



Petition Guidelines for Churches

1. Recruit as many signature collectors as possible beforehand

Prepare in advance – ahead of the Petition Day - by approaching fellow parishioners, members of church groups, friends, family or neighbours who you think may help out.

- Ask for the phone numbers of those who agree to help so that you can confirm the time/ service that they will cover
- Call people to remind them about the event a day or two before

People will often feel more comfortable working in pairs, rather than individually, so bear this in mind when arranging the schedule.

Age stipulation: Please make sure that all signature collectors are aged 18 or over. This age stipulation applies to signers of the petition too. If in doubt about age, please make this stipulation clear to any prospective signatories you suspect may be under 18.

2. Use CNK's A4 Poster to promote the petition

Ask permission for the poster to be put up in a prominent location. Noticeboards and church porches are ideal places.

The poster can also be used:

- to help you answer queries from churchgoers
- for people to order petition forms from CNK to collect signatures from their friends, family, work colleagues etc.
- to signpost people to CNK's website where more information about the petition campaign is available

3. Equipment and supplies

All that's needed are simple clipboards and pens – available from most stationers – and copies of the blank petition form + petition posters.

Extra petition forms can be photocopied – single-sided only please.

Alternatively, request extra petition forms at administrator@carenotkilling.org.uk. An electronic file will be sent to you by email to print off. (Same applies for requests for extra petition posters).

www.CareNotKilling.Scot

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4. Announcements

A bulletin/newsletter notice is printed at the bottom of these Guidelines. Ask for this to be placed in your church bulletin or newsletter.

Petitions are most successful, however, when the priest makes an announcement on the day encouraging churchgoers to sign. As well as referring to the information contained on the Bulletin Notice (below), this can be done by holding up and reading out one or two of the issues raised on the A4 petition poster.

5. Instructions for signature collectors

Approach people in a friendly, positive way with a smile.

- Use a brief form of words that you are comfortable with, e.g.:

“Hello. We are campaigning today to stop assisted suicide in Scotland. Would you like to sign our petition?”

Those who sign can indicate in the last column whether they wish to be kept informed by CNK or not.

6. Returning Petition Forms

After your Petition Day has taken place, please send all petition forms (complete or otherwise) to CNK's Glasgow office: **Care Not Killing, 3rd Floor, Right, 40 St Enoch Square, Glasgow, G1 4DH**

Bulletin / Newsletter Insert

URGENT: Oppose plans to introduce Assisted Suicide to Scotland

Care Not Killing (CNK), supported by the Catholic Parliamentary Office, has launched a petition which aims to stop plans to legalise assisted suicide.

Liam McArthur MSP, has indicated that he expects to introduce his assisted suicide bill at Holyrood in early 2023, so we must act quickly.

This bill risks undermining the provision of palliative care and undermining efforts to prevent suicide. It will make the most vulnerable people, including the elderly and disabled, feel like a burden and its safeguards will prove futile. The current law is the safeguard - it prohibits assisting someone's suicide and/or killing them by euthanasia. The state ought to support the provision of care, not deliberate killing, for those at the end of life.

Please sign CNK's petition at church today.

Alternatively, you can sign online at www.carenotkilling.scot

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