



CATHOLIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

Upholding the Principles of the Catholic Faith in the Science and Practice of Medicine

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Paul J. Braaton, M.D.



Dear CMA Members,

This year with the implementation of the Affordable Care Act, we all will face many challenges. The law itself seems to be a moving target based on the political

expediency of the President. This has created a sense of anxiety and uncertainty.

As Catholics and people of faith, we face a continued threat to our religious liberty in the form of the contraceptive mandate. In January, the CMA filed an amicus brief with the assistance of the Yetter Coleman law firm in the *Hobby Lobby* case, which is currently before the Supreme Court. Hopefully, the court will give us a favorable decision in June.

In this new era, many physicians are questioning the viability of the private practice model. The challenges of the Affordable Care Act, the implementation of EHRs, Meaningful Use One and Two, and ICD 10 seem daunting and overwhelming. This has led many physicians to give up the autonomy of private practice for the security of an employed position. Yet, the employed physician is not exempt from these realities and will face new challenges, not the least of which many be, the loss of his or her religious liberty. Regardless of your circumstances, we all face the need to be flexible and rapidly adapt to the ever-changing healthcare environment.

In the midst of these turbulent times, perhaps we can learn from the wisdom of the saints. As I write this message, it is the Feast of St. Joseph. He, perhaps more than any other saint, is a model for us to emulate as we strive to daily live out our vocations as physicians. Joseph can be described as man of perfect balance, profound humility, and magnanimity in response to the Spirit. He lived through periods of unrest and uncertainty, which required immediate, life-altering decisions on numerous occasions. As Blessed John Paul II writes, "St. Joseph is presented to us as an incomparable witness of that contemplative

silence, full of listening to the Word of God. Joseph's silence was an active silence, which accompanied his daily work at the service of the Holy Family. Following the example of St. Joseph may all believers achieve in their own life a deep harmony between prayer and work, between meditation on the Word of God and their daily occupations." *✍️*

St. Joseph, pray for us!

In Christ,

The CMA celebrates, shares, and supports

Bishop James D. Conley's

PASTORAL LETTER

The Language of LOVE

*A Letter to the Catholic Families and
Healthcare Providers of the Diocese of Lincoln*



Available Online at

spiritcatholicradio.com/languageoflove

cathmed.org/issues_resources/educational_resources/links/

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CMA in the News ...


CMA Member Runs Active Blog

CMA member David McKalip, M.D., is making a difference in the Tampa Bay area, the state of Florida, and around the world with his website, the Sunbeam Times. McKalip maintains a very active blog covering a wide range of issues, from local events in Florida to ObamaCare and from economics to theology. In December, McKalip posted a 4-part review of Pope Francis's apostolic exhortation, *Evangelii Gaudium*. Get links to the Sunbeam Times and the review of *Evangelii Gaudium* in the February Email Update. 

New Guilds Approved

The number of CMA chartered guilds continues to grow! At its March 24 meeting, the board of directors approved guilds in Baton Rouge, Louisiana (Capital Area Capital Medical Guild), Houston, Texas (Catholic Healthcare Professionals of Houston), and New Ulm, Minnesota (New Ulm Guild). This brings the total number of chartered guilds to 85. The record number of guilds approved in a year is 15 (in 2012). This means the CMA is within striking distance of having 100 guilds for the first time in decades. If you are thinking of forming a guild, contact the national office for assistance. If you are in the process of formation, please redouble your efforts to be chartered this year. 

CMA in the Media

Executive Director John F. Brehany spoke at the annual White Mass of the St. Gianna Molla Guild of Northeast Wisconsin on Feb. 9, 2014. The event was preceded by a guild-sponsored press conference that attracted a local TV station, which ran a story that night. In addition, on Jan. 31, Brehany was interviewed on the Drew Mariani Radio Show about the Marlise Mendoza case in Texas. On Feb. 18, Board President Paul Braaton was interviewed on Relevant Radio's on "On Call—House Calls" with Wendy Wiese. 

FROM THE EPISCOPAL ADVISOR

Most Rev. James D. Conley, D.D.



My Dear Catholic Physicians and Healthcare Workers:

In September 1961, Dr. Gianna Beretta Molla discovered that something had gone wrong. She was pregnant, with her fourth child, and she was 39 years old. She discovered a large fibroma in

her uterus. She would need surgery to remove it.

Dr. Molla was a physician—a surgeon. She knew that without surgery, her unborn baby could stop growing. But she also knew the risk. She begged her surgeon to spare the life of her child.

The child lived, and, on April 21, 1962, Gianna Emmanuel was born.

But the pregnancy had been plagued by complications. Labor would be taxing. Dr. Molla knew that doctors might have to make a difficult choice. And so a few days before her daughter was born, she gathered her doctors—her friends and colleagues. “If you must decide between me and the child,” Gianna told them, “do not hesitate: choose the child—I insist on it. Save him.”

A week after her daughter was born, Gianna Molla died of septic peritonitis, with the name of Jesus on her lips. Her doctors had been unable to save mother and daughter. Years later, Pope Paul VI would call Gianna’s sacrifice a “conscious immolation.”

In 2004, Gianna Molla was canonized a saint, and became a patron of physicians. I had the privilege of attending her canonization Mass in Rome and meeting her husband and children who brought up her relics at the offertory procession. On that occasion Pope John Paul II said that, “the extreme sacrifice she sealed with her life testifies that only those who have the courage to give of themselves totally to God and to others are able to fulfill themselves.”

Saint Gianna, said John Paul II, “was a significant messenger of divine love.”

The Holy Father was right. Saint Gianna’s sacrifice was a witness to a heroic confidence in the providence of God. It was also a witness to a life of integrity—Saint Gianna offered her life with the same radical generosity that characterized every aspect of her life.

When she became a doctor, Gianna Molla hoped to spend her life in a missionary country, bringing medicine, and the Gospel, to places that had little experience with either one. But health problems prevented her from traveling afield. And so, in her own hometown in northern Italy, she established a “medical mission,” treating women, babies, the elderly, and the poor.

Saint Gianna’s mission was to use medicine for the sake of the Gospel. She did so, for more than a decade, before being called to life-giving sacrifice. But the habits of integrity she developed in medicine helped make clear to her what kind of choices a mother must make. Her life bespeaks the continuity of generous sacrifice.



All of us are called to radical generosity in family life, in the faith, and in our professional careers. Last September, Pope Francis told physicians that, “yours is a singular vocation and mission, which necessitates study, conscience and humanity.”

Doctors, said Pope Francis, should “bear witness to and disseminate this ‘culture of life’ ... remind all, through actions and words, that in all its phases and at any age, life is always sacred and always of quality. And not as a matter of faith, but of reason and science! There is no human life more sacred than another, just as there exists no human life qualitatively more meaningful than another.”

This fall, the Catholic Medical Association will gather for the “Courage in Medicine” conference in Orlando, Florida. Speakers and discussions will offer practical formation for the practice of courageous, generous medicine. The conference will offer guidance on making medicine a mission, and a ministry. I pray that you will consider attending.

Dear brothers and sisters, I encourage you to practice medicine as a mission. I pray that you will use the gift of healing to affirm the gift of life—to witness to truth. And I pray that, like Saint Gianna Beretta Molla, you will practice medicine as you live your lives, with integrity, and with radical generosity. *JDC*

CMA Member Runs for U.S. Senate Seat!

An interview with Dr. Edward Kryn about his campaign

CMA member Edward Kryn, M.D., is running in the Republican primary for a U.S. Senate seat in the state of North Carolina. I recently had the chance to interview Dr. Kryn about his campaign.
—JFB

Question: Why are you running for the U.S. Senate in North Carolina?

Kryn: I believe I bring a different and valuable perspective, not only as a recently retired physician, but also as a newer American citizen. I emigrated to the United States in 1994, after becoming frustrated with the healthcare system in my native Canada. American liberty is a magnet that draws many immigrants, and it drew me as well. I had been involved in politics in Canada, at the provincial and federal levels, where I had the experience of debating a proposition to force doctors to perform abortions.

Question: How is your Catholic faith, and the Catholic teachings which we believe, guiding your campaign?

Kryn: My Catholic faith guided me throughout my entire medical career, and is continuing to guide me in my campaign. Subsidiarity is a key principle that needs to be defended and explained. Respect for subsidiarity is not only a matter of social justice, it also produces better outcomes for all government programs.

Question: How do you see ObamaCare being an issue in the campaign?

Kryn: People have seen the financial and security impact of ObamaCare, but they have not yet seen its impact on health care. They will very soon. ObamaCare is doing away with the family doctor, who must affiliate and join an employer or group, and then become subject to group think and group pressures. We have seen this not only in Canada but in Mexico, where all government-employed doctors are required to perform sterilizations.



Question: How is the campaign going?

Kryn: It is only just beginning. Filing for the Republican primary ended on February 28. The primary date is May 6, and there are at least 7 candidates in the race. I have been trying to run a frugal campaign based on principle, as this also reflects my conservative philosophy of limited government and living within our means.

Question: What message do you have for other CMA members?

Kryn: Let's surprise President Obama! Someone once asked, "How many divisions does the pope have?" We should be asking ourselves, "How many faithful Catholics—doctors and patients—do we have, and what difference are we being called to make in the world today?" *✍️*



Edward Kryn
US SENATE '14

More information about his candidacy can be found at his campaign website:

<http://edwardkrynforussenate.com>

CMA Marches Strong at 2014 March for Life

Cold weather can't freeze-out burning devotion to life!

Despite a blizzard that barred many from attending, and wind chill temperatures well below 0 degrees, CMA members gave a powerful witness at the 2014 March for Life in Washington, D.C. Over 13 people, including 9 physicians and their family members, marched together.

Physician marchers included Jack Lane, MD, immediate past president (who felt right at home since it was even colder in his hometown of Rochester, MN), George Isajiw, MD and his grandson Patrick, Frederick Meier, MD and his wife (Michigan), Mark Doherty, MD and his wife Bianca (Tennessee), Elissa Sanchez-Speech, MD (Rochester, NY), John Sullivan MD (South Carolina), Edward Fleming, MD, Trevor Martenson, MD, and Matthew Weitzel, MD, from Lancaster, PA—who thoughtfully brought their white coats—and a non-member physician from Towson, MD, who saw the CMA sign and joined in for the March.



Despite the cold and many cancellations of buses, trains, and flights, the crowd was large and spirited. The 2014 March showed that devotion to respect for life burns hot in spite of the worst winter weather. *ew*

Update on the 2013-2014 Annual Appeal

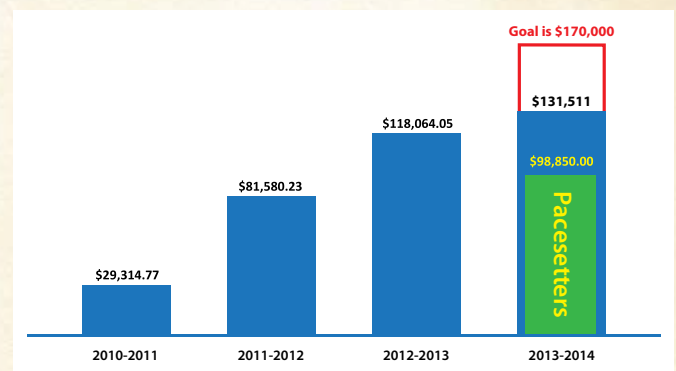
Progress . . . and potential for success!

The CMA is making tremendous progress not only in membership and guild growth but also in our recent efforts to increase donations to fund critical new programs like the Boot Camp.

The Annual Appeal is the foundation for our planned development program. Through your generosity each year, the Appeal promises to help fund key prioritized objectives and provide enhanced support for the CMA. In its first full year, 2012-13, it helped to raise total philanthropic support to the highest level on record. Now, as we launch the Spring follow-up to the 2013-2014 Annual Appeal we began last November, we are strongly positioned to meet and exceed our \$170,000 goal. To date, 303 donors have already contributed \$131,511!

Our members and a growing number of friends have been responding most generously. For example, last fall, we introduced a new program—the “Pacesetter Circle”—for donations of \$500 and above for those able to make a leadership gift to

the Annual Appeal. To date, 1 out of 3 donors have become Pacesetters contributing 75% of the total donations. Of that number, thirty-seven (37) have donated \$1,000 or more.



We encourage you, if you have yet done so, to support the 2013-2014 Annual Appeal and, if at all possible, to join the Pacesetter Circle. *ew*

New Chartered Guild Resources

New tools and images are available and coming soon!

The national office has been working on important new resources for chartered guilds. Some of these are already available, and some will be arriving in guild presidents' mailboxes soon.

SPEAKER'S BUREAU

The CMA has established a speaker's bureau with seven outstanding CMA member physicians and leaders. The speaker's bureau provides guild presidents with resources for planning events that are not only interesting, but will help local guilds to grow, because the speakers have been selected on their educational qualifications, as well as for their ability to represent the CMA well. Look for more information at: (cathmed.org/membership/members_only/).

NEW GRAPHICS TOOLS


The CMA has developed several new graphics tools for guilds. One of these tools is a resource to announce events and meetings (see the image, above right). Set up as a Word document, the tool provides CMA graphics as well as information fields that can easily be updated. Once an announcement is created or modified, it can be saved as a PDF and shared on a website or via email. The Announcements tool has been sent via email to guild presidents.

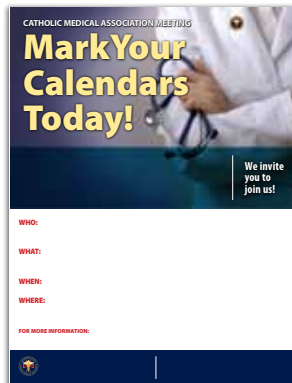
Other tools include banners for email newsletters and for Facebook pages (see images, center right).

The national office will be providing these tools to guilds, along with a guide to brand identity in the CMA, soon.

TOOL FOR STATE-LEVEL SERVICE AND WITNESS

Some guilds in Region VII (in Minnesota, Nebraska, and Wisconsin) are engaged in a pilot project to test how local guilds and members can work together to provide witness and service at the state level. While CMA has a national voice through its Executive Director and Board, and guilds can speak to local issues, there has been no state-level structure in the CMA to date. And yet, many important issues, from ballot initiatives to legislation to court cases to medical society policies, are contested at the state level.

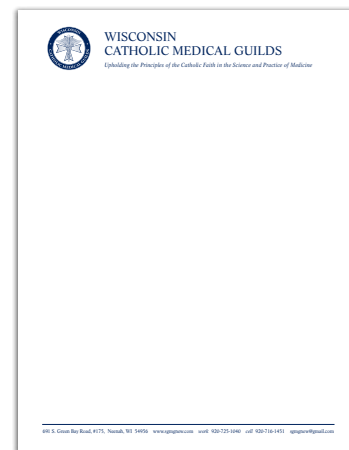
Currently, guilds in Wisconsin are quite active in implementing the pilot, and have been making their voices heard by state legislators. The images at the bottom right show a special state-level brand identity logo and letterhead which the national office created for them. If your guild is interested in similar projects and tools, contact the national office. 



Guild event announcement template (above left) and finished meeting announcement used by The New York Metropolitan Guild (above right).



Sample designs for chartered guilds Facebook banners (above left) and newsletter front page masthead (above right).



Wisconsin guild's state-level initiative brand logo (above left) and the state-level letterhead design (above right).

Introducing the Resident Section of the CMA

A “home” for residents during post-graduate training

Resident members of the CMA are pleased to announce the formation of the Catholic Medical Association-Resident Section (CMA-RS). The goal and vision of the Resident Section is to ensure that resident physicians have a home in the CMA during their post-graduate training. While the CMA-RS encourages its members to be involved in their local guilds, the Resident Section will serve as an additional support for residents during this challenging and important time of their medical training by connecting them to the rich resources of the Catholic Medical Association, including mentorship opportunities and scholarships to the annual conference.

Officially approved by the Catholic Medical Association board of directors in the final months of 2013, leaders in the CMA-RS have been busy planning for the unveiling of the Resident Section. With a firm foundation in prayer, the CMA-RS will sponsor a pre-internship novena, encourage every resident member to daily pray with us through a “Resident Physician Prayer Pledge,” and coordinate bi-annual novenas to spiritually connect us as a community. The CMA-RS will also provide opportunities for community-building and connections beyond the annual conference, by hosting a quarterly online video-conference forum for residents to interact virtually and discuss issues that they are encountering.



The CMA-RS hopes to be a resource to all resident physicians, connecting them to CMA guilds and physicians near their residency training location. Working closely with the CMA board and the Student Section, the CMA-RS strives to be a bridge to keep residents involved and connected to the Catholic Medical Association.

We encourage you to spread the news about the CMA-RS to any graduating 4th year medical students and current residents. Look for more information to come in the email newsletter. The CMA-RS can be contacted at residents@cathmed.org. Find us on Facebook and Twitter ([@CathMedResidents](https://twitter.com/CathMedResidents)). The CMA-RS will be led by former Student Section leaders: Charles Armstrong, Brian Bamberger, Amber Beery, Paul Day, and Kristopher Yoon. *✍*

FIAMC Prepares for 24th World Congress!

Meet Catholic physicians from all over the world

The FIAMC is preparing to hold its 24th World Congress in Manila, The Philippines, Oct. 1-4, 2014, on the theme, “The Catholic Doctor in an Era of Secularization and Technology.” Registration is now open!

The Congress will follow immediately after the 83rd Annual Educational Conference of the CMA in Orlando. Some hardy souls already are making plans to attend both events.

If you have been meaning to see The Philippines, this would be a great occasion to go and to meet Catholic physicians from all over the world.





CATHOLIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION
29 Bala Ave., Suite 205
Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004-3206

For more information please visit:
www.cathmed.org



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THE 83RD ANNUAL EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE

COURAGE IN MEDICINE

Defending and Proclaiming the Faith
in the New Evangelization

FEATURED SPEAKER **Raymond Cardinal Burke, J.C.D.**

KEYNOTE SPEAKER **George Weigel**

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT **www.cathmed.org**

SEPTEMBER 25–27, 2014

Join us in Orlando, Florida!