

PARISH FAMILY ABLAZE: ANOINTING OF THE SICK—PRAXIS (2-3-19)

PSALM 23

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
 In verdant pastures He gives me repose;
Beside restful waters He leads me;
 He refreshes my soul.
He guides me in right paths
 for His name's sake.
Even though I walk in the dark valley
 I fear no evil; for You are at my side
With Your rod and Your staff
 that give me courage.
You spread the table before me
 in the sight of my foes;
You anoint my head with oil;
 my cup overflows;
Only goodness and kindness follow me
 all the days of my life;
And I shall dwell in the house of the Lord
 for years to come.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK: A SACRAMENT OF HEALING (Catechism of the Catholic Church, Numbers 1514-1532)

- I. Recipients of the Sacrament
 - A. Those with a grave illness or who are gravely frail due to old age (1514)
 - B. Those preparing for a serious operation
 - C. Can be received more than once
 1. If, after recovery, another grave illness arises
 2. In cases of increasingly pronounced illness or frailty (1515)
- II. Ministers of the Sacrament = Bishops or priests
 - A. "It is the duty of pastors to instruct the faithful on the benefits of this sacrament."
 - B. "The faithful should encourage the sick to call for a priest to receive the sacrament." (1516)
- III. Celebration of the Sacrament
 - A. Typical situation (at home or in the hospital)
 1. Sacramental Confession
 2. Anointing of the Sick
 - a. Laying on of hands in silence (epiclesis)
 - b. Anointing of forehead, then of the hands, with appropriate words (1517-1519)
 3. Holy Communion

- B. Viaticum, the Last Sacrament of a Christian (“Last Rites”)
 - 1. Continuous Rite of Penance, Anointing, and Viaticum
 - a. Sacrament of Penance
 - b. Apostolic Pardon
 - c. Profession of Faith
 - d. Liturgy of Anointing
 - e. Liturgy of Viaticum
 - f. Blessing and Sign of Peace
 - 2. Correspondence between Christian Initiation and Last Rites
 - a. Baptism—Penance/Apostolic Pardon/Creed
 - b. Confirmation—Anointing of the Sick
 - c. Eucharist—Viaticum (1524-1525)
- IV. The Effects of the Grace of Anointing of the Sick
 - A. “the uniting of the sick person to the passion of Christ, for his own good and that of the whole Church”
 - B. “the strengthening, peace, and courage to endure in a Christian manner the sufferings of illness or old age”
 - C. “the forgiveness of sins, if the sick person was not able to obtain it through the sacrament of Penance”
 - D. “the restoration of health, if it is conducive to the salvation of his soul”
 - E. “the preparation for passing over to eternal life”

QUESTIONS (T/F)

1. The Anointing of the Sick is a sacrament for those only who are at the point of death.
2. As the sacrament of Christ’s Passover, the Eucharist should always be the last sacrament of the earthly journey.
3. Being conscious when receiving the Last Rites is not helpful for the person approaching death.
4. An epiclesis is commonly found in sacraments, as, for example, in Confirmation, Eucharist, Marriage, and Anointing of the Sick.
5. The Anointing of the Sick has most certainly not been received faithfully if the sick person is not physically strengthened or healed.
6. By receiving the Anointing of the Sick faithfully and responding to its graces, a sick person can contribute to the good of all people.
7. The Anointing of the Sick completes our conformity to the death and Resurrection of Christ, just as Baptism began it.
8. The Anointing of the Sick completes the holy anointings that mark the whole Christian life.
9. Only oil blessed by a bishop may ever be used in Anointing of the Sick.
10. By celebrating the Anointing of the Sick, the Church, in communion with the saints in Heaven, intercedes for the benefit of the sick person.

MISSION

- I. Morning Prayer: "Act of Faith," "Act of Hope," "Spiritual Communion," and "Psalm 23"
- II. Mental Prayer During the Day (20-35 minutes)
 - A. The Rosary
 - B. Journal Meditation
 - 1. 5-10 Minutes of Scriptural or spiritual reading
 - 2. 5-10 Minutes writing to either the Father, Son, or Holy Spirit
 - 3. 5-10 Minutes recording what you believe God is saying to you
- III. Examination of Conscience and Act of Contrition
 - A. Did I use my memory and intellect in a way that glorifies God the Father? Ask the Father to heal and purify my memory and intellect.
 - B. Did I unite my heart to the Sacred Heart of Jesus today by making a Spiritual Communion or receiving Him in Holy Communion? Ask Jesus to heal and purify my heart and will.
 - C. Did I place all my emotions and desires under the guidance of the Holy Spirit? Ask the Holy Spirit to heal my emotions and purify my desires.
 - D. Did I embrace Mary today as my Mother in the order of grace by praying with her and behaving like one of her spiritual children? Ask Mary to pray for my healing and purification in body and soul.