

**For more information  
or to schedule  
a workshop, contact:**

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### WHAT PARTICIPANTS ARE SAYING



*“The workshop actually caused me to dig out my own documents prepared along with my will to remind myself of their content and the persons named therein. The workshop was very helpful in reminding us of the importance of including the patient as the primary agent in making such decisions. I also found the principle of Benefits vs. Burden to be a key point. I think the workshop helps to bring end-of-life care and decisions out of the realm of “taboo” and into the open, which will serve the dying and their families very well.”*

**MOST REVEREND ROBERT M. COERVER**

Bishop of Lubbock  
Lubbock, Texas



*“I had in the past served as a member of an ethics committee at a hospital, so I had kind of immersed myself more so than the average person with regard to end-of-life issues. I thought each (session) in a different way was helpful, but I really enjoyed the second half of it. I thought it was applicable to what we do and need to be doing with regard to the preaching and teaching aspects of moral questions and helping people understand moral questions and questions of values as they relate to end-of-life issues and health care.”*

**FR. DAVID CRUZ**

Vicar General, Diocese of Lubbock,  
and Pastor of St. John the Baptist Catholic  
Church, Lubbock, Texas

# Preaching, Pastoral Care and the Church’s End-of-Life Tradition



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**A WORKSHOP FOR  
PRIESTS AND DEACONS**

## END-OF-LIFE CARE WORKSHOP

The Catholic Health Association is pleased to offer a complimentary workshop about important issues in palliative and end-of-life care to assist clergy in providing guidance and comfort to parishioners, family members and care givers who face difficult decisions about serious illness or end-of-life care. This is especially important as we face the challenges of physician-assisted suicide and euthanasia in many states.

**Tailored for priests and deacons, the one day in-person workshop consists of interactive sessions with ample time for discussion and questions.**

The program is part of CHA's ongoing commitment to serve dioceses and parishes with education and resources about this important topic. If the workshop is requested by the bishop, CHA will cover expenses for travel and accommodations for CHA staff.

### WORKSHOP OBJECTIVES

- + Clarify the Catholic moral tradition regarding end-of-life issues in relation to current developments in medicine, public policy and popular attitudes toward end-of-life decisions.
- + Examine the meaning of reasonable care during serious illness and at the end of life as explained in the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* 2288 and in Part Five of the *Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Health Care Services* from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB).
- + Improve your ability to advise parishioners on end-of-life care and to preach on it in a way that will encourage discussion and planning.

*It's imperative for me to know about these issues and be confident about them... This workshop made me realize there's more I need to do to continue to educate myself.*

#### DEACON DENNIS KUTACH

Workshop Participant  
Diocese of Victoria, Texas

## TWO PART WORKSHOP CHURCH TEACHING AND PREACHING

### CHURCH TEACHING

The workshop consists of two parts. The first focuses on knowledge of the Catholic moral and spiritual tradition regarding end-of-life issues and the medical information sick persons and their families need to make end-of-life decisions.

This session will include an in-depth discussion of Part Five of the *Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Health Care Services* and other church documents. Several CHA resources will be available, including our popular collection of end-of-life guides that are available in English and Spanish.



### PREACHING AND PASTORAL CARE

The second part is a hands-on session that demonstrates a method for preaching on end-of-life issues while remaining faithful to the readings of the day. Participants will work with readings from an upcoming Sunday to prepare an actual homily.

This session will use the church's centuries-old concepts of "the happy death" and the "Ars Moriendi" ("Art of Dying") and examine how we recover them today.

### FACULTY

The workshop was designed by CHA ethicists and theologians, Fr. Charles Bouchard, OP, S.T.D., senior director, theology and sponsorship; and Nathaniel Hibner, Ph.D.(c), director, ethics.

Both have in-depth experience in Catholic health care ethics through their extensive work with health systems, hospitals, long-term care facilities and hospices across the U.S. that are members of the Catholic Health Association, the largest group of non-profit health providers in the country.



Fr. Charles Bouchard, OP, S.T.D.



Nathaniel Hibner, Ph.D.(c)

In addition to CHA ethicists, potential presenters may include experts in homiletics and health care from local dioceses, universities and hospitals. CHA is happy to collaborate with liaisons from sponsoring dioceses or parishes on scheduling, presentation arrangements and potential participation of clinicians or ethicists from a Catholic hospital in the area.