May 1957

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Milestones...

A greeting from
RT. REV. MSGR. DONALD
A. MCGOWAN
NATIONAL MODERATOR

Greetings and prayerful congratulations to the individual members who, working together, make up the Federation of Catholic Physicians' Guilds. The occasion for such a message is happily the twenty-fifth birthday of the Federation.

The story of everyone's life is punctuated by many milestones. Temporarily, each individual's life recounts birthdays, anniversaries and other noteworthy events. Spiritually, life's most important milestones are the reception of the Sacraments. The same chronological highlights mark the development of a Catholic organization.

On this occasion of our Silver Jubilee, we combine both the temporal and the spiritual. Our Mass, celebrated by His Eminence Francis Cardinal Spellman at St. Patrick's Cathedral, will emphasize the spiritual joy of the occasion. The temporal establishment of this great milestone in our history will take place in the Grand Ballroom of the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel where our banquet will be held. So we pay tribute to man's soul and body which is the dedicated interest of every Catholic physician. Indeed, it symbolizes Catholic psychosomatic medicine at its very best.

All of us connected with the work of the individual Guilds and the Federation can take a modest pride in the development of our "body" since its "birth" twenty-five years ago.

Much has been accomplished and we would be remiss if we did not pay high tribute to the great pioneers: Father Cox, S.J., and Father Schwiattalo, S.J., and also to the long list of splendid presidents and officers who did so much to make our first twenty-five years successful. If I were to mention one of the many important achievements of the Guilds, it would be the growing emphasis on the "White Mass," celebrated under the sponsorship of the Guilds throughout the nation on the Feast Day of St. Luke, "the Beloved Physician."

We would also like to take this occasion to express our deep gratitude for the interest and support of the Hierarchy in our work.

The accomplishments of the past twenty-five years have been gratifying but there is still much to be done. May we all fervently pray that our past performance is but a promise of greater things to come.

Foremost in our minds during the Silver Jubilee celebration should be the purposes of our organization:

1. To uphold the principles of Catholic faith and morality as related to the science and practice of medicine.
2. To assist the ecclesiastical authorities in the diffusion of the knowledge of Catholic medical ethics.
3. To uphold Catholic hospitals in their enforcement of Catholic moral principles in medical practice.

I can think of no better ending for this message than to reverently borrow the words of His Holiness Pope Pius XII given in a special broadcast to the 7th International Congress of Catholic Doctors last summer at The Hague in The Netherlands, which meeting we were privileged to attend: "It remains for Us only to wish a happy development and full success to your work. Certainly you cannot attain your objectives in a few days, but you should certainly approach your goal and obtain without the least doubt the aid of the truth, the knowledge and the wisdom of God."

LINA CRE QUARTERLY

The Silver Jubilee

As announced in the February 1957 issue of the LINA CRE QUARTERLY the Silver Jubilee Committee of The Federation of Catholic Physicians' Guilds has been hard at work on all phases of the preparations for the Twenty-fifth Anniversary Mass, at St. Patrick's Cathedral, and the Silver Jubilee Banquet at the Waldorf-Astoria on Wednesday, June 5, during the A.M.A. Convention.

The working Committee under the chairmanship of Dr. Daniel A. Mulvihill, president of the New York Guild, is made up of representatives of all the Guilds in the greater New York area, including Brooklyn, Bronx, Westchester, Queens, and Nassau-Suffolk Guilds.

We are indebted to His Eminence, Francis Cardinal Spellman, Archbishop of New York, Honorary Chairman of the Silver Jubilee Committee. Rt. Rev. Mon sigh or John J. O'Donnell, P.A., Executive Director of the Alfred E. Smith Foundation, has generously provided very adequate office facilities for the Committee in the quarters of the Alfred E. Smith Foundation, 453 Madison Avenue, New York.

Some 6,000 individual invitations have been mailed to Guild members and other Catholic physicians throughout the United States and Canada. More than 1,000 announcements have been mailed to the Catholic hospitals of the United States and Canada. In the tremendous amount of work involved the Committee has been assisted by many volunteers to whom we are most grateful for their diligent effort to effect the many details such an occasion demands.

As a result of these endeavors requests for ticket and table reservations are now being received in ever increasing volume. Reservations for tables of ten and groups of tables are being made by Guilds, hospital staffs, and medical school alumni groups.

The response on the part of Catholic hospitals throughout the country to our requests for cooperation has been splendid and most heartening. Sponsor contributions are received daily. The names of these hospitals will appear in the Souvenir Program. This is a wonderful gesture of support and goodwill to the Federation to which so many of their Catholic staff members belong.

As previously announced, the Twenty-fifth Anniversary Mass will be celebrated on Wednesday, June 5, at 9:00 a.m. at St. Patrick's Cathedral by His Eminence Francis Cardinal Spellman, Archbishop of New York. The sermon will be preached by Reverend Ignatius Cox, S.J., first Moderator of the Federation of Catholic Physicians' Guilds.

MAY, 1957