

30 November 2023

## **STATEMENT**

from Most Rev Peter A Comensoli Archbishop of Melbourne

## Federal Court Ruling on Telehealth and Voluntary Assisted Dying

Today's decision by the Federal Court is significant.

The judgement legally clarified that voluntary assisted dying (VAD) is a form of suicide.

The ruling underscores that VAD is not a health service but an intentional ending of someone's life.

To deal with such a serious situation by means of a carriage service would be a failure of good medicine.

People at the end of their lives are at their most vulnerable; what they deserve is our compassion, care and accompaniment, not euthanasia.