

PRAYER

Loving and merciful God, Your Son accepted our sufferings so that he might teach us the virtue of patience in times of human illness. Hear the prayers we offer you for all those who are sick. May those who suffer pain, illness or disease realize they are joined to Christ in his suffering for the salvation of the world. Amen



St. Margaret Mary Parish

620 Division Street (Church)

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The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick

A Catholic Sacrament of Healing



The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick, instituted by Christ, is mentioned in the Bible. In the Gospel we read, “Jesus called the Twelve and began to send them out two by two. . .They anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.— Mark 6:7-13

What is the Anointing of the Sick?

The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is an act of faith and it graces the whole person. We pray the person will be healed in body, soul and spirit. We ask the Holy Spirit to deliver the person from every affliction. The priest anoints the person's forehead and hands with holy oil saying, "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."

Who should receive Anointing of the Sick?

It is for those Christians whose health is seriously impaired by sickness or old age and for those with serious spiritual, emotional or mental conditions. This includes people who suffer from any addictions, anxiety, depression and also those preparing for surgery. This sacrament is also for anyone who is in danger of death.

Do you have to be Catholic to receive the Sacrament of Anointing?

Normally one should be Catholic to receive this sacrament. Christians in danger of death may receive it if they request it or if there is no minister of their faith available and they have a Catholic understanding of the Sacrament.

When, how and how often should I be anointed?

You may request it before any surgery, at the beginning or anytime during a serious physical illness, mental, emotional or spiritual condition. If the person's condition becomes more serious, the Sacrament may be celebrated again.

The Anointing of the Sick can be celebrated for one or a group of people who are ill or in danger of death. It can take place in the hospital, nursing home, in someone's home, or in church after Mass. Please call **St. Margaret Mary parish at (920) 729-4560** to schedule an appointment for an anointing.



Each year St. Margaret Mary parish offers two communal celebrations of the Anointing of the Sick. They are usually held in May and October. It is a liturgical and communal celebration, celebrated within Mass, the memorial of the Lord's suffering, death and resurrection. All wishing to receive the Sacrament are welcome.

As with all Sacraments, active participation is an important component in this act of faith. Therefore, early in the stage of awareness of need provides an extended time of comfort.



What help does this sacrament give to those who are anointed?

- † Uniting the sick person to the passion of Christ
- † Strengthening, giving courage, peace to endure the sufferings of illness/old age/imminent death in a Christian manner
- † Forgiveness of sins if the sick person was not able to confess in the Sacrament of Reconciliation
- † Restoration of health if it is God's will for the person's salvation
- † Preparation for passing over to eternal life
- † Support for family and friends who participate in the ritual

In addition to the Anointing of the Sick, the Church offers those who are about to leave this life the Eucharist as Viaticum (CCC 1524).

As the Sacrament of Christ's Passover, the Eucharist should always be the last Sacrament of the earthly journey. The "viaticum" for "passing over" to eternal life. (CCC 1517)

Do we anoint after death?

No, Sacraments are meant for the living. However, our faith in a caring God and our love for the departed one impels us to pray, commending that person's soul to our God. Anyone can lead spontaneous prayer or the rosary for this purpose.