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Catholic Physicians' Guilds

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Pope John XXIII has composed the prayer that follows, to be offered for the success of the forthcoming Ecumenical Council. We ask that our readers join in its recitation for His Holiness' intentions.

O Holy Spirit, sent by the Father in the name of Jesus to assist the Church and keep her from error, pour forth Thy gifts in their fullness on the Ecumenical Council.

Gentle Teacher and Comforter, enlighten the minds of our bishops, who will come together for this Council in ready obedience to the Supreme Pontiff.

Grant that this Council may bear abundant fruit, that the light and strength of the Gospel may fill the lives of men, that the Catholic religion and its missionary activity take on a new vigour, and that men may come to know more fully the teaching of the Church and realize it more profoundly in their lives.

Strengthen our minds in truth, dear Guest of the soul, and dispose our hearts to obedience, so that we may accept humbly and sincerely what the Council decrees and willingly carry it out.

We pray also for the sheep who still remain outside the One Fold of Jesus Christ, that they too who are proud to be called Christians, may finally unite under the guidance of the One Shepherd.

Let this age of ours, like another Pentecost, see once more the evidence of Thy power, and grant that Thy Holy Church, guided by Peter and united to Mary, the Mother of Jesus, in constant and unceasing prayer, may spread the kingdom of our Divine Saviour, the kingdom of truth and justice, of love and peace.

Amen.