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## President's Page: Listen for God's Word

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## President's Page



### *Listen for God's Word*

God speaks to us through the Church, through scripture, through prayer, and through the signs of the times. We must be ever alert to those signs, being careful to listen for the true word of God — not in the thunder, not in the earthquake, not in the fire, but in the finest whisper of the breeze.

Here is a story about Joe.

The rains came — heavy rains, continuous rains — and soon the roads became flooded. Joe began to pray, for he had great trust in God. A policeman came with a van and told Joe that he would take him to a safe spot. Joe thanked the officer but declined, stating, "I have faith in God. He will not abandon me, so there is no need for me to go with you." After much coaxing, the policeman left and Joe remained alone.

And still the rains came — heavy rains, a continuous rain. Joe continued to pray. The water rose, so Joe moved to the second floor of his house. Soon a neighbor with a boat came and urged Joe to come with him. But Joe declined, stating, "I have faith in God and He will not abandon me, so there is no need for me to go with you." After much urging, to no avail, the neighbor in the boat left.

And the rains came — heavy rains, continuous rain. The waters rose higher and Joe had to climb to the roof to escape the rising waters. Soon a helicopter arrived and the pilot urged Joe to get in to be flown to a safe place. But Joe declined saying, "I have faith in God. He will

not abandon me, so there is no need for me to get into the helicopter." Despite many urgings, Joe declined and the helicopter flew away.

And the rains came — heavy rains, continuous rain — and the waters continued to rise. Joe drowned.

In heaven, Joe told St. Peter how angry he was with God, because he had relied on God to save him and instead, he drowned.

St. Peter said to Joe, "We sent a policeman, a boat, and a helicopter for you, but you ignored them."

In seeing the signs of the times, we are often like Joe, persistently ignoring the messages God sends us. The National Federation of Catholic Physicians, appreciating the prophetic posture which it must assume, has tried to see the signs of the times and thus has constructed around them the program of its annual convention in Philadelphia. Seven scientific sessions form the basis of the program. Added to them are audio-visual programs, workshops, and exhibits.

You are invited to come to Philadelphia October 18, 19 and 20 to participate in the programs and add your experience to this occasion.

*May God bless you and keep you  
and turn His countenance toward you  
and grant you peace.*

— Joseph M. Gambescia, M.D.