

Angela Penna is a cancer survivor, who experienced a miracle which prompted her to return to Confession and the Eucharist, after fifteen years. She has since dedicated her life to spread the redemptive meaning of suffering. Serving as Pastoral Associate at a Catholic parish, she founded a faith-based illness support group for those living with an acute or chronic illness, which is in its' fifth year. She also founded Family Written Legacy Inc. She interviews the elderly and dying of all ages, which are recorded, transcribed and then edited into a book, serving as a lasting gift for their grieving families.

She is a natural death advocate and a Catholic end-of-life educator. After receiving her death doula certification last year, she persisted with prayer through over fifty grueling hours of research on euthanasia. She now offers a hands-on workshop called "The Truth about MAiD – What Everyone Needs to Know." She takes a different approach to help open a heavy but important conversation. The workshop opens with her performing a monologue, entitled, "My Hidden Gift of Cancer," which many say is the highlight of the workshop.

Scripture and the lives of the Saints are the foundation of her presentation, which is critical in wading through the complex issues of euthanasia. Excerpts from documentaries are shown, along with new research that sheds serious doubt on the claim that MAiD is a peaceful death. She states, "It's one thing to know the policies, but it's another thing to understand how and why the "MAiD service" is being implemented. The stories I can share, from firsthand experience, are shocking but the 'Truth will set you free' (John 8:32). She urges, "We must not despair, but we all must become ... aware."

She shares another monologue entitled, "Euthanasia on Trial," before providing guidance and time for participants to ask questions and fill out a Faith-based Advanced Health Care Directive. The workshop concludes with a written legacy exercise, and she offers an original song on piano, inspired by her own elderly mother and most recently, the death of her 29 year old beloved daughter. "To Remember is to Love Again and Remember, Love Never Dies."

Please visit her website at www.writtenlegacy.ca