



End of Life Planning

Now and at the Hour of Our Death

A PASTORAL LETTER FROM THE ROMAN CATHOLIC BISHOPS OF WISCONSIN ON END OF LIFE DECISIONS

As Bishops, we know that death is not final, for Jesus promised His followers that we will see Him face to face and share in eternal life. Yet, despite our hope in Christ, we know that dying can present great difficulties. Many decisions need to be made and we pray that you do not wait until you or a loved one is near death to reflect and prepare.

We have published the 4th edition of our pastoral letter, *Now and at the Hour of Our Death*, to share the Church's moral guidance and helpful resources to help prepare for the end of life and relieve some of the pain, sadness, and anxiety that dying entails. The letter includes Church teaching on a wide variety of issues at the end of life, including:

Assisted Suicide & Euthanasia

Ordinary & Extraordinary Measures

Measures Withheld or Withdrawn

Nutrition & Hydration

Palliative Care & Hospice

Pain Management

Redemptive Suffering

Organ Donation

Spiritual & Sacramental Needs

Funeral Planning

Advance Care Planning

Power of Attorney for Health Care

Living Wills & POLST

Burial & Cremation

Alkaline Hydrolysis

Human Composting

To assist in end of life planning, we also offer free legal forms including the **Catholic Authorization for Final Disposition** and **Addenda to the Power of Attorney for Health Care**.

READ *the* FULL LETTER

Scan the QR code below or visit wisconsincatholic.org/endoflife for links to the pastoral letter, resources, legal forms & diocesan contacts.



WISCONSIN CATHOLIC CONFERENCE

106 E Doty St • Ste 300 • Madison, WI 53703

Phone 608-257-0004 • Email office@wisconsincatholic.org • Web wisconsincatholic.org