

## Palliative Care first, say No to Euthanasia

A message from the Parish Pastoral Council – 15 August 2021 – Week 4

In a recent statement the Archbishop of Brisbane spelled out the position of the church on Voluntary Assisted Dying. Archbishop Coleridge indicated that *the church opposes the legislation of any direct action that specifically intended to bring about the death of a person. This includes the provision and administration of substances for that purpose.* Instead, the church continues to *support the distinction between these direct intentional actions to kill someone on one hand and to the proportionate refusal of treatment that are of no benefit on the other.*

The church is not the only voice in this debate. There are many secular groups (as we have seen and read in our recent publications to the Parish) that echo a call to the State Government to provide real choice to all Queenslanders by providing adequate palliative care first.

We have the chance today to listen to a doctor from one of our own parishes and with the Queensland Care Alliance. Dr Luke Garske is leading a grass roots campaign with a group of health professionals including nurses, doctors and pharmacists. He looks at the specific details of the Queensland Bill before parliament and will be calling for amendments that *good palliative care is a human right that should be available to all Queenslanders with limited expected survival, irrespective of their postcode and that everyone should have the right to a specialist with training in palliative care to assess and help patients who are requesting VAD.*

Please take the time to read, listen and learn from Dr Luke here:

[VAD will undermine patient trust in medical professionals](#)

A 10 minute 47 second video is at the link above or directly <https://youtu.be/twn6lGw54mU>

Previous updates from the Parish Pastoral Council are available at:

[Palliative Care first, say No to Euthanasia - Parish Pastoral Council - 1 August 2021](#)

[Palliative Care first, say No to Euthanasia - Parish Pastoral Council - 25 July 2021](#)

[Palliative Care first, say No to Euthanasia - Parish Pastoral Council - 18 July 2021](#)

Parish Pastoral Council,  
Parish of St. Joseph & St. Anthony, Bracken Ridge / Bald Hills