A Catholic Approach to Palliative Care

GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE: LIVING WITH & CARING FOR THE SERIously ILL - GROUNDED IN BAPTISM

QUESTION 1:
Dr. Henson highlights the reception into the community of faith and being marked with the sign of the cross in baptism as signs and symbols of hope for those living with serious illness. How does this connect with your experience or the experience of those for whom you care?

LINKS TO CATHOLIC RESOURCES
- Message of his holiness Pope Francis to the participants in the European regional meeting of the World Medical Association
- World Day of the Sick
- Cardinal Bernardin on "Death as a friend"

QUESTION 2:
Which elements of baptism most inform your perspective on your own life and eventual death?
- Font - the "womb" and "tomb"
- Candle - light of Christ
- White garment - clothed in Christ
- Creed - the promise of resurrection

LINKS TO PALLIATIVE CARE RESOURCES
- Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Health Care
- Catechism of the Catholic Church

QUESTION 3:
What are some of the key points of transition on the journey with serious illness?

LINKS TO PALLIATIVE CARE RESOURCES
- Pathways to Convergence
- Palliative Care’s Sacramental & Liturgical Foundations: Healthcare Formed by Faith Hope and Love
- Get Palliative Care
- Spirituality Toolkit