

# Catholic Families for Life



## Welcome Message from Bishop John Keenan

President of National Commission for Marriage, Family and Life

In his Message for this year's World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, Pope Francis draws attention to the increasingly precarious situation of the elderly in our society. In modern Scotland our elderly increasingly fear the scourge of loneliness and abandonment. The Pope exposes a contemporary conspiracy around the lives of the elderly in which their marginalisation is not by chance or inevitable but is due to the decisions we take as a society which now refuses to acknowledge the infinite dignity of each person, beyond every circumstance, state or situation. In this Newsletter you will hear about the Assisted Dying Bill before the Scottish Parliament that we know presents an unprecedented threat to the elderly since almost half of those who opt for assisted suicide in other countries are



the elderly who said they feel a burden on their families or public resources. I appeal to you to learn about the stark dangers in this Bill for many vulnerable people behind its false compassion for a few elderly hard cases so that it is defeated when it comes to a vote in a few months. The Holy Father appeals to our society to replace our self-centred attitudes that force our elderly into loneliness with open hearts and joyful faces that say 'We will not abandon you'. With every assurance of my prayers. GOD bless, John

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## Assisted Suicide: Bishops' Conference of Scotland submits evidence to committee

The Bishops' Conference of Scotland has submitted evidence to the Scottish Parliament Health, Social Care and Sport Committee on a proposal to legalise assisted suicide in Scotland. Responding to the call for views on the Assisted Dying for Terminally Ill Adults (Scotland) Bill, the bishops said that "assisted suicide attacks human dignity and results in human life being increasingly valued on the basis of its efficiency and utility", adding that, implicit in legal assisted suicide is the idea that "an individual can lose their value and worth."

Read the full submission here: [Assisted Suicide: Bishops' Conference of Scotland submits evidence to committee - Catholic Parliamentary Office \(catholicparliamentaryoffice.org.uk\)](https://www.catholicparliamentaryoffice.org.uk)

A newsletter from the Bishops' Conference of Scotland to keep up to date with their work to support Marriage, Families and Pro-Life Issues.

The Newsletter is produced quarterly by the National Commission for Marriage, Family and Life.

Visit our national website / scan the QR code [www.marriagefamilyandlife.org.uk](http://www.marriagefamilyandlife.org.uk) to view the latest edition.

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