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A Saint for Doctors

Thomas J. Coffey

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morning, May 17, at Kenrick Seminary, St. Louis, Missouri.

The meeting was preceded by a solemn High Mass in the large Seminary chapel, at which the Rev. John J. Martin, C.M., Treasurer of the Seminary, was celebrant. Father Martin was assisted by major and minor officers taken from the student body. During the High Mass about sixty Catholic physicians, members of the Guild, received Holy Communion. The student body of the Seminary chanted the High Mass in a truly edifying manner and the whole ceremony was a deep inspir-

ation to the Catholic physicians present.

At the meeting of the Guild which was held after breakfast in the seminarians' refectory, the Rev. Jos. P. Donovan, C.M., J.C.D., was the genial and capable host to the gathering, taking the place of Father O'Malley, who was absent on a preaching assignment at Baton Rouge, La. Monsignor Gruenewald had for the subject of his address "The Catholic Physicians' Guild on the March." Dr. Nicholas Feder, President of the Belleville Guild, also attended the St. Louis meeting.

A SAINT FOR DOCTORS

This would be just the year for our American Catholic doctors to choose for heavenly patron of their Medical Guilds (unless they have already committed themselves) a man of their own profession and their own land. I refer, of course, to Saint René Goupil, surgeon-Saint, who at thirty-four, died for the Faith at Ossernenon, now Auriesville, N. Y., midway between Amsterdam and Fonda. This year we are celebrating the tercentenary of the doctor's heroic death at the hands of the Mohawks on September 26, 1642. His bones, by the way, still lie buried somewhere in the Ravine at the Auriesville Shrine, placed there by the loving hands of his father in Christ and companion, Saint Isaac Jogues.

We know about Saint René's medical skill from the autograph account of Saint Isaac. We have

the record, too, of his two years of hospital work at St. Joseph's, Quebec, and of his being replaced by a famous Orleans, France, doctor, when he volunteered to go down to his death with Jogues in 1642. Surely he belongs, as their very own, to American doctors.

The site of Doctor Goupil's martyrdom is now a National Shrine, a place of prayer and pilgrimage in honor of the North American Martyrs canonized June 29, 1930. Of these eight men, America's only canonized Saints, three, Isaac Jogue, René Goupil, John LaLande, died at Auriesville. Here, too, was born Kateri Tekakwitha, Indian maiden, who will probably this year be declared Venerable.

Auriesville, N. Y.

THOMAS J. COFFEY, S.J.,
Director, Shrine of the
North American Martyrs.