



**Archdiocese of Los Angeles**

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Paul J. Braaton, M.D.  
436 Davison Road  
Modesto, CA 95357

Dear Dr. Braaton:

On behalf of His Eminence, Cardinal Roger Mahony, I have been asked to respond to your letter dated January 6, 2006, regarding an inaugural conference of the Central California Guild of the Catholic Medical Association to be held in Modesto in May 2006. You may wish to inform Sister Carolita Hart, C.S.C., Director of Health Affairs for the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, of events that could benefit the Archdiocese.

Graced by faith, those who are baptized are God's blessing in the world. Each Catholic in his/her state in life is asked to bring the compassion of Jesus to others and help others find the Lord. Priests present the Word of God and provide the Sacraments. In doing so, the clergy encourages the laity to bring the Gospel to the arena of everyday life.

As physicians, you provide a universally understood and needed assistance. As disciples of the Lord, you bring the dimension of generosity, hope and peace which is inspired by the Spirit. I pray the anticipated Central California Guild grows and, in the name of the Lord, is a blessing to many.

In Christ Jesus,

Reverend Joseph F. Hernandez  
Vice Chancellor

JFH:gs

cc: Jan Hemsted, M.D.