

# SURGEON GENERAL PICK IS EXCELLENT

Catholic League president Bill Donohue praised President Barack Obama for his selection of Dr. Regina Benjamin as the new Surgeon General:

President Obama picked the right person to be the new Surgeon General. Dr. Benjamin is a hero to all those victimized by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Her tireless and selfless efforts are a model for all physicians.

Dr. Benjamin is an African-American Catholic public servant who has been recognized by Pope Benedict XVI: the Holy Father awarded her the Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice medal for distinguished service. When the pope celebrated Mass in Washington, D.C. in 2008, Dr. Benjamin was there to receive his blessing. Moreover, she has also received the National Caring Award, an honor which was inspired by Mother Teresa. "Church was always a very important part of my life," she told *Catholic Digest*. "I believe I am carrying on the healing ministry of Christ. I feel obligated to help continue his works."

Kudos to President Obama and congratulations to Dr. Benjamin. She should sail through the Senate.