



Roman Catholic Diocese of Victoria

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M E M O

Date: November 4, 2021
To: Pastors, Parishes, Diocesan Health Care Committee, Vancouver Island Catholic Physician's Guild
From: Bishop Gary Gordon
Re: CCCB to launch Toolkit for Catholic communities on palliative care

The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops' Joint *Ad Hoc* Committee on Palliative Care has announced that **Horizons of Hope: A Toolkit for Catholic Parishes on Palliative Care** will be launched on November 15-16, 2021.

This Toolkit, available in both English and French, will allow Catholic communities to facilitate meaningful conversations on palliative care. Key features include a detailed facilitator's guide, four modules organized in a step-by-step learning process, videos, and take-home resources. More information about the Toolkit is available in this short video: <https://youtu.be/JLm0YG8uX8E>

On the days of the launch, the Committee is holding Zoom presentations during which an expert panel will introduce the key features of the Toolkit and explain how to download it. Advance registration is required:

- English Zoom presentation: Monday, 15 November from 7:00 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. PST
 - [Click here to register for the English Launch Webinar](#)
- French Zoom presentation: Tuesday, 16 November from 7:00 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. PST
 - [Click here to register for the French Launch Webinar](#)

A poster about the Toolkit and its launch webinar is attached. Immediately following the launch, the entire Toolkit will be available on the CCCB webpage (<https://www.cccb.ca/>).

This Toolkit marks the culmination of a four-year process during which the CCCB partnered with experts from Pallium Canada, Dominican University College, the Canadian Catholic Bioethics Institute, Catholic Health Alliance of Canada, and the Congregation of the Sisters Saint Joseph in Canada. This partnership ensured the development of a high-level resource that will benefit Catholics who are eager to grow in their understanding of palliative care and Church teaching on end-of-life questions.

For more information, please contact Mrs. Michelle Dabrowski at m.dabrowski@ccb.ca or Mrs. Marg Shea-Lawrence at m.shea-lawrence@ccb.ca. We hope you will consider attending the Toolkit launch, and we ask that you extend this invitation to those in your communities who work in the pastoral care of the sick and dying.