



Catholic Physicians Guild of Dallas

May 2014 Newsletter

Next Meeting: Christian Perspectives on Suffering



In the next meeting (on June 5), Dr. Robert Collins will speak on the topic of Christian Perspectives on Suffering. Working as an oncologist, he has many experiences dealing with suffering for both the patient and the physician. He will offer a unique glimpse into his reflections on the topic.

Dr. Collins leads the Hematologic Malignancies/Blood and Marrow Transplantation Program and the combined Adult/Pediatric Stem Cell Transplant Program at UT Southwestern Medical Center. He is holder of the Sydney and J.L. Huffines Distinguished Chair in Cancer Research and the H. Lloyd and Willye Skaggs Professorship in Medical Research. He is also the faculty advisor to the St. Basil Society, the UT Southwestern Catholic student association.

The meeting will take place at Sweeney Lounge at St. Rita Catholic Church (12521 Inwood Road Dallas, Tx 75224). Please RSVP by replying to this email. For non-Guild members, we ask for a small contribution (\$5-10) to offset the cost of food.

Last meeting: Mission Trip to Haiti



This month Dr. Abigail Nitschke (second year resident at Childrens Medical Center) spoke about her recent mission trip to Haiti. The plight of Haiti is unusual - in addition to a lack of healthcare resources and accessibility there is limited infrastructure, and no public education nor public welfare programs.



She spoke of her experiences providing healthcare in a rural village where doctors are available only every six months and there are no modern roads, electricity nor running water; however the people of Haiti are incredibly resilient and were grateful for the presence of missionaries. Common diseases seen in Haiti included malnutrition, fungal disease, parasitic disease, hypertension and a host of infectious diseases. She mentioned poignant cases such the patients she sees suffering from kwashiorkor who require transport to feeding centers or patients with swollen abdomens who develop intestinal obstruction from parasites.

Christopher West to discuss *The Theology of the Body* July 5 - Westin DFW Hotel



Christopher West, world renowned speaker on the St. Pope John Paul II's Theology of the Body, will be giving a series of talks titled Theology of the Body: Foundation of the Culture of Life. He will be speaking on July 5th at The Westin DFW Hotel from 9 AM - 12 PM. The talks are a subset of the Couples for Christ FFL National Conference and the talks are FREE. Registration is required, click [here](#) for further details.

Professing Faith, Professing Medicine: Physicians and the Call to Evangelize

(from the *Linacre*, Summer 2014)

The Hippocratic Oath traditionally establishes medicine as a profession: A career, or vocation based on the professing of an oath regarding personal and public behavior. For Catholic physicians, the commitments of the Oath of Hippocrates take on new meaning when seen in the light of the promises made at Baptism and renewed every Easter. This paper, originally an address to medical students, considers the role of the Catholic physicians as evangelizers, those who spread the message and values of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Read more from the *Linacre*, the journal of the Catholic Medical Association, [here](#)

There will be no culture of life without a renewal of marriage and family life. There will be no renewal of marriage and family life without a return to the full truth of the Christian sexual ethic. There will be no return to the full truth of the Christian sexual ethic unless we can demonstrate that the Church's teaching on sexuality is not the repressive, prudish list of prohibitions it is so often taken to be, but, rather, it is a call to live the love we yearn for at the deepest level of our being - Christopher West