



# CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF ROCKHAMPTON

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22 October 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ

I send prayerful greetings to you all the Catholics and Christians of the Diocese of Rockhampton.

This week in the media you may have heard of my brother Bishops expressing their extreme disappointment on the proposed immediate postelection introduction of voluntary assisted dying.

The Queensland Law Reform Commission is yet to provide its report to the parliament on the 1<sup>st</sup> March 2021.

As we approach the election weekend, once again I stress the Catholic view on life - life is to be preserved from the very moment of conception to the very end of life when God calls a person home. This is the Catholic point of view and it is a pro-life view. My brother Catholic and Anglican Bishops have expressed this view to their people. While no one is morally compelled to suffer unbearable pain, no one should feel like a burden and no one should feel that their life is worthless. It is every Queenslanders' right to have equal access to good quality palliative care before any parliament considers a policy to default to euthanasia.

As Catholics we consider that life is a gift from God, and it is the gift that we, at the end of our life hand back to God, when God calls us to join him in eternal life.

I invite you again to pray and to also consider this very important part of our Catholic faith.

May the Holy Spirit guide us these days.

With my best wishes.

Yours sincerely

Most Rev Michael McCarthy  
Bishop of Rockhampton

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**Bishop Michael McCarthy**

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