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## The Divine Physician and His Associates

Catholic Physicians' Guild

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## The Divine Physician and His Associates

Hold the physician in honor, for he is essential to you, and God it was  
who established his profession.  
From God the doctor has his wisdom, and king provides for his  
sustenance.  
His knowledge makes the doctor distinguished, and gives him access to  
those in authority.  
God makes the earth yield healing herbs which the prudent man  
should not neglect;  
Was not the water sweetened by a twig that men might learn his  
power?  
He endows men with the knowledge to glory in his mighty works,  
Through which the doctor eases pain and the druggist prepares his  
medicines;  
Thus God's creative work continues without cease in its efficacy on  
the surface of the earth.  
My son, when you are ill, delay not, but pray to God, who will heal  
you:  
Flee wickedness; let your hands be just, cleanse your heart of every  
sin;  
Offer your sweet-smelling oblation and petition, a rich offering  
according to your means.  
Then give the doctor his place lest he leave; for you need him too.  
There are times that give him an advantage, and he too beseeches God  
That his diagnosis may be correct and his treatment bring about a  
cure.  
He who is a sinner toward his Maker will be defiant toward the doctor.

— *Ecclesiasticus 38: 1-15 (the New American Bible translation)*

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