

# DID YOU KNOW?

## Holy Oils

The title “Christ” means, “the Anointed One.” So, it is not surprising that anointing is a common Christian ritual. The Catholic Church use sacred oils to sacramentally impart the blessings of Jesus Christ on his people. The oils—always olive oil—are blessed by the Bishop each year at the Chrism Mass.

At the Chrism Mass, the Bishop blesses the oil of the sick, oil of catechumens, and sacred chrism to be used to administer sacraments throughout the diocese for the year. This year Saint Brigid Parish sent the DeMerchant family as our parish representative at the Chrism Mass.

Excerpts from the blessing prayers, include the following:

### **Oil of the Sick**

O God, Father of all consolation, send down from heaven, your Holy Spirit, the Paraclete, upon the rich substance of this Oil, so that by your holy blessing this Oil may be a safeguard for body, mind, and spirit, to take away every pain, every infirmity, and every sickness.

### **Oil of Catechumens**

O God, strength and protection of your people, graciously bless this Oil; grant fortitude to catechumens who are anointed with it, that receiving your divine wisdom and strength, they may understand more deeply the Gospel of your Christ, may undertake generously the labors of Christian life, and may find joy in being born again and living in your Church, through Christ our Lord.

### **Sacred Chrism**

For those to be reborn through the spiritual bath of Baptism, make the Chrism you have created a holy sign of the fullness of life and salvation, that through the sanctification imparted by the anointing they may be made a temple of your majesty, and give forth the fragrance of an innocence of life pleasing to you.

