



WHAT IS ANNOINTING OF THE SICK?

The Anointing of the Sick is the Sacrament received by those who are suffering serious illness and are in danger of death. If possible, the Anointing of the Sick is preceded by the sacrament of confession, and, after the anointing, the individual will receive the Eucharist. The ministry of this sacrament is restricted to priests and bishops.

“IS ANY AMONG YOU SICK? LET HIM CALL FOR THE ELDERS OF THE CHURCH, AND LET THEM PRAY OVER HIM, ANOINTING HIM WITH OIL IN THE NAME OF THE LORD; AND THE PRAYER OF FAITH WILL SAVE THE SICK MAN, AND THE LORD WILL RAISE HIM UP; AND IF HE HAS COMMITTED SINS, HE WILL BE FORGIVEN.” (JAMES 5:14-15)

WHEN CAN I RECEIVE THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK?

The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick may be received by an individual multiple times in their life. A person may receive this sacrament any time they are in danger of death. Appropriate times to receive the Anointing of the sick are when an individual is suffering from a serious illness, preparing for surgery, or as an individual naturally becomes weak and frail due to old age. It is permissible to receive the Sacrament a second time for the same illness, if the illness escalates and gets worse.

THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK:

- Gives grace in order to strengthen us to face our illness and mortality with courage
- Unites us with Christ's suffering in His Passion
- Prepares us for death

CCC 1527: The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick has as its purpose the conferral of a special grace on the Christian experiencing the difficulties inherent in the condition of grave illness or old age.