

February 1973

Foreword

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Recommended Citation

Liston, James M. (1973) "Foreword," *The Linacre Quarterly*: Vol. 40: No. 1, Article 6.
Available at: <http://epublications.marquette.edu/lnq/vol40/iss1/6>

FOREWORD

I acknowledge gratefully the treasures of knowledge and wisdom received during 20 years through *The Linacre Quarterly*. The contributions of members of the medical profession and the sacred ministry have borne the marks of learning, experience, responsibility, sense of right and wrong, respect for the dignity of men and women, and compassion for life's frailties.

The writers, while faithful to the truths of the past, are sensitive to the needs of the present. They look to the teachings of the Church in its centuries of tradition and listen to the voice of the Vatican Council, "a voice, clear, deliberate, solemn" (Pope Paul). They merit a place beside their patron, Linacre, doctor of eminence and of priestly holiness. He in turn was of the mold of Luke, layman, St. Paul's beloved physician, historian of excellence in his Gospel story and Acts of the Apostles, of whom the second century authority wrote, "serving the Lord faithfully he died at the age of 84, full of the Holy Spirit."

Not ours — priest, doctor — to think of the worldly man as doomed to destruction in an approaching Day of Judgment. Ours to know our time as one of salvation and hope, because it is God's world; to uphold the laws of the Creator and have compassion on our brothers. Our duty in a moral field is to proclaim as a grave sin of defiance of God and a degradation of man such horrors as *abortion*, the murder of a child, a living person — and there are perhaps 30 million such murders yearly; *contraceptive devices*; *sterilization*; *homosexuality*, the loathsome affront to the decencies; *zero population* philosophy, and the flaunting of lewdness in its many forms.

The Catholic world, and in good measure also the non-Catholic world, counts on us of the sacred ministry and the medical profession to defend man's dignity, rights and duties. *The Linacre Quarterly* offers us wise guidance.

Most Reverend James M. Liston
Titular Archbishop of St. Secundinus;
Bishop of Auckland, 1929-1969



Most Rev. James Liston



H. P. Dunn, M.D.