

# *On God's Time, In God's Care*

In 2016 California adopted the End of Life Options Act making it possible for a patient to self-administer lethal drugs in order to end their own life. The "safeguards" included in the original law will be removed if the new Senate Bill 380 is passed. Assisted suicide advocates are working hard at educating elders about the law and how to take advantage of it. Studies show that many feel pressured to consider suicide because they do not want to be a burden on their caretakers or loved ones. As of December, 2020, 1,816 Californians have died from ingesting the medication. In addition to those near death as a result of a terminal illness we are also deeply concerned for the rising suicides among depressed teens, bullied children, veterans, the mentally ill, the financially destitute and so many others who have lost hope.

With that in mind, the Culture of Life Ministry has crafted a Spiritual Advocacy Program enlisting parishioners to pray for a person who may be considering ending their own life. Using the Spiritual Adoption of the Unborn Program as a template and in conjunction with World Suicide Prevention Day, we are asking you to commit to praying daily for a specific person who may be tempted to commit suicide. As with Spiritual Adoptions, you may not actually know the person in need of prayer but God knows. We then trust in God's love and mercy to answer our prayers for the person to whom God has led us to pray. However, it is possible that you may in fact know a person at risk and your prayers could be said for them. When reciting the daily prayer, we suggest that you use that person's name or give a name to an unknown person so as you pray you will be reminded of their individual dignity and value. Unlike the Spiritual Adoption Program, we will **not** have you share the names with us for reasons of privacy.

Our hope is twofold. One, through our prayers and the mercy of God, a vulnerable, misguided person will find true compassion and the help they need to live out the rest of their lives in harmony with God's plan. And two, to make our parishioners and the community aware of available resources and to help them grow in confidence to live ***On God's Time and in God's Care.***

***Suicide only appears like an option when the devil has hidden all your other options.***

**Further information will soon be available in the bulletin, and on the St. Patrick website.**

**Sign-ups for the program will begin on Sept.5, 2021.**

*May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the holy Spirit.*

*Romans 15:13*

*hope*