

INSERTS FOR PARISH BULLETINS

Working against suicide

The Government of Canada has introduced Bill C-14, *An Act to amend the Criminal Code and to make related amendments to other Acts (medical assistance in dying)*. This proposed legislation, which responds to the decision of the Supreme Court of Canada in early 2015, will make euthanasia and assisted suicide legal and more accessible in our entire country. The Supreme Court decision and current legislative efforts are in stark contradiction to the endeavours of individuals, families and communities to counteract the dangers and sufferings of suicide. To express your concerns about the legislation, visit <http://www.canadiansforconscience.ca/>.

The responsibility to protect one another's life

The teaching of the Catholic Church and the stance of the Catholic Bishops of Canada affirm the sacredness and dignity of human life. Suicide and euthanasia are contrary to the most profound natural inclination of each human being to live and preserve life. Furthermore, they contradict the fundamental responsibility that human beings have to protect one another and to enhance the quality of health and social care which every human life deserves, from conception to natural death. To learn more about physician-assisted suicide, visit <http://www.cccb.ca/site/eng/media-room/euthanasia-and-assisted-suicide/4463-campaigns-against-physician-assisted-suicide>.

Safeguarding persons most at risk

Bill C-14 is now before the Parliament of Canada. No matter how it may be amended, it is an affront to human dignity, an erosion of human solidarity, and a danger to all vulnerable persons - particularly the aged, disabled, infirm and sick who so often find themselves isolated and marginalized. Moreover, it is a violation of the sacrosanct duty of healthcare providers to heal, and the responsibility of legislators and citizens to assure and provide protection for all, especially those persons most at risk. For information to share with others about the negative impact of physician-assisted suicide, visit <http://www.cccb.ca/site/eng/media-room/euthanasia-and-assisted-suicide/4463-campaigns-against-physician-assisted-suicide>.

Facing the threat of physician-assisted suicide

As our country faces the moral and social threat of physician-assisted suicide, you are invited to call upon federal, provincial and territorial legislators to defend and protect the lives of all, to renew efforts to guarantee accessible home care and palliative care, and to protect the conscience rights of healthcare providers and agencies refusing to be part of euthanasia and assisted suicide. To share your concerns with your legislators, visit <http://www.canadiansforconscience.ca/>.