



# Opening Prayer Service

## The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick

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### Opening Song

### Call to Prayer

My dear friends, we are gathered here in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ who is present among us. As the gospels relate, the sick came to him for healing; moreover, he loves us so much that he died for our sake. Through the apostle James, he has commanded us: "Are there any who are sick among you? Let them send for the priest of the Church, and let the priest 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." (*Pastoral Care of the Sick* #117)

### Gospel Reading: Luke 7:186-23

*The healing hand of Christ is a sign of the presence of God – to console and strengthen us.*

### Litany of Christ the Healer

- + Lord Jesus, Son of David and Son of God  
**Response:** Heal us and save us
- + Lord Jesus, who bore our griefs and carried our sorrow  
**Response:** Heal us and save us
- + Lord Jesus, who went about preaching the Good News and curing all kinds of disease and sickness  
**Response:** Heal us and save us
- + Lord Jesus, who raised to life the daughter of Jairus, and the only son of the widow Nain  
**Response:** Heal us and save us
- + Lord Jesus, who cured Simon Peter's mother-in-law of a fever and woman suffering from hemorrhages  
**Response:** Heal us and save us
- + Lord Jesus, who delivered the tormented daughter of the Canaanite woman  
**Response:** Heal us and save us
- + Lord Jesus, who cured the centurion's paralyzed servant the epileptic boy who could not speak

**Response:** Heal us and save us

- ✦ Lord Jesus, who restored the sight of Bartimaeus, the blind beggar of Jericho and who healed many lepers

**Response:** Heal us and save us

- ✦ Lord Jesus, who cured the man with the withered hand, and who made cripples whole again

**Response:** Heal us and save us

- ✦ Lord Jesus, who commanded your disciples to lay hands on the sick and anoint them with oil

**Response:** Heal us and save us

- ✦ Lord Jesus, who ordered your disciples to cast out demons in your name

**Response:** Heal us and save us

### *Remembrance*

For all in our past who accompanied us through illness and fear, who reminded us that darkness would pass and offered us a healing presence.

*Light one candle. Be silent.*

For our children and our children's children, may they never forget the healing power of God.

*Light second candle. Be silent.*

May God strengthen all here gathered against every physical, emotional, and mental illness and fill us with strength and hope.

*Light third candle. Be silent.*

### *Prayer of Praise*

Praise to you, God, the almighty Father.  
You sent your Son to live among us  
and bring us salvation.  
R. Blessed be God who heals us in Christ.

Praise to you, God the only-begotten Son.  
You humbled yourself to share in our humanity  
and you heal our infirmities. R.

Praise to you, God, the Holy Spirit, the Consoler.  
Your unfailing power gives us strength  
in our bodily weakness. R.  
(*Pastoral Care of the Sick #140*)

### *Closing Song*

# *Praying for the Sick and Suffering*

*For our family*

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*For our friends*

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*For our community*

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*For our world*

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# *Prayer Texts in the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick*

## Reception of the Sick (#135)

Christ taught his disciples to be a community of love. In praying together, in sharing all things, and in caring for the sick, they recalled his words: "Insofar as you did this to one of these, you did it to me." We gather today to witness to this teaching and to pray in the name of Jesus the healer that the sick may be restored to health. Through this eucharist and anointing we invoke his healing power.

## Opening Prayer (#136)

God of compassion, you take every family under your care and know our physical and spiritual needs.

Transform our weakness by the strength of your grace and confirm us in your covenant so that we may grow in faith and love.

## Litany (#138)

Let us pray to God for our brothers and sisters and for all those who devote themselves to caring for them.

Bless N. and N. and fill them with new hope and strength: Lord, have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

Relieve their pain: Lord, have mercy. R.

Free them from sin and do not let them give way to temptation: Lord, have mercy. R.

Sustain all the sick with your power: Lord, have mercy. R.

Assist all who care for the sick: Lord, have mercy. R.

Give life and health to our brothers and sisters on whom we lay our hands in your name: Lord, have mercy. R.

## Blessing of Oil (#123)

God of all consolation, you chose and sent your Son to heal the world. Graciously listen to our prayer of faith: send the power of your Holy Spirit, the Consoler, into this precious oil, this soothing ointment, this rich gift, this fruit of the earth.

Bless this oil and sanctify it for our use.

Make this oil a remedy for all who are anointed with it; heal them in body, in soul, and in spirit, and deliver them from every affliction.

## Prayer After Anointing (#125)

Father in heaven,  
through this holy anointing  
grant N. comfort in his/her suffering.

When he/she is afraid, give him/her courage,  
when afflicted, give him/her patience,  
when dejected, afford him/her hope,  
and when alone, assure him/her of the support of your holy people.

## Eucharistic Prayer (#145)

Father, all powerful and ever-living God, we do well always and everywhere to give you thanks, for you have revealed to us in Christ the healer your unfailing power and steadfast compassion.

In the splendor of his rising your Son conquered suffering and death and bequeathed to us his promise of a new and glorious world, where no bodily pain will afflict us and no anguish of the spirit.

Through your gift of the Spirit, you bless us even now, with comfort and healing, strength, and hope, forgiveness and peace.

In this supreme sacrament of your love you give us the risen body of your Son: a pattern of what we shall become when he returns at the end of time.

## Final Blessing (#147)

May the God of all consolation

    bless you in every way and grant you  
    hope all the days of your life. R. Amen

May God restore you to health and grant you salvation. R. Amen

May God fill your heart with peace and lead you to eternal life. R. Amen.

# *Celebrating the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick: Rite and Symbols*

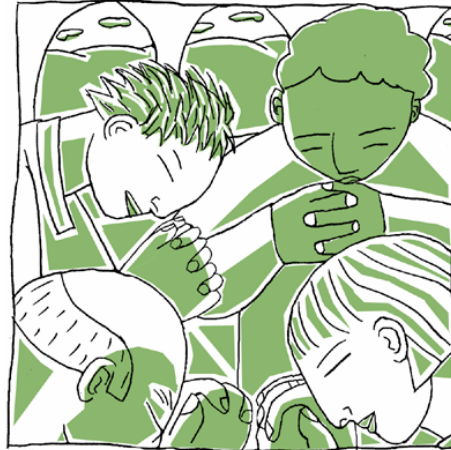
## 1. Opening Prayer

- ✦ The Mass begins as usual followed by a welcome and special prayers for those to be anointed.

## 2. Penitential Rite

## 3. Liturgy of the Word

- ✦ Scriptural readings may be from the Sunday or from special readings provided for the celebration of the sacrament.
- ✦ Homily



## 4. Liturgy of Anointing

### Prayer of Faith—Litany

- ✦ Following the homily there is a litany of prayers for those who will be anointed and those who care for them.

### Laying On of Hands

- ✦ The priest lays his hands on the heads of those to be anointed in imitation of Jesus' manner of healing.

### Anointing with Oil

- ✦ Prayer over the Oil
- ✦ Blessing of the Oil
- ✦ Anointing

The priest uses the blessed oil to make the Sign of the Cross on the forehead of the sick person and says, "Through this holy anointing may the Lord in his love and mercy help you with the grace of the Holy Spirit."

The priest anoints the hands of the sick person's hands with the Sign of the Cross while saying "May the Lord who frees you from sin save you and raise you up."



## 5. Holy Communion



