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## Message from the Diocese of Richmond

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## Message From The Diocese of Richmond

Since the May issue of the Linacre Quarterly is being sponsored by the Northern Virginia and Washington Guilds of Catholic Physicians, I welcome this op ortunity of expressing my admiration of and gratitude to our Catholic physicials who, serving our people by the alleviation of suffering and the enhancement and prolongation of life, base their medical practice upon authentic Christ principles.

Physicians more than men of almost any other profession are intima v aware of the many profound and worrisome problems and ailments which p ue body and soul. Catholic physicians have knowledge of Christian moral princips and an understanding of their application in various specific situations.

These are days of confusion: of unrest and moral decadence. There individuals and associations who are favoring and fostering anti-life such as the killing of the unborn by abortion, and destruction of the aged by euthanasia and the sterilization of the impoverished. We hear morality" which is noe other than the old immorality.

In the midst of the pagan atmosphere which pervades our society at everyone, married couples and our youth, all are more or less expose those who suffer physical or mental illness, sickness affecting body an to their physicians for comfort, relief and advice. They rely on the d fessional competence and because of their faith in his Faith they ar of receiving wholesome advice and correct treatment.

Therefore, the Catholic physician, more than most men, has daily of of practicing the Apostolate of the Laity as recommended by the Vatic "Since in this age of ours, new problems are arising and extremely serio gaining currency which tend to undermine the foundations of religio order and human society itself, we earnestly exhort each according to gifts to be more diligent in doing his part according to the mind of the explain and defend Christian principles and to apply them rightly to the of our era."

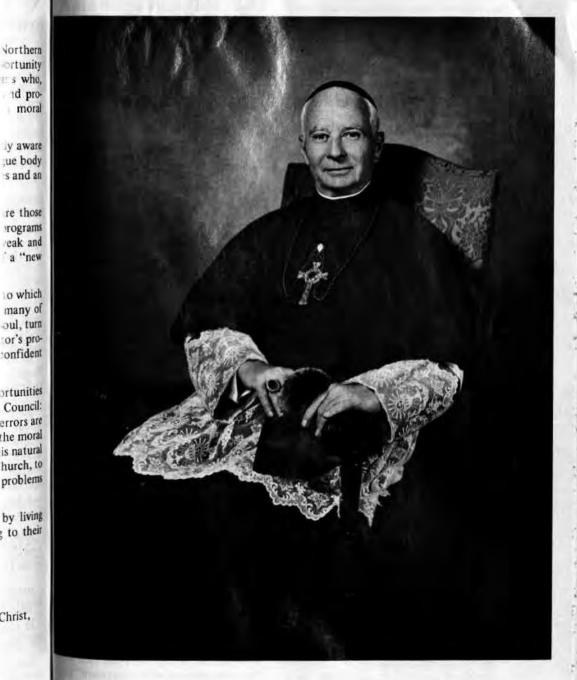
by living Our Catholic Physicians meet this challenge of the Lay Apostola practical Catholic lives and ministering to their fellow-men according to their Catholic consciences and their professional competence.

May the Divine Physician bless all the members of your Guilds.

With all good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours A Christ,

John J. Russell Bishop of Richmond



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