

Respect Life Society Bulletin – March 27, 2016

All of us from the Respect Life Society wish you and your families a Blessed Easter.

Physician Assisted Suicide – Legislation has been introduced in the NY State Legislature that would allow doctors to legally prescribe a lethal dose of pills at the request of a terminally ill patient. These bills are flawed, dangerous and unnecessary. This is a further explanation of reason 3 out of 10. **It opens the door to elder abuse and coercion.** The legislation offers no protections to ensure that the patient is not being coerced into ingesting the drugs, or even to prevent another person from administering the drugs. While legal witnesses must be present at the time of the request, one of them can be someone who stands to gain financially from the patient's death. Legalized assisted suicide empowers others – family members, health care systems, insurance companies – to pressure and exploit older, weaker, vulnerable persons in order to get them to cut short their lives.