February 1958

Report of the "White Mass" 1957

Catholic Physicians' Guilds

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Recommended Citation
REPORT ON THE "WHITE MASS"

1957

Reports were received at the central office after October 18, the Feast of St. Luke, regarding the observance of the "White Mass" in many areas of the country. Hospitals were most cooperative in the observance in many cities where there are no Guilds. An impressive number of the Masses were celebrated by the Bishops of the respective dioceses. The programs of many followed the plan of the Shreveport, Louisiana Guild, about which all groups were informed.

Guilds sponsoring the "White Mass" sent us the following reports:

ALBANY, NEW YORK

The first annual White Mass of the newly organized Guild of St. Luke of the diocese of Albany was celebrated on Sunday, Oct. 20, at 4:30 p.m. The Most Reverend Edward J. Maginn, D.D., Auxiliary Bishop, was celebrant and also preached the sermon. A large attendance included doctors and their families. Sisters, nurses, and student nurses in uniform were also present. Dinner for 350 followed.

To give greater prominence to the observance of St. Luke's Day, at the request of the Albany Guild, Governor Averell Harriman proclaimed October 18 as "Physicians' Day" throughout the State of New York. His Proclamation reads as follows:

"All of us are greatly beholden to the knowledge, skills, devotion, and human understanding of our physicians. Since time immemorial, the art of healing has ranked with the highest of callings. Down the ages, we have made almost incredible advances in medical science. Today, thanks to the marvelous discoveries of scientific research, our physicians are equipped as never before to fight and to prevent the ravages of pestilence and disease, and are getting more tools of knowledge every day.

In our country, we have virtually eradicated many diseases that were terrible scourges not many years ago. As a result of medical science and the application of that science by increasingly skilled physicians, the average life expectancy of our people goes up each year.

The feast of the Evangelist Saint Luke of Antioch, patron saint of physicians, occurs on October 18, which is a fitting time for us to pay tribute to the medical profession that serves us so well.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Averell Harriman, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim October 18, 1957, as PHYSICIANS' DAY in the State of New York, and call upon our people to join in all appropriate observance of the occasion.

GIVEN under my hand and the Privy Seal of the State at the Capitol in the City of Albany this first day of October in the year of Our Lord one thousand nine hundred and fifty-seven.

Averell Harriman

PHYSICIANS' DAY

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

The fourth celebration in the Archdiocese of Boston under the auspices of the Guild of St. Luke was the solemn votive Mass of the Holy Spirit on Saturday, October 18, at 10:00 a.m. in the Church of St. Ignatius, Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts. Rev. James W. Goyle, chaplain of the Catholic Association of Practical Nurses, was the celebrant and The Most Reverend Eric F. MacKenzie, D.D., Auxiliary Bishop of Boston, gave the address.

CLEVELAND, OHIO

Catholic doctors, dentists, nurses and hospital personnel participated in the annual celebration of the Feast of St. Luke at the White Mass offered at St. John Cathedral, 9:00 a.m. Auxiliary Bishop John J. Krol was celebrant and Msgr. Thomas C. Corrigan, director of the Catholic Youth Organization, delivered the sermon.

LINLACE QUARTERLY
SAGINAW, MICHIGAN
At 8:00 a.m. His Excellency Most Reverend Stephen Wozniacki celebrated the White Mass at St. Mary’s Hospital for the Saginaw Guild. Guest speaker at the breakfast following was Rev. David C. Bayne, S.J., Dean of the Law School, University of Detroit. His subject was “Medical Legal Problems.”

SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA
Following the plan of last year, the Shreveport Guild offered its White Mass at St. John’s Church on Sunday, Oct. 20, at 5:45 p.m. Families and friends of the members were invited to participate and attend the reception which followed. Many groups followed the plan of this Guild in setting up their program for the White Mass observance.

SIOUTH FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA
Mass in the McKennan Hospital chapel at 6:05 a.m. to honor St. Luke was offered by His Excellency The Most Reverend Lambert A. Hoch. Breakfast and a meeting followed.

STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT
His Excellency, The Most Reverend Lawrence J. Shehan, D.D., Bishop of Bridgeport, offered the White Mass for the Cosmas and Damian Guild at 5:30 p.m. in St. John’s Church. All hospital personnel from the greater Stamford area were invited and the Sisters from St. Joseph’s Hospital, in St. John’s parish, attended.

There is no Physicians’ Guild in Toledo but at Mercy Hospital there is held a Spiritual Conference for Doctors. The White Mass to honor St. Luke was observed at 10:00 a.m. on Oct. 20. At 11:00 o’clock there was breakfast: the Most Reverend Msgr. Robert A. Maher, spoke appropriately concerning the occasion. Rev. Alfred Murphy, of the Archdiocese of New York, a practicing physician before his ordination to the Priesthood, conducted the spiritual conference.

The Catholic Physicians’ Guild of Steubenville, Ohio (not affiliated with the Federation) observed its first White Mass in Gill Memorial Hospital in that city. Bishop John K. Mussio offered the Mass and addressed the Guild members at a Communion breakfast which followed.

The staff of St. James Mercy Hospital, Hornell, New York observed the White Mass in the hospital chapel on October 18. At the breakfast following the Sister Administrator presented each doctor with a set of the Medico-Moral Problems series.

CATHOLIC PHYSICIANS’ GUILDS
The listing below gives the name of the president and moderator of each Catholic Physicians’ Guild affiliated with the Federation. These groups constitute the national organization.

ALABAMA
Mobile
President
C. D. TERRY, M.D. 1309 South Ann St.

ARIZONA
Phoenix
Rev. P. H. YANCEY, S.J.

CALIFORNIA
Los Angeles
Rev. John P. Doran

Sacramento
Rev. John P. Doran

COLORADO
Denver
Rev. John P. Doran

CONNECTICUT
New Haven
Rev. Eugene C. Hallock, M.D.

Norwich
Rev. Eugene C. Hallock, M.D.

Stamford
Rev. Eugene C. Hallock, M.D.

DELAWARE
Wilmington
Rev. Eugene C. Hallock, M.D.

ILLINOIS
Belleville
Rev. Eugene C. Hallock, M.D.

FEBRUARY, 1958