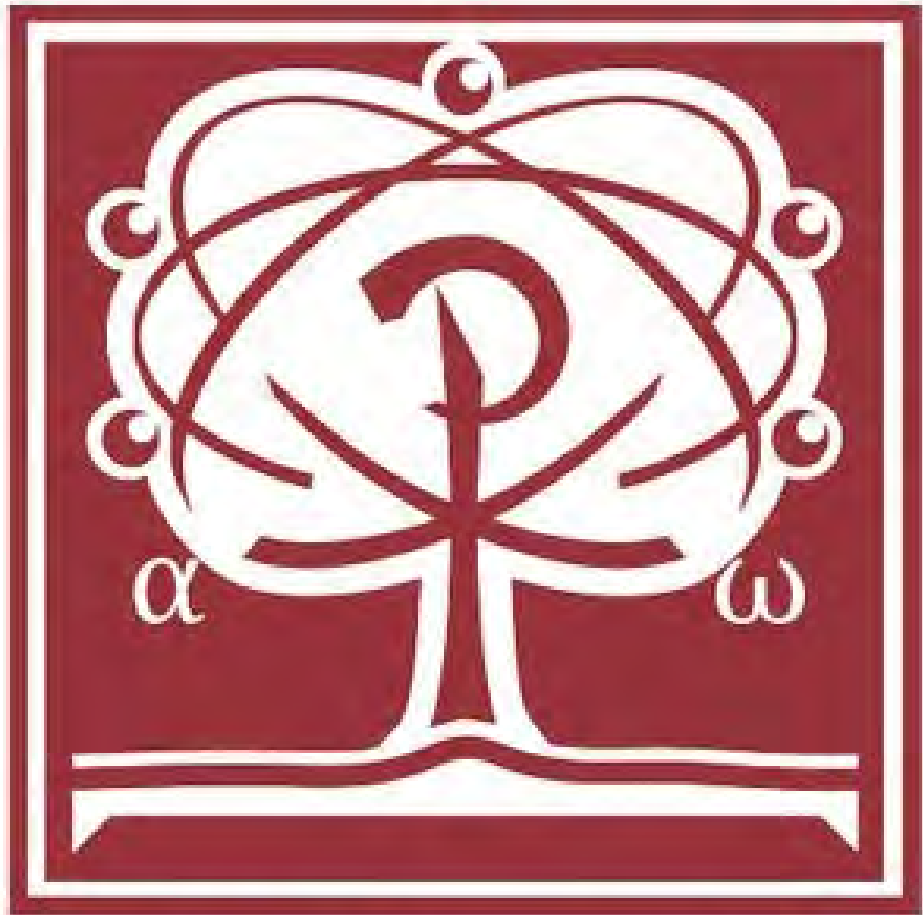


*Pontifical Academy for Life*

# Old Age: Our Future

The Elderly after the Pandemic





PONTIFICIA | PRO  
ACADEMIA | VITA

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# Key themes

- The lessons we have learned from COVID – nothing new but old issues in high relief.
- The centrality of community, solidarity, family and friendship, especially for the elderly.
- The ways in which our culture works against those things.
- A special solidarity between the elderly and the young.





# Writings of Pope Francis

- Document draws heavily on the writings of the Pope, especially *Humana Communitas* (letter to the Pontifical Academy, January 6, 2019), *Fratelli Tutti*, and “Only Love Can Save Us” (2013).
- Special Prayer, March 27, 2020
- “In Loneliness the Coronavirus Kills More”  
*Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life, April 7, 2020*

# We need a new paradigm of senior care

- Create “new space.”
- We need to become close to the elderly.
- Our current approach does not encourage that – it is a result of a “throwaway culture.”
- Individuals age differently and have different stories.
- We need living situations that are not hospitals but homes.
  - The prevalence of the acute care model for senior care



Encounter  
between  
young and old,  
past and future

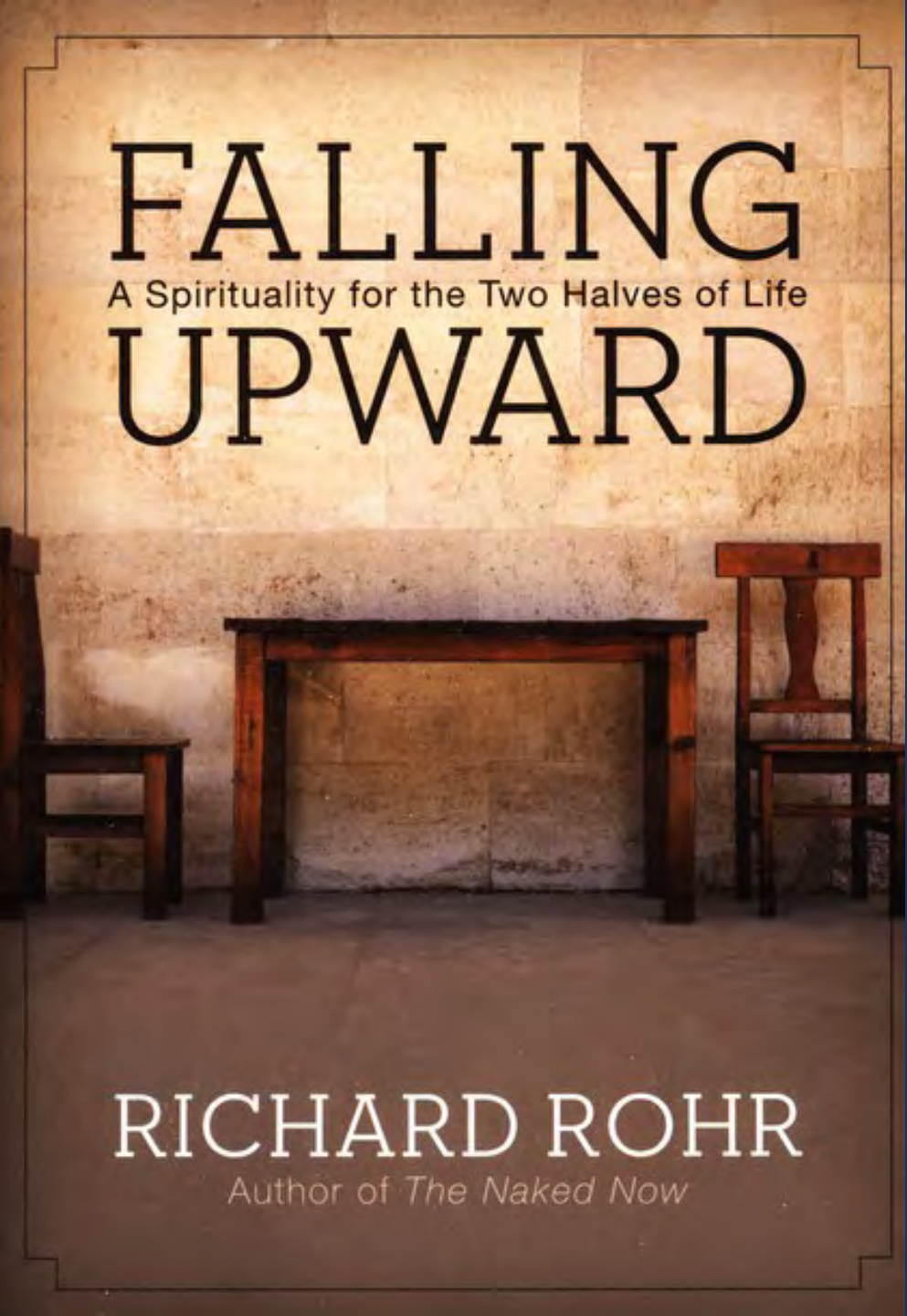




- Uses story of Mary and Joseph bringing the child Jesus to Simeon and Anna.
- “Hope thus springs from the encounter between two fragile people, a child and an elderly person, to remind us that the Lord reveals greatness in smallness and strength in tenderness.”

# A New Paradigm

- This new paradigm must be imaginative and adaptive, eliminating barriers, even architectural ones.
- It must see caregivers in a different light.
- It must use technology that allows the elderly in their homes to create an integrated system of care.
- Overall goal of this new paradigm: “Effective reforms should have as their principal goal the personalization of social, health and welfare initiatives” for the elderly.



# FALLING UPWARD

A Spirituality for the Two Halves of Life

## The Privileges and Blessing of Age

RICHARD ROHR

*Author of *The Naked Now**



# FALLING UPWARD

A Spirituality for the Two Halves of Life

RICHARD ROHR  
*Author of The Naked Now*

- The elderly have grown in faith and wisdom, which the next generation need.
- We need to evangelize the elderly for this particular moment in life.
- The elderly in turn can evangelize us, especially the young.
- Ask them to be “actors in the new evangelization to transmit the Gospel themselves.” *John Paul II, “Letter to the Elderly,” 1999*



# The Prophetic Role of the Elderly

- We must not only “revive hope in the elderly, but also give younger generations the lifeblood, which springs from the dreams of the elderly, irreplaceable vehicles for memory to wisely guide the future.”
- Depriving them of their “prophetic role, setting them aside for purely productive reasons, causes an incalculable impoverishment.”



“Your elders will dream,  
your young people will  
have visions.”

*Joel 3.1*

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# Discussion and Questions



# Dialogue

**MSGR. MICHAEL BOLAND**

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*President  
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**JULIE TROCCHIO**

*Senior Director  
Community Benefit and Continuing Care  
Catholic Health Association*

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# Discussion and Questions



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## **Impacts of Pandemic and Improved Longevity**

*March 24 | 12 to 1 p.m. ET*

## **Alternative Examples for Eldercare**

*April 21, 2021 | 12 to 1 p.m. ET*

## **Connecting for Greater Understanding and Action for Elders**

*May 26, 2021 | 12 to 1 p.m. ET*



# Thank you for attending

Please complete the evaluation (link in chat box).

Your feedback is important to us.

**CHA Service Center is here for you**

**(800) 230-7823 | Mon – Fri | 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (CT)**

**servicecenter@chausa.org**