

The Linacre Quarterly

Volume 54 | Number 3

Article 2

August 1987

Message from the Spiritual Advisor: Physicians and Their Faith

Dino J. Lorenzetti

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Recommended Citation

Lorenzetti, Dino J. (1987) "Message from the Spiritual Advisor: Physicians and Their Faith," *The Linacre Quarterly*: Vol. 54 : No. 3 , Article 2.

Available at: <http://epublications.marquette.edu/lnq/vol54/iss3/2>

Message from the Spiritual Advisor



Physicians and Their Faith

What is the cost of following Christ? For Peter, it was crucifixion. For Paul, as well as for John the Baptist, it was beheading. For Damien, it was death through leprosy. Heroes are usually expected to pay a supreme price. This total giving, this martyrdom, this dying for another are the true definitions of love.

Physicians of faith are people of love. They do not count the cost of giving themselves for their sisters and brothers who are ill and in need of their services. They do not hesitate to speak out in defense of the unborn, the innocent who are to be aborted.

Since the legalization of abortion, Catholic physicians have been called upon to pay a great price for their faith. For many, promotions were denied and their income drastically reduced, and for others, their witness to the faith is ridiculed as they voice their strong objections to the killing of the innocent child in the mother's womb.

While the praises of faithful physicians and those in health care services are not sung in the secular society, this article in a small way is intended to do just that, as you are the prophets of our day. You have affirmed with your witness that life is worth living. It has been through your dedication, commitment and untiring research that many have been inspired and all have been helped. You have demonstrated to the world that you are prepared to pay the cost of being a prophet in the name of Jesus Christ.

Mother Teresa is reported to have said that she "was not called to be successful, but to be faithful". The response to your call is likewise.

Doctors, you are highly respected and greatly praised by God's believing people who see you as the prophetic leaders of our day—fearless, faithful and loving. God will bless you for being true to His gospel, authentic to your sacred vocation and honorable to your Hippocratic oath in protecting life. Yours will be the Kingdom, for you have given your life in His name.

— Msgr. Dino J. Lorenzetti

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