



PONTIFICAL ACADEMY FOR LIFE



# ASSISTING THE ELDERLY AND PALLIATIVE CARE

XXI GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MEMBERS  
2015

EDITED BY

IGNACIO CARRASCO DE PAULA AND RENZO PEGORARO

## Contents

Introduction.....	11
Address of His Holiness Pope Francis to Participants in the XXI General Assembly of the Pontifical Academy For Life .....	25
<b>First session. Clinical Care for the Elderly at the End of Life</b>	
Ignacio Carrasco de Paula <i>The Challenges of Assisting the Elderly at the End of Life</i> .....	31
Armando García Querol <i>Caring for the Elderly with Chronic, Degenerative Diseases, Nearing the End of Life</i> .....	39
Joan T. Panke <i>Nursing Care for the Terminally Ill Elderly</i> .....	47
Paolo Preziosi <i>Use and Abuse of Analgesics in Palliative Care</i> .....	67
Daniel P. Sulmasy <i>The Clinical Decision Making Process for the Elderly Patient at the End of Life: Upholding the Tradition</i> .....	83
<b>Second session. Ethical-Anthropological Perspectives</b>	
Pierre Boitte <i>The Central Role of "Relationships": Elderly Person, Family, Caregiver, Society</i> .....	103
Adriana Turriziani and Maria Adelaide Ricciotti <i>Bodily Communication in the Care of the Elderly when Verbal Communication Declines</i> .....	119
David J. Roy <i>Ethics and Palliative Care for Elderly</i> .....	125

Carlos Centeno Cortés

*Advanced Care Planning. Talks with Patients with Progressive Disease Near the End of Life* ..... 139

Chris Gastmans

*Worrying Tendencies in the Care of Older Persons with Severe Dementia. The Case of Euthanasia* ..... 161

Leocir Pessini, MI

*Ethical and Pastoral Guidelines for a "Good Accompaniment"* ..... 179

### **Third session. Socio-Cultural Perspectives**

Armando Aufiero

*Elderly Persons at the End of Life: Spiritual Aspects* ..... 195

John Keown

*Legal Issues at the End of Life* ..... 203

Tomi Thomas, IMS

*Pastoral Care and the Role of the Family. The Indian Scenario* ..... 215

Marco Trabucchi

*The Meaning of Social Solidarity Amidst the Elderly in the Terminal Stages of Life* ..... 235

### **Workgroups**

Robert Buchanan and John Irving Fleming

*English Workgroup (I)* ..... 245

Anthony Fisher, OP and Colin McGuckin

*English Workgroup (II)* ..... 251

Gustavo Ordoqui and Elena Postigo Solana

*Spanish Workgroup (I)* ..... 261

Alberto G. Bochaty, OSA and Justo Aznar

*Spanish Workgroup (II)* ..... 271

Jean-Marie Lé Mené and Jacques Suaudeau	
<i>French Workgroup</i> .....	275
Antonio G. Spagnolo and Carlo Petrini	
<i>Italian Workgroup</i> .....	289