

Sample #1

I, [name] as a Catholic, believe that God is the author of human life, which is a great and glorious gift from him. As the Catholic Church teaches, I accept that I have the right, not to die, but to refuse those medical treatments that are useless or excessively burdensome and that would only unreasonably prolong my own dying, delaying my return to God. Therefore:

I ask that if I fall terminally ill, I be told this so that I might prepare myself for death. If I am unable to make decisions for myself, I direct that my spiritual needs be taken care of that I be attended by a Catholic priest and receive the Anointing of the sick and Viaticum.

I believe that I am not bound in conscience to use ethically extraordinary or disproportionate medical treatments for sustaining life, that is, means that are excessively burdensome or do not offer any reasonable hope or benefit.

If I fall into a permanent comatose state, I direct that ethically extraordinary and/or excessively burdensome treatments be given through examination by my health care agent.

If I am unable to make decisions for myself, I appoint the following named person as my health care agent and attorney in fact for health care decisions for the specific purpose of making any and all health care and medical treatment decisions for me.