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Saint Anthony Mary Zaccaria, M.D.

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In swift succession, the events planned for the National Federation of Catholic Physicians' Guilds took place in New York City during the week of July 25.

Beginning one day earlier this year, the American Medical Association Convention opened its exhibits with a large crowd thronging the aisles of the our own exhibit attracted the usual number of visitors and inquiries. Our heartfelt thanks go to Dr. Gerard P. J. Griffin, booth chairman, and those who helped for long hours to staffing the display. Each day was full and was an exhausting experience.

Some of our officers and delegates attended Mission and CANA meetings, all important to the work being undertaken locally by our Guilds.

The annual Memorial Mass for deceased members of our Federation on day morning, the 28th, at St. Patrick's Cathedral was well attended. Dr. Furlong Bishop of New York, offered the Mass and our National Moderator, Rt. D. A. McGowan, preached the sermon on an inspiring theme of "Citizen Saint."

The Executive Board Meeting following the Mass had 32 Guilds represented and along with Officers and others interested in promoting new groups, all important to the work being undertaken locally by our Guilds.

The day came to a fitting close with the Century Dinner held in the Grand Ballroom of the Commodore Hotel. Dr. Martin Healy of the Western States and general chairman reported that 550 persons attended. Special to our National organization and that in cause for great rejoicing; in 1932, the Federation was founded.

The Minutes of the Meeting appear on other pages of this issue, but we must thank those who attended as Guild delegates for sacrificing the time to come and contributing so enthusiastically and with such dedicated purpose. This was the organization for the few, but those who came represented some 6,300 Catholic physicians in all parts of the country. Our gratitude is sincerely expressed.

The Executive Board Meeting will be held in Denver, Colorado, December 2-3. We expect a large delegation, each Guild should be represented at these sessions and we hope to renew acquaintances with those who were with us in New York and add new friends to the fold.
spirital direction and enriched by his reading of Aquinas, Bonaventure, and Saint Paul he filled copy books with fervent sermons and instructions. Thus developed his vocation to preach and to save souls. The fervor of his voice was echoed by the children in their own homes and soon their parents and neighbors joined the willing audience. Anthony, ever restless, sought broader fields and went into the streets to hold high a crucifix. Over the humorous and even hostile remarks of passersby he called for penance.

By the year 1528 his counsellors had urged him to become a priest. After a delay motivated by humility that made him pause with the reception of minor orders he continued on to the priesthood in his twenty-sixth year. Convinced that his Mass should be a time of union with God he dispensed with music, flowers, and every non-essential element that might prove distracting. As a priest he left the altar to take on the hearing of confessions followed by visits to hospitals and prisons. Although offered a considerable benefice that had been in control of the Zaccaria family he refused to seek comfort and security.

The path that would eventually lead Anthony Mary Zaccaria to the altar of Canonization took him to Milan in 1530 as chaplain for Countess Torelli and her associates. The countess had changed her name from Louise to Paula in May 15, 1897, during the pontificate of Leo XIII. His Feast Day is celebrated on July 5.

The nucleus of the new religious family had been found in the Confraternity of Eternal Wisdom which met at the Augustinian Church of Saint Martin. This group, similar to the better known Oratory of Divine Love, was a base for works of charity on piety and devotion. It was a land ripped by imperial troops and crippled by recurrent plagues such centers of prayer and charity were oases of hope. The now universal Forty Hours Devotion was inaugurated in this setting as a means of petition for release from plague and disaster.

The Barnabites in simple garb observed simple customs and devoted themselves to the hearing of confessions and to the observance of the liturgical life of the Church. Insisting on strict silence in their churches, the beauty of their ceremonies brought crowds to the doors to participate in the adoration of the Holy Eucharist. Street missions, penitential processions, hours of service to the sick in home and hospital and the persuasive sermon of good example were the outstanding characteristics of their institute. They served Saint Charles Borromeo in the vast re-

forms he enforced in Milan which served to set an example to the rest of the Catholic world.

This was the life and work of Anthony Mary Zaccaria, nobleman, physician, priest, and saint. He stands as a heavenly patron for all who desire to attain noble qualities, to serve others, and to reach eternal union with God.

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A Note of Thanks

I wish to express my appreciation and gratitude for the spiritual bouquet and generous burse given to me by members of the Guilds on the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of my ordination to the priesthood. May God bless all of you for your generosity and thoughtfulness.

John J. Flanagan, S.J.