

END OF LIFE ISSUES

Euthanasia and Physician Assisted Suicide

The Bishop has asked me to forward the following message to you:

The Meacher Bill on 'Assisted Dying' is currently awaiting its 2nd reading in the House of Lords. The Department for Social Justice (DSJ) of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales (CBCEW) with allied organisations, is working to defeat this.

Alongside other efforts there is a DSJ webinar in collaboration with Living and Dying Well and the National Board of Catholic Women on

Monday 12th July 2021 730pm - 9pm via Zoom.

Baroness Ilora Finlay and Robert Preston, Living and Dying Well, will be presenting themes from their book 'Death by Appointment: A Rational Guide to the Assisted Suicide Debate' and there will be opening remarks from Bishop John Sherrington.

I attach the registration link and CBCEW news item. I hope you don't mind me asking you to please promote this within your networks if you are able to do so. It is open to all.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/death-by-appointment-a-rational-guide-to-the-assisted-suicide-debate-tickets-159394167245?ref=estw>

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/home/events/death-by-appointment-a-rational-guide-to-the-assisted-suicide-debate/>

SUPPLEMENT – FURTHER INFORMATION:

To understand why Euthanasia and PAS is so dangerous, and why it goes against God's will please look at:

<https://www.carenotkilling.org.uk/>

<https://www.carenotkilling.org.uk/about/>

<https://www.carenotkilling.org.uk/about/live-issues/>

<https://www.carenotkilling.org.uk/about/faqs/> - these "Frequently Asked Questions" will help you to understand the agenda behind PAS and why it is against God's design and will.

Context for the Bill at Westminster

Immediately on the heels of [three successive sets of 'assisted dying' proposals being put before the House of Lords](#) - where they have failed to make headway - Labour MP Rob Marris, having won the 2015 Commons Private Members' Bills ballot in the Commons,

brought Lord Falconer's proposals before MPs. Following the first legislative debate on assisted suicide in the lower house for 18 years, MPs rejected the [Assisted Dying \(No. 2\) Bill](#) by a massive 330-118 on 11 September and Mr Marris retired at the 2017 General Election.

Senior physician Baroness Finlay's [Access to Palliative Care and Treatment of Children Bill](#) was drawn 8th in the Lords [2019-20 bill ballot](#) and having been granted a second reading on 7 February awaits its committee stage. Lord Falconer's [Assisted Dying Bill](#) was drawn 60th, but has yet to receive a second reading. No MP drawn in the [equivalent Commons ballot](#) chose to present an 'assisted dying' bill.

A series of [pushes](#) for an official [review](#) of the law on assisted suicide began in [mid-2019](#), with [Peers](#) and [MPs](#) going further in mid-2020, conceding that they plan to bring a bill or bills in the 2019-24 Parliament. Baroness Meacher's Assisted Suicide Bill is a Private member's Bill which received a First Reading in the House of Lords on 26 May and will be proceeding onto a Second Reading later in the year.

Please consider [contacting your MP](#) to make clear your opposition to assisted suicide and euthanasia, and to ask their views on the subject, which we would be [keen to hear](#)

NOTE: MP for the Parish area is Dame Diana Johnson. She has already stated she is not opposed to Euthanasia/PAS so will not vote against any Bill that comes to the House of Commons. This fits with her views on abortion as she is strong anti-life (as she calls pro-life “anti-choice” in her letters of reply it is only fair to use the terminology language in reverse)

<https://righttolife.org.uk/> and scroll down to “Where they stand” and search for your MP.

<https://righttolife.org.uk/news/matt-hancock-confirms-government-not-recommending-introduction-of-assisted-suicide>

Please also look at the one hour You Tube video from the “All Party Parliamentary Group on Dying well” which presents the secular arguments against Assisted Dying and Euthanasia which is useful when discussing this with friends.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A3ZgrfVkJL54&list=WL&index=61>