

G
.

In the Library...



Sharing in Jesus' Healing Ministry

R

Catholic Updates: *Catholic Updates are available for you to take home and keep. You will find them in the library on a bookcase shelf marked "G.R.A.C.E":*

- "Jesus the Physician: What the Gospels Say About Healing" by Donald Senior
This Catholic update explores Jesus' role as healer and how this role was essential to his mission on earth.
- "Anointing the Sick: A Parish Sacrament" by Thomas Richstatter, O.F.M.
This update explains this sacrament of healing and why it needs to be public and communal. It also focuses on the importance of seeing its purpose as one of healing for the body, but also for the soul and spirit.

A

Books: *All books are in the library on the shelf marked "G.R.A.C.E":*

- Understanding the Sacraments Today, by Lawrence E. Mick
This book provides a brief history of the sacraments and explains our present understanding and celebration of them. Chapter 5 discusses the Anointing of the Sick in detail.
- Forming the Assembly to Celebrate Sacraments, by Lawrence E. Mick
Everyone will find in this book fresh perspectives for celebrating and savoring the sacraments.
- Sacraments: Rites of Passage, by William J. O'Malley, S. J.
Chapters 9 and 10 of this book focus solely on the sacraments of healing. The author invites us to feel 'the awe' that is possible in experiencing the sacraments and to recognize them as true encounters with God.
- Miracles: A 21st Century Interpretation, by Josef Imbach
What do Jesus' miracles mean to us today? This author shows us the role miracles played in the ancient world and looks carefully at the stories as they are told by the gospel writers.
- The Gift of Peace, personal reflections by Joseph Cardinal Bernardin
A modern classic about the quest for inner peace in the face of life's greatest trials. The Gift of Peace has touched millions of people of all backgrounds throughout the world.
- United States Catholic Catechism for Adults, from the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops
Chapter 19 gives a comprehensive view of the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick and Dying. This book is both in our parish library and also available to purchase in the parish office.

E

.

Anointing of the sick and dying

What do our Catechisms say about this Sacrament?

The following quotes are from the Catechism of the Catholic Church:

- Christ's compassion toward the sick and his healing of almost every kind of infirmity are a resplendent sign that "God has visited his people." CCC 1503, Luke 7:16
- The special grace of the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick has as its effects:
 - the uniting of the sick person to the passion of Christ, for his own good and that of the whole church;
 - Giving the sick person the strength, peace, and courage to endure in a Christian manner the sufferings of illness or old age;
 - imparting the forgiveness of sins, if the sick person was not able to obtain it through the sacrament of Penance;
 - providing for the restoration of health, if it is conducive to the salvation of his soul;
 - helping the sick person in the preparation for passing over to eternal life. CCC, 1532
- The Holy Spirit gives to some a special charism of healing, so as to make manifest the power of grace of the risen Lord. CCC, 1508
- Jesus' healings announced a more radical healing: the victory over sin and death...By his passion and death on the cross Christ has given a new meaning to suffering; it can...configure us to him and unite us with his redemptive Passion. CCC 1505

The following quotes are from the United States Catholic Catechism for Adults:

- The Sacrament ...has a very important community dimension. In any illness ... we should never have to stand alone. We should never have to face infirmity without the consolation of others. Today there is an effort to bring people together for a communal celebration of this Sacrament...It can serve the purpose of the Sacrament and build up the faith of the community itself. (p. 256)
- Our reaction to infirmity is to seek alleviation. With a perfect understanding of the human person, Christ has provided the Church from its beginning with a spiritual as well as a corporeal remedy for our illness. We are not just flesh and bone. We are spirit, mind, and body. (p. 256)
- The Rite of Anointing tells us there is no need to wait until a person is at the point of death. A careful judgment about the serious nature of the illness is sufficient. The Sacrament may be repeated if the sick person recovers after the anointing but becomes ill again, or if, during the same illness, the person's condition becomes more serious. A person should be anointed before surgery... (p. 253)