

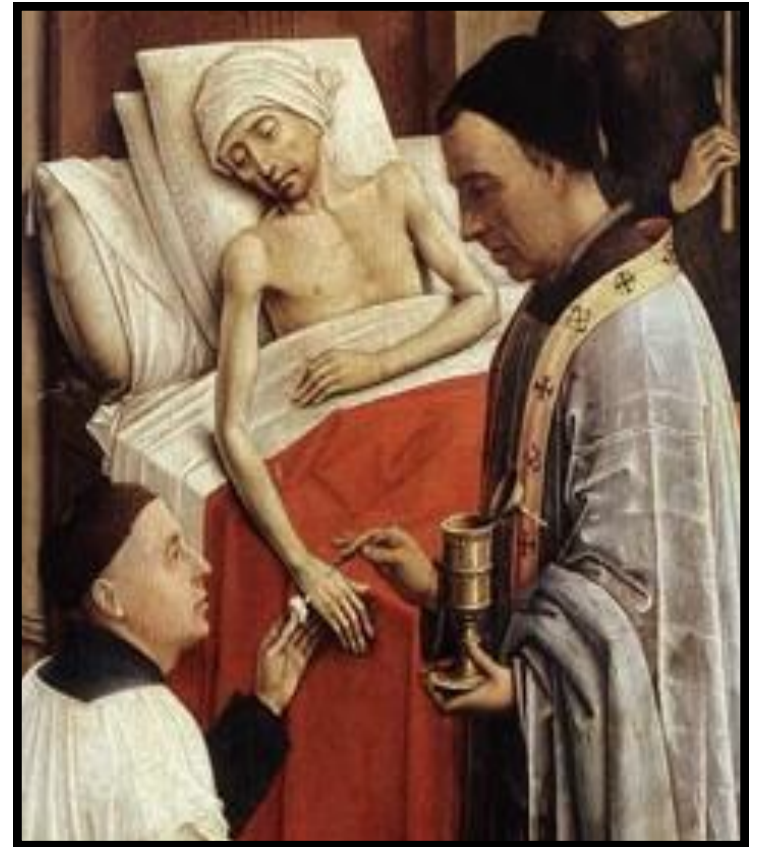
- The form of the Sacrament is: “Through this Holy Unction or oil, and through the great goodness of His mercy, may God pardon thee whatever sins thou hast committed by evil use of (sight, hearing, smell, taste and speech, touch, ability to walk).” In the new rite, it is given as “Through this holy anointing 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.” There is no request of God to remit sins.

* (excerpted from: www.fisheaters.com)



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EXTREME UNCTION (ANOINTING OF THE SICK)



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ARE THE STRENGTHENING AND COMFORT OF THE SOUL
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Extreme Unction

* "Is any man sick among you? Let him bring in 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 shall save the sick man. And the Lord shall raise him up: and if he be in sins, they shall be forgiven him." James 5: 14 – 15.

The Sacrament "Extreme Unction," also called "Last Rites" or "Anointing of the Sick," is the anointing given to those who are gravely bodily ill, especially those in danger of death from bodily illness or from violence already done to the body (i.e., a soldier about to go into battle is not a candidate for the Sacrament; one who has been shot and lies gravely wounded or, especially, dying, is).

The conditions for receiving Extreme Unction are that one must:

- Have reached the age of reason (usually considered to be around the age of seven)
- Be in a state of grace (Penance is part of the Rite)
- Be sorrowful for past sins, trust in God and resign himself to His will, whether His positive will is to heal the sick person or His passive will is the person's death

The effects of the Sacrament are the strengthening and comfort of the soul of the anointed one, the remission of sins and some of their temporal punishments, and the possible restoration of bodily health.

The Rite in which the Sacrament is offered includes the Sacraments of Penance and the Eucharist (in that order), followed by the Sacrament of Unction itself. It may be received conditionally up to three or four hours after apparent death (we cannot presume to know the moment the soul leaves the body and can only know with moral certainty that death has occurred after corruption has begun). If the sick one is unconscious, conditional absolution and Unction are offered, without the Eucharist (known at this time as "Viaticum," meaning "Food for the Journey").

The matter of the Sacrament is the Oil of the Sick ("Oleum Infirmorum"), which is olive oil blessed by the Bishop on Maudy

Thursday (the Thursday of Holy Week -- the week before Easter).

The form of the Sacrament are the words:

Through this Holy Unction or oil, and through the great goodness of His mercy, may God pardon thee whatever sins thou hast committed by evil use of (sight, hearing, smell, taste and speech, touch, ability to walk).

If death is so imminent that there is no time for the full Rite, the Sacrament may be given with a single anointing on the forehead and the words:

Through this holy unction may the Lord pardon thee whatever sins or faults thou hast committed.

Please note that the rite surrounded this Sacrament in the Novus Ordo (after 1962) has been radically changed and mostly amounts now to a simple blessing (blessings for the sick are always okay, of course, but the Sacrament is reserved traditionally for those who are gravely ill, especially those in danger of death from bodily illness or injury. Some of the changes are as follows:

- The primary purpose of the Sacrament is the remission of sins and the preparedness of the soul. In the new rite, the priests asks no pardon of God for sins and the focus is on the body.
- The matter of the Sacrament is olive oil blessed by a Bishop using these words, "send forth we pray, your Holy Spirit, the Paraclete, from heaven into this rich substance of oil." In the new rite, any oil of plant origin may be used, blessed by a priest using these words: "May your blessing come upon all who are anointed with this oil, that they may be freed from pain and illness and made well again in body and mind and soul." The Holy Ghost is no longer invoked.