

RESOURCES TO OPPOSE LEGALIZED
PHYSICIAN ASSISTED SUICIDE
HOMILY HINTS | MARYLAND 2024

SUNDAY, MARCH 10, 2024

[2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23](#) | [Ephesians 2:4-10](#) | [John 3:14-21](#)

Key Points

- God loves each of us completely and unconditionally – we are his handiwork, which gives us inherent dignity and value.
- Advocates of assisted suicide attempt to disguise the practice as compassionate “aid in dying” but the reality is it treats some people’s lives as worth less than others by permitting the active killing of the most vulnerable.
- The Maryland General Assembly is currently considering a bill to legalize assisted suicide. Please embrace God’s love for each of us, his handiwork, and contact your delegate and senator and tell them to vote no on the bill.

Additional Ideas

- In the second reading and the Gospel today, we see just how much God loves us. We hear about how God decided to send his only Son to save us from our sins, purely out of his abundance of mercy and his love for us. We are reminded that God loves us no matter what, “even when we were dead in our transgressions.” There is nothing we can do and nothing that can happen to us that will make God stop loving us and make us lose our worth.
- Additionally, we hear at the end of the second reading that “we are his handiwork, created in Christ Jesus for the good works that God has prepared in advance, that we should live in them.” Each one of us was made specially by God in his own image and likeness. Because of this, every single one of us has immeasurable value and an inherent dignity that can never go away.
- There are some people in our society, however, who refuse to acknowledge the dignity and value of some of the most vulnerable members of our community. They look at the elderly, the sick, and the dying, and rather than seeing the incredible beauty and value of their lives as beings that are made by and loved by God, they dismiss them as better off dead.
- However, as the Gospel warns us, “everyone who does wicked things hates the light.” So the advocates of assisted suicide attempt to disguise the evil of the practice. Some Maryland legislators refer to it as “aid in dying” so that it may sound compassionate and be confused with the legitimate practice of palliative care or hospice. However, whereas palliative care and hospice respect the dignity of the human person by providing pain relief to those with serious terminal illnesses, the “aid in dying” proposed by the Maryland General Assembly would legalize the active killing of those with serious illnesses.
- Assisted suicide fails to respect the inherent dignity of the human person that comes from our being the handiwork of God who loves each one of us unconditionally, whether we are healthy or seriously ill. Advocates attempt to disguise the practice as compassionate, but the reality is that it declares some people’s lives to be worth less than others. Please reach out to your representatives in the Maryland General Assembly and tell them to vote no on this bill to legalize assisted suicide.