

Preaching Notes for Opposing Assisted Suicide and Euthanasia

- God is the creator of human life. The measure of every human life is in the hands of God.
- The dying process is an act of trust, surrendering ourselves into the hands of God.
- Cutting life short can deny the opportunity for a final and peaceful resolution of a person's life.
- It is never acceptable for a doctor or nurse to deliberately hasten the death of their patient by euthanasia or assisted suicide.
- Good medicine should focus on alleviating unbearable pain through palliative care and not deliberately ending a patient's life
- It is impossible to safely legalise euthanasia or assisted suicide as vulnerable people will be become victims of its acceptance, due to elder abuse or due to personal factors that impact a person's will to live or their decision-making capacity.
- Evidence from places that have legalised euthanasia reveals that pain is not one of the primary reasons people actually choose to seek assisted suicide or euthanasia. There is there is no need for assisted suicide or euthanasia based on the notion that it is the only way to deal with pain.
- This not simply a matter of individual choice. All legislation has potentially widespread societal consequences, particularly when it involves life and death. It has led to an increase in suicide rates in those countries which have introduced such legislation.
- Assisted suicide and euthanasia laws inevitably expand over time as seen in The Netherlands, Belgium and Canada.
- Legalising assisted suicide and euthanasia poses a serious threat to those who have a disability.
- This practice goes against medical ethics and poses issues of conscience for many health professionals.