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Moderator's Message ... To Teach, Serve, and Give Thanks

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Moderator's Message . . .

TO TEACH, SERVE, AND GIVE THANKS

Easter Week, 1966, saw the Moderator of the Catholic Physicians' Guild of Detroit invoking God's blessing upon the buildings of a new Professional Plaza, the first to rise on the site of Detroit's developing Medical Center. This complex of several hospitals, a rehabilitation institute, and the Wayne State University School of Medicine, plus the proximity of extensive offices for doctors, promises well for the future of the teaching and practice of the art of healing in Detroit, and for its expanding services to the sick. I was particularly impressed by the fact that business and medicine joined ranks, not only to further the cause of research, service and teaching, but to give thanks and ask God's blessing on this work with so much promise for the future. My participation in that blessing gives proof of the public recognition of the Catholic Physicians' Guild in this city, a recognition merited by our Catholic doctors.

On the occasion of the publication of the Detroit issue of the *LINACRE*, I am pleased to compliment the members of the Detroit Guild in my dual capacity of National and local Moderator. Many of the apostolic works they have undertaken for the Church have been the fruit of ideas which originated in their own zeal and ability to see a need. Others have been a wholehearted response to a call from the authorities in this Archdiocese. These works are well covered in this issue. They furnish the Church with a proud record of achievement by men of medicine. Thank you, doctors — from the Church.

A word to our Moderators. It would be a lift to our National Officers if more of our Guild Moderators would attend the national meetings and observe the splendid efforts of these truly dedicated men. You never really get the feel of the dynamism and potential power for good of the National Federation 'til you meet that group in the flesh at a meeting. It is a sad truth, too often expressed by doctors from various Guilds, that their Moderators are neither active nor interested in the doctors in their spiritual care or in their medical problems. The Guild should function in the hands of doctors, this is true — and experience shows that they can be outstanding Christian leaders. But they want the interest and deserve the support and counsel of some zealous priest. In their name we ask for this interest and support.

To teach soundly, serve generously, and give thanks constantly is our common way of life as Christians. It extends in our time the pattern drawn by the Son of God in His time on earth. You will find it to be the life pattern of many Catholic physicians and their Guilds. The implementation of the pattern is as personal as your vocation or your group. May we help you on your way?

May the Risen Saviour bless you all.

FATHER KENNETH MACKINNON