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Message From the Spiritual Advisor

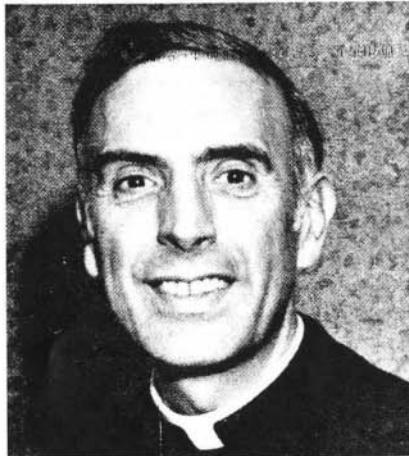
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Message from the Spiritual Advisor



What a Catholic Physician Is

When seeing a Catholic physician, one knows that there is much more to that person than meets the eye. This is like observing a crescent moon and being aware that there is more to that satellite than what radiates to earth. The unseen qualities of the physician of faith include a lifestyle of prayer, a willingness to heal for the glory of God, and to be an instrument of grace proclaiming the Gospel message as a prophet of Christ.

A doctor is the beloved of God and can tie in with His divinity. In doing so, the greater part remains unseen, yet ever present.

In the Liturgy of the Eucharist, the priest-celebrant prays at the Offertory as he blesses the water (representing you and me) into the cup filled with wine (representing Christ), saying these words: "By the mystery of the water and wine, may we come to share in the divinity of Christ, Who humbled Himself to share in our humanity."

The oneness of the physician with Jesus becomes a consecrated unity. Through the Spirit of the Lord, miracles of healing take place in the patient's mind and body as your sacrament is administered in His name. Your services, smiles and words give hope to the sick person and have a healing effect on you, the physician, as sins are forgiven through these acts of mercy.

The power of God's grace enlightens and strengthens you in all that you do. Having been selected as an instrument of God's love, you too are called to expel unclean spirits, calm fevers and restore the sick to the fullness of

health. Being in union with the invisible God, the Spirit of the Lord shines through you and your (His) works, and thus the Father is glorified.

One may ask, "Who is a Catholic physician?" The response from a person of faith would declare him or her to be a dedicated doctor, competent, being in union with Christ and His Church, who prays, forgives, respects life and is always willing to help those in need.

What an honor to hold such a sacred office! Yes, the Catholic physician has been especially chosen to be one in Christ. It is indeed a blessing to be gifted as such a special person.

The author of Leviticus (20/26) quotes Yahweh: "Be consecrated to me, because I, the Lord, am holy and I will set you apart from all these peoples so that you may be mine."

— Msgr. Dino J. Lorenzetti

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