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Message From the Spiritual Advisor

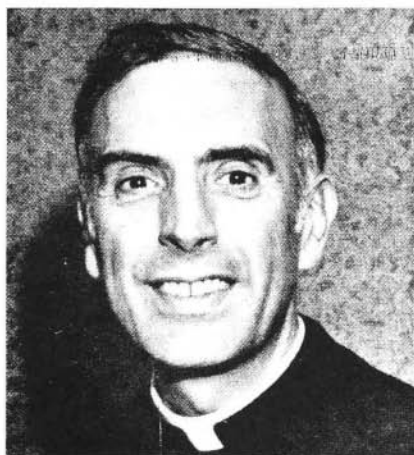
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Message from the Spiritual Advisor



'Physician, Heal Thyself'

Many doctors hear the words of Jesus, "Physician, heal yourself" (Luke, 4:23), echoing in their ears when they are faced with personal problems of poor health.

This disturbing statement challenges the person of faith to the realization that Jesus is inviting His medical emissary on earth to be healed so as to better serve His people in need.

When Simon Peter's mother-in-law was afflicted with a fever, Jesus healed her (Mark 1: 29/39), ". . . and she immediately began to wait on them." The words to note are that she *immediately* served after she was healed.

One's frail human body is often heavily burdened with varied illnesses, worries, fears and insecurities. The individual feels so weak that it appears all energies are dissipated and therefore he/she is literally unable to serve.

Physicians conscious of this reality should find comfort in the fact that the same healing power Jesus exercised with Peter's mother-in-law is also theirs. Their vocation, when united with Jesus, becomes perfected as they acknowledge their weakness, their sinful state, their total trust in His amazing grace. In doing so, the omnipotent and loving God relieves the yoke which seemingly is so oppressive and raises the spirit to new life. "I will put my Spirit in you that you may live." (Ezekiel, 37).

At the liturgy of the Mass, before the reception of the Eucharist, the worshipper humbly prays, "Lord, I am not worthy . . . only say the Word and I shall be *healed*."

In the mystery, through God's grace, as this happens, "Physician, you are healed."

— Msgr. Dino J. Lorenzetti