



Catholic Physicians Guild of Dallas June Newsletter



Dinner with Bishop Burns

We would like to thank Bishop Burns for meeting with us this past June at St. Monica's. At the meeting he spoke about his own family members' experiences with healthcare and the view of healthcare from a patient/family perspective. He reminded us to approach each patient as a "gift from God" and that each encounter has a transcendental meaning attached to it. He encouraged us not to take our vocations for granted.

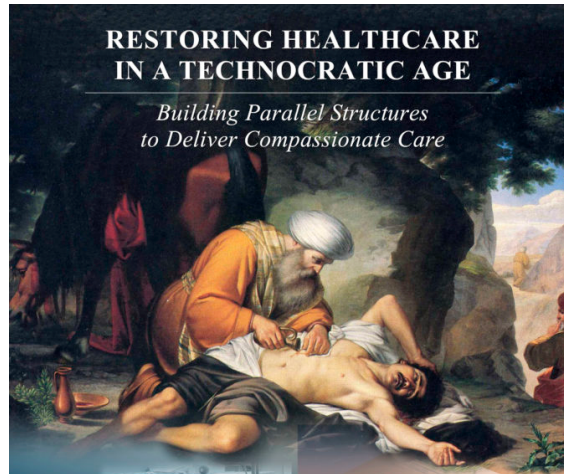


He also reminded us of the cultural context and the difficulties of our vocation in today's society. Using the analogy of a boat that could easily be tossed by the arbitrary waves of our culture, he asks that we "keep our rudders" in the water and that the uneasy current will be guided by God and natural law to see us through difficulties.



Bishop Burns was very gracious, engaging, and personal. He also asked the Guild to provide education and guidance to both laity and other healthcare professionals in accordance to the teachings of the Church. He also asked us

to work toward social justice, including immigrants to our country. Based on his requests, the Guild will work towards his suggestions. You can see more photos of the event on our facebook page.



Restoring Healthcare In A Technocratic Age: Building Parallel Structures to Deliver Compassionate Care

Please register for the National CMA Conference which will take place HERE in Dallas this September 20-22. The following comes from the National CMA website which explains the theme of the conference:

We are all called, as physicians and healthcare providers, to practice medicine in accord with the natural law and the teachings of Christ promulgated by His Holy Church. At our best we try to see the face of Christ in the patients we care for, often in difficult circumstances. There are cultural influences that make this especially difficult at times; John Paul II's "Culture of Death," Benedict XVI's "Dictatorship of Relativism," and Francis' "Throwaway Culture" brilliantly capture many of the challenges we face in our vocation of caring for the sick and suffering. Technocracies have been utilized in service of ideologies in the past. Examples can easily be discerned in various totalitarian regimes of the 20th century. In the present society, technocracy has been said to exercise a "soft totalitarianism" of its own. These effects can certainly be felt within the healthcare field.

The term "technocracy" has been used to describe a state of affairs wherein various technologies become ends in themselves; in our work, for example, technologies often define the purposes of medicine rather than the other way around. Such technologies can be genetic, pharmacologic, mechanical, and interestingly, managerial or bureaucratic.... Technology in medicine can certainly serve the needs of the patient, and techniques of administrative management can help with running a practice, as long as these means serve the proper end of medicine, namely providing for the health of the whole patient in accord with the natural law. Often, however, technical, administrative, and regulatory strategies can either be used in the service of ideologies contrary to the natural law and our Catholic Faith, or can become ends in themselves, usurping the good of the patient.

The conference will investigate the ways in which we healthcare providers, primarily physicians but also physician's assistants, pharmacists, nurses, therapists and naturopaths, can best serve our patients in the face of technocratic challenges.

Please register for our conference! You can do that [here](#)



Catholic Medical Association Celebrates U.S. Supreme Court's Defense of Conscience Rights in Colorado Cake Baker Case

Calling it a victory for conscience rights, the Catholic Medical Association praised the Supreme Court's decision supporting a Christian Colorado baker who refused for religious reasons to create a wedding cake for a gay couple.

Last December the CMA joined the Alliance Defending Freedom, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, the Colorado Catholic Conference, the Catholic Bar Association, the National Association of Catholic Nurses-U.S.A. and the National Catholic Bioethics Center signing onto an [amicus brief](#) supporting the baker, Jack Phillips defending his conscience rights guaranteed under the Constitution. The brief cited consciousness objection under the First Amendment protecting citizens Freedom of Speech and Religion.

"Today's high court decision sends a strong message that government cannot force individuals or organizations to violate their First Amendment Rights to free speech and religious beliefs, said CMA President Peter T. Morrow M.D. "We are encouraged by the Supreme Court's decision that our members conscience rights will also be protected especially when it comes to cases involving respect for human life."

To read more, click [here](#) to go to the National CMA website

"In light of these recent events taking place along our southern border, I have asked the members of the Catholic community to join me in prayer for these families and for their swift reunion with family members, especially the young ones who need the presence and love of their mothers and fathers" - Bishop Burns, June 18



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