

Session 10- "Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick"

February 14, 2006

Presented by: Monsignor Fimiani

I. Opening prayer

II. Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick

A. Long time ago, it was known as "Last Rites" and "Last Anointing."

1. The anointing of the sick is administered to bring spiritual and even physical strength during an illness, especially near the time of death.
2. It is most likely one of the last sacraments one will receive.
3. "This sacred anointing of the sick was instituted by Christ our Lord as a true and proper sacrament of the New Testament. It is alluded to indeed by Mark, but is recommended to the faithful and promulgated by James the apostle and brother of the Lord" ([CCC 1511](#); [Mark 6:13](#); [Jas. 5:14-15](#)).
4. If any one of you is ill, he says, he should send for the elders of the church, and they must anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord and pray over him. The prayer of faith will save the sick man and the Lord will raise him up again, and if he has committed any sins, he will be forgiven ([James 5:14-15](#))."[1]
5. This sacrament was feared by most people. Years ago the sacrament of the anointing of the sick was

misunderstood and it was seen as a negative sacrament.

6. People were reluctant to call for priest before a person passed away.
7. People would then call for a priest when a person passed away.
8. A person is given the sacrament of the anointing of the sick, if they are in a state of serious illness, great danger of dying, or are in a new danger of death.
9. The priest uses a book called "Pastoral Care of the Sick" to pray over a person who is dying.
10. The priest places his hands over the body and on the person's foreheads when performing the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. The presence of God sinks in.
11. The priest will place the oil on a person's forehead and form a cross.

III. Three aspects of the sacrament

A. The three aspects are human touch, using oil, and prayer.

1. human touch- It's very important to have a touch of a hand. It can help to heal when someone is there for you.
2. oil- All people use oil in life. Oil has a tremendous use and it is therapeutic. It has a healing agent.

3. prayer- When a sick person unites themselves to the passion and death of Christ through this sacrament, they contribute to the good of the people of God.

IV. Anointing of the Oil (It is also known as oil stock.)

A. The oil is blessed on the Monday of Holy Week. The bishop will say a prayer over the oil to bless it.

1. The three oils that are blessed are: Oil for the sick, Holy Oil, and Chrism Oil (this oil is used for blessing of the church and Confirmation)
2. The priest will place the oil on a person's forehead and form a cross.
3. The oil can be given to a group: Catholic parishes often offer a communal Anointing of the Sick once or twice a year, usually within celebration of Mass.
4. The oil is stored in either a glass or crystal container. It is kept in the church. If you look in our church close to the altar, you can see all three glass containers with the different oils.

V. Questions asked during this week's session.

A. Can the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick be administered after a person has expired?

This sacrament is for the living only. A priest will say a prayer of the dying for the family.

B. Who can receive the Anointing of the Sick?

Only baptized Catholics can receive this sacrament.

C. Can someone else other than a priest give the Sacrament of the anointing of the Sick?

Most sacraments including this sacrament must be performed by a priest.