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## Memorial: Right Reverend Monsignor Donald A. McGowan

Catholic Physicians' Guilds

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# MEMORIAL

On August 11, 1963, Almighty God, in His divine wisdom, called the Right Reverend Monsignor Donald A. McGowan to his eternal reward. "Father Luke" as he was known to his friends, both ecclesiastic and lay, had a wide and varied career in the field of hospitals, medicine and allied areas.

In his early education as a student at Boston College he was well on his way to athletic stardom when he was chosen by God to prepare for the Priesthood. He entered St. John's Seminary, Brighton, Massachusetts, where because of his outstanding scholastic record he was selected to study at the North American College in Rome, where he was ordained on December 5, 1933.



RIGHT REVEREND MONSIGNOR  
DONALD A. MCGOWAN

The Monsignor served for ten years as Assistant Superintendent and Superintendent of St. Elizabeth's Hospital. He was then called to Washington, D. C. to assume the Directorship of the Bureau of Health and Hospitals of the National Catholic Welfare Conference.

In 1948 "Father Luke" assumed the duties of Moderator of the National Federation of Catholic Physicians' Guilds, which position he held at the time of his death. During his tenure of office he witnessed the expansion of the Federation from eleven Guilds to more than one hundred. He also saw the growing emphasis placed on the celebration of the White Mass on the Feast Day of St. Luke, Patron of Physicians; the development of a program for the health care of the religious and clergy in cooperation with the physicians of the Federation and the Catholic Hospital Association and also increased interest in the medical mission field.

Monsignor McGowan was also Director of the Conference of Bishop's Representatives for Catholic hospitals in this country, a member of the Federal Hospital Council, the Administrative Board of the Catholic Hospital Association, and the Joint Committee for the Accreditation of Hospitals. He was then named a domestic prelate with the title of Right Reverend Monsignor by Pope Pius XII in 1952.

Members of the Federation are asked to remember our departed Moderator in their prayers.

*Requiescat in Pace!*