

Anointing of the Sick

OFFERS GRACE TO STRENGTHEN someone in danger of death or suffering serious illness, injury, or advanced age. It helps the person join their sufferings with the sufferings of Christ, and offers peace and consolation.

KEY WORDS AND ACTIONS:

Anointing by a priest with the holy Oil of the Sick. The priest lays his hands on the head of the sick person. He anoints their forehead and hands. He prays: *“Through this holy anointing may the Lord in his love and mercy help you with the grace of the Holy Spirit. May the Lord who frees you from sin save you and raise you up.”* (CCC, 1513.)

FIND IT IN THE BIBLE:

“Is anyone among you sick? He should summon the presbyters of the church, and they should pray over him and anoint [him] with oil in the name of the Lord, and the prayer of faith will save the sick person, and the Lord will raise him up. If he has committed any sins, he will be forgiven.” – JAMES 5:14-16

Also: Mt 8:17, Mt 10: 8, 38, 25;
36; Mk 5:34, 6:12-13, 16:17-18;
Lk 6:19; Acts 9:34; 1 Cor 12:9,28,30



SIGN:

Oil of the Sick = *graces and strength from the Holy Spirit*

THE GRACES GIVEN:

- * *Unites the sick person to the passion of Christ, for his own good and that of the whole Church.*
- * *Strengthens and brings peace and courage to endure the sufferings of illness or old age.*
- * *Forgives sins when the sick person is unable to receive the sacrament of Penance.*
- * *Healing of physical health, only if it is conducive to the salvation of the sick person's soul. (See CCC, 1532.)*
- * *Preparation for death and passing to eternal life.*

MINISTER OF THE SACRAMENT: Priest

THIS SACRAMENT CAN BE REPEATED AS NEEDED.

In ideal circumstances the Anointing of the Sick ought to be accompanied by **Penance**, and reception of the **Eucharist**. Communion at the end of life is called *Viaticum* (Latin for “provision for the journey”). See CCC, 1524-1525.

IN THE CATECHISM: CCC, 1499-1532