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The Pope of Medicine: May His Great Soul Rest in Peace

Catholic Physicians' Guilds

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POPE PIUS XII

SUCCESSOR to Pope Pius XII has been named as this is read. In our memory is the recollection of this great Pontiff, and these words were written at the moment when hearts were saddened and tears flowed as at the death of a friend.

History will determine which of his many works contributed most to the welfare of the Church and mankind. The entire world mourned his passing because all people were close to his heart. Sympathy, compassion, and love were in his greeting to all within his sight as the familiar figure in white, with arms flung wide, would welcome the crowds wherever he gathered to hear him and receive his blessing.

More than ten million people were received in audience during his reign as Pope. A thousand discourses were given on almost as many subjects.

Our personal loss is tremendous. Many of his words found their way to the pages of this journal. Our moral theologians were guided by his wisdom in many of their contributions. Many of his words were written at the occasion of the Pope’s dedications.

Leaders of the world in many endeavors have praised him beyond any phrase we could add. As Our Lord told His people, “I will not leave you alone,” so Pope Pius XII did not leave us without guidance. His many documents, letters, and pronouncements will be preserved for us as part of our Roman Catholic heritage.

He wanted to be known as the “Pope of Peace.” That for which he so ardently strove on earth must now be his for eternity. Heaven’s brightest star must have shone its brightest when the soul of Pius XII came home to rest. His name will shine in the world he just left, laboring so diligently to the very end for the well-being and happiness of all mankind. He worked and prayed to bring us closer to God. As a loving father he did this for his children.

May the day come soon when Pope Pius XII will be enshrined in the halls of the Church, along with Saint Pius X, whose sainthood he declared so recently. May it be the will of God as it is most certainly the will of the people.

We rejoice that our lives have been touched with the greatness of Pope Pius XII.

THE POPE OF MEDICINE

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May His Great Soul Rest in Peace

The following cables were sent to His Eminence Eugene Cardinal Tisserant, Dean, Sacred College of Cardinals, Vatican City:

THE CATHOLIC HOSPITALS OF THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA EXPRESS DEEPEST SORROW ON DEATH OF DECEASED POPE PIUS XII. HE WAS TRULY A FRIEND OF THE SICK AND MOST UNDERSTANDING OF HOSPITAL PERSONNEL. HE WILL BE PRAYERFULLY REMEMBERED BY ALL.

The Catholic Hospital Association

THE CATHOLIC NURSES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA EXPRESS DEEPEST SORROW AT DEATH OF DECEASED POPE PIUS XII. OUR NATIONAL COUNCIL AND ALL NURSES EVERYWHERE TREASURE MANY PROOFS EVIDENCES OF HOLY FATHER’S PATERNAL INSPIRING INTEREST IN OUR WORK FOR GOD’S SICK.

National Council of Catholic Nurses

WE CATHOLIC DOCTORS OF UNITED STATES OF AMERICA EXPRESS PROFOUND SORROW ON DEATH OF DECEASED POPE PIUS XII. NO PONTIFF IN HISTORY HAS SPEAKEN WITH SUCH UNDENIABLE AND UNDERSTANDING BENEVOLENCE ON MEDICAL MATTERS AS THE BELOVED PIUS XII.

National Federation of Catholic Physicians’ Guilds

All cables were promptly acknowledged. For lack of space, we can include only that to the National Federation of Catholic Physicians’ Guilds:

WARMLY APPRECIATING DEVOTED MESSAGE SYMPATHY OCCASION DEATH BELIEVED HOLY MOTHER POPE PIUS XII. EXPRESS SINCERE GRATITUDE NAME SACRED COLLEGE CARDINALS.

CARDINAL ALOISI IAMELLA CAMERLENGO

As you read this issue of our LINACRE QUARTERLY, the name of a new Pope will be on the lips of the whole world. I am sure your prayers as well as mine will be with him now and forever.

We mourn, however, the loss of our beloved friend, “The Pope of Medicine.” These simple words of mine contain a world of personal memories — seeing His Holiness when I was a student priest in Rome, he was then Cardinal Secretary of State — thrilling at the privilege of being a participant in many audiences. My personal feelings, cherished as they are, are relatively unimportant.

The following special article by our President, Doctor William J. Egan, gives a beautiful message from a doctor to doctors on the abiding interest of the late Pope in all medical matters.

I should like to close this short letter to you by quoting the touching words of Archbishop Cushing of Boston on the occasion of the Pope’s death: “In the tears and prayers of millions, he will live as long as sanctity, goodness, kindness, and love have meaning among men — and beyond that in the arms of God Whom he served with heroic dedication. May he rest in peace.

(Prf. Ray) Donald J. McAdam

THE EDITORS, THE LINACRE QUARTERLY

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