

Information for the Sick, Hospitalized and Homebound

Saint Andrew
Catholic Church

**For planned hospitalization
of a parishioner, call the
Pastoral Center at (817)
927-5383.**

- ◆ To schedule a time to celebrate the Sacrament of the Sick (anointing) prior to admission.
- ◆ To request a pastoral visit in the hospital.
- ◆ To receive communion in the hospital.
- ◆ To be placed on the prayers-for-the-sick list.

**For emergency
hospitalizations**

You or a relative must:

- ◆ Inform the hospital staff that you wish to see a priest or Catholic chaplain.
- ◆ Notify the Pastoral Center at Saint Andrew at (817) 927-5383.

For homebound parishioners

Notify the Pastoral Center at (817)
927-5383

- ◆ To receive one of the sacraments.
- ◆ For a weekly visit from a Saint Andrew Minister of Care to the Homebound

If death occurs

A relative must:

- ◆ Call the funeral home of choice (*hospice or hospital staff will assist with this*).
- ◆ Call Saint Andrew Pastoral Center at (817) 927-5383.

Anointing of the Sick



Saint Andrew
Catholic Church

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Sacrament of Anointing

Messianic expectations in Israel included signs of physical healing. In like manner, Jesus' announcement of the kingdom included healing (Mt. 11:5-6). For the Christian, healing is a present sign of the fullness of the kingdom in Heaven. In the catacombs, there is a fresco portraying Jesus' healing of the woman with the hemorrhage as noted in Mark 5:25-34. The apostles used anointing for the bestowal of God's grace. According to Mark 6:12-13 "So they went out and preached that men should repent. And they cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many that were sick and healed them."

Healing is Christ's way of showing us that he is with us in illness and death. Through the sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick Christ makes illness and death a way to sanctity and eternal life.

The clearest evidence for the Anointing of the Sick is found in James 5:14-15: "Is there any among you sick? Let them send for the priests of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord; and the prayer of faith will save the sick man, and the Lord will raise him up; and if he has committed any sins, he will be forgiven."

Formerly, from the Scholastic period until the modern era, the sacrament was called Extreme Unction or the "Last Rites," because it was seen as a sign of impending death and the last sacramental action of the Christian life. It was "last" because of the order in which it was administered: Penance, Communion as Viaticum, and Anointing. With the revised rite of 1972, the order is now: Penance, Anointing, and Viaticum.

Anointing now is seen by the Church more properly as a sacrament of healing and more in conformity with the ancient practice of the Church. The Catechism of the Catholic Church calls Viaticum "the sacrament of passing over from death to life." (1524). Viaticum (from the Latin, *via tecum*, meaning "with you on the way") is the last reception of Holy Communion before death.

The anointing is with olive oil blessed by the bishop at the Chrism Mass. The bishop or priest who administers the sacrament first lays hands on the head of the sick person, invoking the Holy Spirit. Then using the oil, he inscribes the forehead and palms of the hands in the sign of a cross, while he says "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."

The sacrament grants the grace of comfort, peace and courage to face sickness and to resist temptation to discouragement and despair. In their sickness the Christian shares in Christ's suffering. In this way they help build up the Mystical Body of Christ.

Who May Receive the Anointing of the Sick?

- ◆ Anyone who is gravely sick
- ◆ Anyone who is frail because of old age
- ◆ Anyone suffering from emotional illness
- ◆ Anyone anticipating surgery

How Often Can I Receive the Anointing of the Sick?

- ◆ As often as one is seriously ill, or
- ◆ As often as one needs to have a surgical procedure
- ◆ There is no limit as to how often one may receive the sacrament.

When Should I Receive the Anointing?

- ◆ As soon as one becomes seriously ill
- ◆ Before surgery - if it is elective or planned, before admission to the hospital would be best, either at home or at church.