

Anointing of the Sick

The **Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick** is a sign of Christ's healing presence in the world. Anyone, regardless of age, whose health is seriously impaired or threatened, may be anointed. Contrary to the experience of many older Catholics, this sacrament is not only for those in immediate danger of death, but for anyone whose illness is more than mild or passing, or whose physical, spiritual or emotional health causes them serious worry or anxiety.

Anointing of the Sick may be arranged by calling the office during office hours at 607-733-3484. After hours, emergency numbers are available on the message. It is most appropriate for family members and friends to gather with their loved one when the priest comes for anointing, as the priest represents the entire community that prays to God for their loved one in need of healing.

A communal celebration of the sacrament takes place at special Masses throughout the year.

This sacrament makes present the healing, restoring power of Jesus at a time when we are at our lowest and most vulnerable. We gain strength to bear suffering with patience and dignity. We are reminded that, whatever we face, Jesus walks with us and with those we love.



“Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up...”

James 5:14, 15a