

Dr. Paul Carpentier
Induction Speech, Saturday, July 23, 2011

My job is to serve you;
Using all the talents and insights that God has given me;
to bring us through this era of health care reform as a shining beacon.

You, the members of the Academy, have been through very intense years lately. Many of us have lost close family members – young and old; lost houses and jobs and relationships; some have lost clients and patients to miscarriage, illness, or even abortion. But there have also been weddings and anniversaries, new children and grandchildren, new jobs, new FertilityCare Centers, new certifications, and healed relationships. Whichever way you look at it, it has been very intense. But ask any WWII Veteran and he will tell you that those intense times forge the strongest of friendships.

Meanwhile, we continue to pour out our hearts in a loving way to individual couples and families. *Read quote by Fr. Seper below +.* “NFP is about a Jesus kind of Love.”

What families need now is an increase in commitment. Contraceptives directly undermine that truth. Contraceptives weaken commitment and therefore they weaken the family. That, which weakens the family, weakens society.

Respect for each other and respect for fertility will strengthen the family. Thus we hold a critical key for the rejuvenation of the family and of our culture. I believe that before my life is over, global groups like the UN will be turning to us for guidance.

Re: My availability. I have been very blessed. I have had great training. I remember Dr. Hilgers lecture on the psychodynamics of human sexuality at Boys Town, 25 years ago very clearly. I have a great mentor in Dr. Jean. I have a very, very, very supportive wife. And I have a great team, back at our office, who is very dedicated to the FertilityCare movement.

Regarding Dr. Jean:
Do you realize that she has been in the Academy only 9 years and has been President for 2 ½ years? Think of all the things that have been accomplished on her watch. We are deeply grateful.

We have pulled together a great PR team who will strive to craft our website and materials for clear, bold, and effective communication.

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We are poised to be at the heart of Authentic Catholic Health Care reform. Pope John Paul II said it himself. “Natural Family Planning and the attitude it presupposes will be

at the heart of the New Springtime” - A time when all these teachings will be understood.

Here is a list of organizations that have already turned to us:

Christus Medicus
USCCB – who will be with us at the next annual meeting;
Blackstone Legal Fellowship
Catholic Medical Association
Christian Medical Dental Association
American College of Pediatricians
Catholic Hospital Association
Retired Representative Tom Van Dolan
One More Soul
The Pill Kills branch of HLI

The Academy is now poised to help these leaders to understand the truth of: women’s health, procreative freedom, husbandly commitment to our spouses and our families, the dangers of pornography, the beauty of fertility, and the value of upholding the consciences of providers.

We are blessed with: science that matches reason; philosophy that mirrors truth - about marriage, about family, about relationship, about fertility and the diseases that affect it, and about ethics, conscience and informed consent.

These organizations need us very badly. They are coming to learn of the Academy and the work that we do and how qualified our professionals have become. So hold your heads high!

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I feel our culture is darker than during 9/11, Pearl Harbor, and the assassination of JFK. Now it is darker because families are under vicious attack. Love is confused with selfishness and selfishness with love.

But we have hope. We have hope because we trust. We trust because we have studied Truth.

Our science gives us hope. Our faith gives us hope. Our reason gives us hope. Witnessing authentic love gives us hope.

People of hope become a wonderful light.

As I traveled around the country the past few years and worked with leaders for Authentic Catholic Health Care reform, they all use the symbolism of light. As the culture grows darker, we become pillars of light, they say.

The hospitals realize that we have professionalism, certification, strong By Laws, excellence, continuing education, standardization, research, and faithfulness.

Some, like Christus Medicus, are trying to bolster Catholic hospitals.

Others are trying to protect providers' consciences.

Others are proclaiming the dangers of the pill and still others are trying to strengthen marriages and families - like the CMA, CMDA, USCCB, NCBC (National Catholic Bioethics Center). The new catch-phrase in Catholic Health Care Reform is: 'Keep the ministry in the industry.' *

Unanimously, as they share their tactics and strategies, they say they have to foster, advertise and promote NaProTechnology and FertilityCare. They say that they need to teach Catholic hospitals to make use of NPT.

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We must not grow stale. Now is not the time to sit back on our haunches.

Have you seen the commercial for some caffeinated beverage, "Wake up, America!"

We need to hear that call. Look sharp, Academy members. The world is watching. Raise your head high. Practice choosing the right words. Do not be ashamed of our positions.

I am so appreciative of the vision of our founders and the professionalism of this Academy and its Commissions. You have an excellent Board of Directors. We have accomplished a great deal, but wait till you see what is right around the corner.

My job is to serve you;
Using all the talents and insights that God has given me;
to bring us through this era of health care reform as a shining beacon.

God bless all of your efforts and faithfulness. Do not be ashamed.

Bring your ideas to the Board. We need to hear from you.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul A. Carpentier, MD, CFCMC

Newly promoted President,
American Academy of FertilityCare Professionals

+ One of my favorite quotes about what we offer is by Fr. John Seper, from Richmond Heights, Missouri, in June 2000:

“NFP is about a couple’s relationship and authentic Love. It is a message that is counter-cultural because it is a message of Love that is not about self-gratification or manipulation of a spouse. NFP is about a ‘Jesus’ kind of Love that is selfless and life-giving – open to the work of the Holy Spirit that will nurture a couple’s relationship and build a family.”

* Bishop Vasa, March 2011, Consulter to the Catholic Medical Association.