

BLESSED WITH HOPE FACTS

*"This is my comfort in my affliction, that your promise gives me life."
(Psalm 119:50)*

Love to the End

How to be present and supportive in the final moments of one's life:

- Keep them company (pray, read, sing, hold hands, etc.).
- Talk knowing you are being heard – hearing persists even when one is unresponsive.
- Forgive and seek forgiveness.
- Allow expressions of fear about death without judgement.
- Proclaim the Good News and Christ's promises.
- Reserve dignity and respect – provide compassionate care, listen to their views, and uphold their right for privacy.

End of Life

Symptoms at the final stage of life:

- Drowsiness
- Becoming unresponsive
- Disoriented about time, place, and people
- Decreased need for food and fluid
- Loss of bladder or bowel control
- Skin cool to the touch
- Labored, irregular, shallow, or noisy breathing

Physician-Assisted Suicide

60% of doctors think PAS should be legal. Conversely, 60% of doctors also believe most physicians cannot predict with certainty whether a patient seeking PSA has 6 months or less to live.

Prolonging Death Versus Extending Life

Life support technology is intended to support the failing organ until the underlying disorder improves. Yet, when there is loss of functioning in the cerebral cortex (consciousness) and the brainstem (ability to breathe spontaneously), there is no life to be supported.



This Too Shall Pass

We do not lose heart or give up hope. Even when our outer body is wasting away, we are renewed in faith by the reminder that this affliction is temporary, and it prepares us for the joy of eternal glorified bodies.