

## A STATEMENT ON THE "ASSISTED DYING" BILL FROM BISHOP RICHARD MOTH

29 November 2024

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

In the wake of the vote in Parliament earlier today, in favour of the "Assisted Dying Bill", may I take this opportunity thank all those who have written to MPs in recent weeks, alerting them to the dangers inherent in a vote in favour of the Bill, calling for increased levels of support for resources for palliative care, and for protection for the dignity of every person, at every stage in life.

The passing of this Bill represents a significant and very sad moment in the history of this country, and I ask you all to continue your prayers for those in government. As the statement from the Bishops' Conference of England & Wales states, this Bill is flawed in principle.

There is much that we can do before this Bill becomes law and continuing the call for compassion, proper availability and resourcing for palliative care, proper provision for conscientious objection for medical professionals, and protection for hospices and care homes, will be vital in the months ahead.

Let us keep in prayer all those who will be already feeling fearful as a result of this vote, their loved ones, and all who care for them.

Yours in Christ.

Bishop Richard Moth