

F.E.A.M.C.

Fédération Europeenne des Associations Médicales Catholiques European Federation of Catholic Medical Associations

10th European Congress Bratislava, Slovak Republic, June 1-4, 2004

MESSAGE TO HIS HOLINESS JOHN PAUL II.

Your Holiness, Dear Holy Father,

At the conclusion of the jubilee 10th Congress of FEAMC, held in Bratislava (Slovak Republic), we, the catholic doctors and health professionals from 20 European countries represented at the meeting, would like to express our sincerest gratitude for your encouraging message, as passed to us through His Excellency Msgr. Henryk Nowacki.

Facing various worrying problems of our times and our professions, we are especially grateful for your continuous interest and strong leadership concerning the issues of contemporary medicine and health care, and being the defender and promoter of 'ethics of life' to our professions and to the people of good will around the Globe.

We, and our patients are particularly helped and encouraged by your personal attitude and strong 'testimony without words' when bearing with patience, honesty and courage the problems connected with your age and diseases that pay visits to you in these years – and this way "completing what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, church..." (Col 1, 24).

Dear Holy Father, gathered at our first Congress of the new Millennium, we renew our pledge in the service of life, dignity and rights of every human being in the spirit of your encyclical *Evangelium vitae*, the *magna carta* of catholic doctors and an important source of inspiration for all health care workers of good will.

We would like to use this opportunity to extend to your Holiness our thanks, all good wishes, and offer you our prayers for you, the universal Church, and for all that suffer from illnesses and diseases of our times, and our humanly existence on Earth; to be able, when the 'fullness of times' comes, to meet our Redeemer and Eternal Physician – Jesus Christ in His Kingdom of Love and Eternal Peace.

With greetings and expression of all best wishes in our Lord,

The participants of the 10th Congress of FEAMC

Bratislava, Slovak Republic, July 4th, 2004