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Invocation Delivered by Cardinal for American Medical Association

Francis Spellman

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INVOCATION DELIVERED BY CARDINAL FOR AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

The following invocation was given by His Eminence Francis Cardinal Spellman, Archbishop of New York, at the inaugural convocation of the American Medical Association in the Hotel Commodore, Manhattan, on Tuesday, June 2:

O God of Science!
Bless Thy servants
Foregathered in Thy presence,
Thy servants of science
Dedicated to service
In the cause of healing.
Bless them with light,
The light from Thy mind
In their search and research
Into regions of mysteries
Of laws and functions
Of the human body,
So wonderfully ordered
Under the rhythm of health,
So fearfully disordered
Under the discord of disease.
Grant them Thy light
To see by Thy light
And work by Thy light,
True servants of Thy science.

O God of Science!
All science is in Thee,
All science is from Thee,
All science is for Thee,
For Thee and Thy glory.
Thou it was, O God of Power
Who fashioned the universe,
Stocking it with energies
From plant to planet.
Thou it was, O God of Wisdom

Who framed the laws
Controlling the energies
In cell and atom.
Guide the servants of Thy science
To use the skills of knowledge
For humanity's help.
Guard the servants of Thy science
From misusing the uses of
knowledge
To humanity's hurt.
Man's happiness is Thy glory.

God of Science!
Grant Thy servants of science
That they magnify Thy glory
Through alleviation of pain.
Bless them with zeal
And unflagging devotion
To meet the challenge
Of life's great mysteries:
The mystery of human illness.
The mystery of human health.
Bless them with knowledge
And abiding love,
The love that knows no fear,
The love that brooks no barriers,
The love that bears in patience.
Bless them with love,
The love from Thine own heart
To love the service of science
And the science of service,
Amen.

Addressing the Catholic doctors and friends who attended the annual luncheon sponsored by The Federation of Catholic Physicians' Guilds, on Wednesday June 3, Cardinal Spellman exhorted the doctors to place their reliance on God. "With this motivation," he said, "knowledge and skill can be brought into proper prospective and focused to bring about the greatest good for the physician and the community."