

Sacrament of Healing

Anointing of the Sick

Anointing of the Sick is a source of healing for the sick rather than the final act of the church for the dying.

The Anointing of the Sick is a sacrament of the Church for those whose health is seriously impaired by sickness or old age. It is a source of healing for the sick rather than the final act of the church for the dying.

The Sacrament enables the sick or aged person to be anointed with the oil of the sick, to experience the healing and strength of Jesus Christ and to be supported by a praying community.

Celebration of Anointing of the Sick

The sacrament may be celebrated during Mass, or at a hospital or nursing home, or in the person's home. It is a celebration of the church where members of the church offer those who are sick the support of faith and prayer.

Who celebrates it?

The sacrament is celebrated with the sick, with old people, and with sick children if they have sufficient understanding. The sacrament is not administered to anyone who has already died. Prayers for the Dead are prayed for the deceased.

When do we celebrate it?

The sick and their families and friends are encouraged to notify a priest and ask for the sacrament at the onset of serious illness. Parish communities offer opportunities for the Anointing of the Sick several times during the year. Such gatherings allow the sick or elderly to experience the support of the community.

Contacts

The local parish priest or a member of the pastoral team should be contacted to arrange for the Anointing of the Sick.