



Archdiocese of Vancouver
ARCHBISHOP'S OFFICE
June 17, 2018

To the priests, deacons, consecrated women and men, and lay faithful of the Archdiocese of Vancouver:

I am writing to you today to call your attention to three crucial issues affecting all of us in British Columbia.

First, I am very concerned about the situation of health care in our province for our elderly and dying patients. Unfortunately, we lack the capacity to provide good palliative care that helps people die in comfort and peace. At the same time, and from many different quarters, there is increasing pressure for patients to end their life by choosing euthanasia or assisted suicide.

Second, there is the worrying trend that doctors and other health care workers are being pressured into taking part in abortions, assisted suicide and euthanasia, and other practices that violate their consciences. This could force prolife doctors and nurses out of their professions and thus make it difficult for patients to access the kind of health care provider that they prefer.

Third, it is increasingly apparent that young people are not receiving accurate information and sound moral teaching about the meaning of love, relationships and their own dignity. We know that when they are taught to value their own worth and the dignity of others, including women and unborn children, they are much more likely to choose life.

Fortunately, there are many organizations in the Lower Mainland that are addressing each of these issues. I urge you to support them financially and with your prayers.

This Prolife Sunday on June 17, please be generous in our second collection or go to the RCAF website (www.rcav.org) to donate. All the funds will be used to support organizations that protect the right to life, the freedom of conscience, and vulnerable women, children, the elderly and dying persons.

With cordial best wishes and the assurance of my prayers for you and your family, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ J. Michael Miller CSB

✙ J. Michael Miller, CSB
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