

Resources on End of Life Care

PRAYERS

A short prayer, "Every Life is Worth Living," is available to order in both English and Spanish from the online Respect Life Store (store.respectlife.org). The text can be found at usccb.org/every-life-worth-living.

Prayers for those who are sick or dying are available at bit.ly/family-prayers.

SAMARITANUS BONUS

In 2020, the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith published the letter *Samaritanus bonus* ("on the care of persons in the critical and terminal phases of life"). The Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities produced several resources, available in both English and Spanish, to accompany this letter (usccb.org/prolife/catholic-care-sick-and-dying).

→ **Samaritanus bonus: Study Guide**

This study guide is designed to be used in group settings to discuss and reflect on *Samaritanus bonus*. It can be used in conjunction with either "*Samaritanus bonus: A Compendium*" or with the full letter. This study guide provides Scripture passages, prayers, and discussion questions to help participants reflect more deeply on the letter and its central themes and teachings.

→ **Samaritanus bonus: A Compendium**

This compendium contains summaries of each section of *Samaritanus bonus* and was prepared by the secretariat to serve as a resource on and introduction to the letter. It can be used on its own or in conjunction with the study guide.

→ **The Witness of the Good Samaritan: Palliative Care and Hospice**

This four-page document offers a brief overview of key points from *Samaritanus bonus* with a specific focus on what it says about palliative care and hospice.

TO LIVE EACH DAY WITH DIGNITY: A STATEMENT ON PHYSICIAN-ASSISTED SUICIDE

United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

This 2011 statement on assisted suicide by the Catholic bishops in the U.S. can be downloaded online (bit.ly/to-live-each-day) or ordered in print from the Respect Life Store (store.respectlife.org).

ARTICLES

Articles with practical considerations for Catholics can be downloaded or ordered in print in English and Spanish.

→ **Catholic Considerations for our Earthly Passing**

(bit.ly/earthly-passing)

Several considerations are provided as starting points for understanding and preparing for our earthly passing in a way that respects God's gift of human life.

→ **Caring for Loved Ones at Life's End**

(usccb.org/end-of-life-care)

When loved ones approach life's end, we may not know how to support them. Ten suggestions anchored in unconditional respect for human life help readers know how to provide authentically compassionate care.

→ **Killing the Pain, Not the Patient**

(bit.ly/killing-pain-not-patient)

More states are attempting to legalize doctor-assisted suicide, inaccurately claiming it's just another option for end-of-life care. Foundational differences between the two are discussed, including how the legalization of assisted suicide undermines quality care.

→ **Top Reasons to Oppose Assisted Suicide**

(bit.ly/top-reasons-oppose-as)

Polls indicate the public is receptive to the general concept of assisted suicide. However, when people understand the associated dangers, they are less likely to support the practice. Learn compelling reasons you can share for opposing assisted suicide.



United States Conference of Catholic Bishops
Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities | respectlife.org



fb.com/usccbrespectlife



[@usccbprolife](https://twitter.com/usccbprolife)



[@ProjectRachel](https://twitter.com/ProjectRachel)



[@walkingwithmoms](https://www.instagram.com/walkingwithmoms)