

Anointing of the Sick

Words to be said are in this style: **All:** say these words.

Instructions are in italics.

*This service may be conducted in hospital or care institution but may also be used in the home. It may be taken by those in minor orders, except the portions reserved for deacons or priests. Oil for the Sick (anointing oil) shall be carried from the diocese supply in a suitable container, a small screw top glass vial or jar will suffice. It must be leak proof. Priests may consecrate Oil for the Sick in their chapel or oratory before setting off to the visit, but must not retain any. Only oils consecrated by the bishop may be retained and stored for further use. Those in minor orders can obtain oils from their bishop, and in the case of necessity - for example having none available - may use pure, un-blessed virgin olive oil and use the appropriate phrase in this liturgy. The first or chosen name of the sick person only is used in this liturgy. Communion may be taken if desired: from the priest if present, or by Reserved Sacrament if a priest is not present. If they are able to, the sick person responds along with any friends or family present where they see **All:***

The Greeting

The Minister greets the sick person and the others present quietly using either:

A. **Minister:** The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All: And with your spirit.

-or-

B. **Minister:** The grace and peace of God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

The Introduction

Minister: Lord God, you have said to us through your apostle James: “Are there people sick among you? Let them send for the priests of the Church, and let the priests pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick persons, and the Lord will raise them up. If they have committed any sins, their sins will be forgiven them.” Lord, we have gathered here in your name and we ask you to be among us, to watch over our brother/sister/friend N. We ask this with confidence, for you live and reign for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

-or-

Minister: My dear friends, we are gathered here in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ who is present among us. As the gospels say, the sick came to him for healing; moreover, he loves us so much that he died for us. Through the apostle James, he has commanded us: “Are there any who are sick among you? Let them send for the priests of the Church, and let the priests pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord; and the prayer of faith will save the sick persons, and the Lord will raise them up; and if they have committed any sins, their sins will be forgiven them.” Let us therefore commend our sick brother/sister/friend N. to the grace and power of Christ, that he may save him/her/them and raise him/her/them up.

All: Amen.

The Anointing

First, the minister anoints the forehead, saying:

Minister: Through His Holy Anointing may the Lord in his love and mercy help you with the grace of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

And then anoints the hands, saying:

[those in minor orders] **Minister:** May the Lord who heals you, save you and raise you up.

[those in Holy Orders] **Minister:** May the Lord who frees you from sin, save you and raise you up.

All: Amen.

The sacramental form is said only once, for the anointing of the forehead and hands, and is not repeated. Depending upon the culture and traditions of the place, as well as the condition of the sick person, the priest may also anoint additional parts of the body, for example, the area of pain or injury. The sacramental form is not repeated.

The Prayer after Anointing

Minister: Let us pray.

A. For those in general or unspecified sickness

Minister: Father in heaven, through this holy anointing grant N. comfort in his/her/their suffering. When he/she/they is [are] afraid, give him/her/them courage, when afflicted, give him/her/them patience, when dejected, afford him/her/them hope, and when alone, assure him/her/them of the support of your holy people. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

-or-

B.

Minister: Lord Jesus Christ, our Redeemer, by the grace of your Holy Spirit cure the weakness of your servant N. Heal his/her/their sickness and forgive his/her/their sins; expel all afflictions of mind and body; mercifully restore him/her/them to full health, and enable him/her/them to resume his/her/their former duties, for you are Lord for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

C. For those in extreme or terminal illness (including the unconscious)

Minister: Lord Jesus Christ, you chose to share our human nature, to redeem all people, and to heal the sick. Look with compassion upon your servant N., whom we have anointed in your name with this holy oil for the healing of his/her/their body and spirit. Support him/her/them with your power, comfort him/her/them with your protection, and give him/her/them the strength to fight against evil. Since you have given him/her/them a share in your own passion, help him/her/them to find hope in suffering, for you are Lord for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

D. For those otherwise in good health, but involved in accident or received injury

Minister: Loving Lord Jesus, you experienced the physical life that we do. Bless and comfort N. that he/she/they may be relieved of their pain and healed of their wounds. Be alongside him/her/them in their recovery and rehabilitation now and in the days ahead. Grant them the strength and resilience to adapt and learn so their healing might be a partnership between you and them. Restore them, uphold them and uplift them. In Jesus Name.

All: Amen.

E. For those advanced in age

Minister: God of mercy, look kindly on your servant who has grown weak under the burden of years. In this holy anointing he/she asks for healing in body and soul. Fill him/her/them with the strength of your Holy Spirit. Keep him/her firm in faith and serene in hope, so that he/she/they may give us all an example of patience and joyfully witness to the power of your love. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

F. For those about to undergo surgery

Minister: God of compassion, our human weakness lays claim to your strength. We pray that through the skills of surgeons and nurses your healing gifts may be granted to N. May your servant respond to your healing will and be reunited with us at your altar of praise. Grant this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

G. For a baby or small child

Minister: God our Father, we have anointed your child N. with the oil of healing and peace. Caress him/her/them, shelter him/her/them, and keep him/her/them in your tender care now and always. We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord.

All: Amen.

H. For a young person

Minister: God our healer, in this time of sickness you have come to bless N. with your grace. Restore him/her/them to health and strength, make him/her/them joyful in spirit, and ready to embrace your will. Grant this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

The Blessing

Those in minor orders shall use the following blessing:

Minister: May the Lord Bless you and keep you. May He make His face to shine upon you, restore and uphold you, and give you His peace.

All: Amen.

Deacons [and priests] may bless the sick person with:

Minister: May the blessing of almighty God, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, come upon you and remain with you always.

All: Amen.

Priests may bless the sick person with the following:

Priest: May God the Father bless you.

All: Amen.

Priest: May God the Son heal you.

All: Amen.

Priest: May God the Holy Spirit uplift you.

All: Amen.

or:

Priest: May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, + and the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

An Act of Penitence

If the sick person so wishes and a priest is conducting, the sacrament of penance may now be celebrated.

Laying on of Hands

In silence, the priest lays their hands on the head of the sick person, while praying in silence and interceding for the sick person.

Silence is kept

Priest: N, in this silence, you may wish to make your confession before Our Lord; so in your mind hold your petitions now before God.

Silence is kept for a few moments

Priest: Amen

Communion either from the priest, or by Reserved Sacrament may be shared here if desired.

The Lord's Prayer

The Minister introduces the Lord's Prayer in these or similar words:
And now let us pray with confidence as Christ our Lord commanded:

All say: Our Father...

All: Amen.

Please pray for yourselves, the person we have prayed for today and the Old Catholic Apostolic Church, and for those unknown to us who are sick today as well as those who care for them.