



Catholic Physicians Guild of Dallas February Newsletter



Witness to Love in the Medical Profession

Dr. Heyne presented a discussion of how Catholic health care professionals can bear witness to the truth and love of Christ in our medical practices. He began with an explication of the terms of this vocation, including a delineation of the various sources of truth. He pointed out that though technical knowledge and expertise based on empirical science is important, it does not suffice. We have to draw on philosophical insight to understand that our patients are human persons and not just complex biological organisms and beyond that have to draw on divine revelation to appreciate their ultimate dignity as beings made in the image and likeness of God. He echoed John Paul II in showing the importance of a correct theology of the body and philosophical anthropology. He drew on Seifert and Colosi to elucidate six dimensions of the dignity of the human person and the ethical response to that dignity. He drew on Scripture and von Hildebrand to describe the nature of love, which ultimately leads us to see our patients with the eyes of Christ and to see Christ looking through the suffering eyes of our patients. He outlined the six

goals of medicine described by Seifert. He cited Sulmasy in support of the importance of prayer in fulfilling our vocation as Catholic healthcare professionals, and how we can see our patients as sacraments, and provide true healing through compassion, touch and conversation; and by helping patients understand, even if indirectly, the redemptive meaning of suffering. He concluded with a series of illustrations of witness by specialty (including several poignant examples from neonatal and pediatric medicine, and also from psychology, internal medicine and ObGyn); and finally by mode (including teaching, bedside clinical and research).



Pope Francis' Message for the World Day of the Sick

Jesus' words, "Come to me, all you who labour and are burdened, and I will give you rest" (Mt 11:28) point to the mysterious path of grace that is revealed to the simple and gives new strength to those who are weary and tired. These words of Christ express the solidarity of the Son of Man with all those who are hurt and afflicted. How many people suffer in both body and soul! Jesus urges everyone to draw near to him – "Come to me!" – and he promises them comfort and repose. "When Jesus says this, he has before him the people he meets every day on the streets of Galilee: very many simple people, the poor, the sick, sinners, those who are marginalized *by the burden of the law and the oppressive social system...* These people always followed him to hear his word, a word that gave hope! Jesus' words always give hope!"

Read more [here](#)



Pope Francis' Lent advice: Put down phone, pick up Bible

Pope Francis urged Catholics Wednesday to use the season of Lent to spend less time immersed in the chatter and noise of the world through television and their phones, and to spend more time in silence and in conversation with God.

“Lent is the right time to make room for the Word of God. It is the time to turn off the television and open the Bible. It is the time to disconnect from your cell phone and connect to the Gospel,” the pope said Feb. 26.

Read more [here](#)

Consumerism is a virus that affects the faith at its root because it makes you believe that life depends only on what you have, and so you forget about God - Pope Francis, Feb 26



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