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DIOCESE OF BUFFALO Office of the Bishop

MOST REV. JAMES A. McNulty, D.D. photo courtesy Fabian Bachrach

Over the centuries, the physician has generously answered the call to service in the Church. He has brought his skill and

knowledge to further the work of Christ in the world. It was a physician's training and background that St. Luke brought to his account of Our Lord's life: an account noted for its fine style as well as for its awareness of human conditions. In more recent times, the contribution of the medical man to Christ's work was given special emphasis by Pope Pius XII in many of his writings and talks.

The Second Vatican Council has emphasized and strengthened the role of the physician in the Church's work. The Decree of the Church in the Modern World notes that it is "generally the function of the well-formed Christian conscience to see that the Divine Law is inscribed in the life of the earthly city."

In today's complex society, the Christian member of the medical profession will be called on with increasing frequency to maintain the principles of Christ in his field. By uniting medical men, the Catholic Physicians' Guild is performing an important part in assisting Catholic physicians to meet this challenge.

The Fathers of the Second Vatican Council have also described the mission of the Church in terms of service and charity—terms which aptly fit the goal of the medical profession. May the Holy Spirit guide the work of the Catholic Physicians' Guild in its efforts to inscribe the law of Christ ever more deeply into the code of the medical profession.

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