



Catholic Physicians Guild of Dallas April Newsletter



April Meeting - Further Examination of Conscience: Moral Parameters of Cooperation in Evil

This month, Catherine Nolan, PhD, Philosopher at University of Dallas and William Stigall, MD, Pediatric Cardiac Intensivist and Medical Ethicist, facilitated discussion on the moral parameters in cooperation with evil. For even the most mundane activities, there can be some sort of cooperation with evil, be it the activities we participate in, the movies to watch, or even "the Starbucks cup of coffee we buy," as Dr. Stigall put it. Yet there could be several degrees of cooperation in evil, such as: "am I the one actively choosing to buy the coffee?" or "am I merely drinking the coffee that others chose to supply for the hospital?" or "are the negative effects of drinking the coffee acceptable for a greater resultant good?" Obviously these choices have more weight when it deals with heavier medical issues such as abortion, contraception, end-of-life issues, and the like. Dr. Stigall and Dr. Nolan were gracious enough to provide notes for their talks, which can be found on our webpage [here](#). Dr. Stigall's notes delve into the types of cooperation with evil (formal vs. material, direct vs. indirect) and Dr. Nolan's flowchart (appropriate to the algorithm-driven brains of doctors) gives decision points into the evaluation of cooperation with evil.



Catholic Physicians Guild participate in the Bishop's Pro-Life Dinner

On April 21st, the Catholic Physicians Guild participated in the Bishop's Pro-Life Dinner hosted by the Catholic Pro-Life Committee. This year was the 25th Anniversary for the Dinner, which honored the initial steering committee of the CPLC, including the former Bishop of Dallas - Bishop Grahmann - who spoke at the event. The keynote speaker was Kevin Sorbo, most famous for his role as Hercules in the well-known TV series, but now often seen for his roles in Christian movies such as *God's Not Dead*. Bishop Burns spoke at the dinner, and reminisced that when taking pictures on his iphone, the camera automatically can sense a person and sets a "yellow square" over the face of the subject. We as a people should similarly be able to sense the personhood of a fetus in the womb and understand its intrinsic value.



Bishop Burns to attend the next meeting on June 5

On June 5 at 6 PM (note the time change), Bishop Burns will be our guest at the CPGD meeting, which will take place in the Family Life Center at St. Monica's Catholic Church. We will have a "Question and Answer" forum for the Bishop and we will hope to touch on some of his thoughts relevant to medicine and the Church. We hope you can make it, and for those who have not paid your dues for the year, please bring them to the meeting.

We Christians believe and know that Christ's resurrection is the true hope of the world, the hope that does not disappoint. It is the power of the grain of wheat, the power of that love which humbles itself and gives itself to the very end, and thus truly renews the world - Pope Francis, Urbi et Orbi, Easter 2018



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