

# The Order of Administering the Sacrament of Unction

*In case of necessity, it suffices to anoint one sense only, or more fittingly the forehead, with this shorter form:*

Through this holy ✠ Unction the Lord pardon thee whatsoever thou hast done amiss. Amen.

*But the obligation remains, when the danger ceases, of supplying each of the anointings and all the prayers. If there be doubt whether the sick person yet lives, the Priest shall anoint conditionally saying:*

If thou livest, through this holy ✠ Unction, etc.

*The Priest, who is to minister the Sacrament of Extreme unction, shall take care that there be made ready, as far as possible, in the sick man's house, a table covered with a white cloth, and a vessel, wherein is cotton-wool or the like, divided into six small pellets, for wiping the places anointed; bread crumbs for cleansing the fingers; water for washing the Priest's hands, and a wax candle, to give him light as he anoints.*

*Then with the Clergy or at least with one Clerk, who carries the Cross without its shaft, the holy Water with sprinkler, and the ritual, the Parish Priest himself takes the vessel of sacred Oil, enclosed in a bag of violet silk, and carries it with care; for greater safety he may hang it around his neck. No bell is rung.*

*When he comes to the place where the sick person lies, the Priest entering the room, says:*

V. Peace be to this house.

R. **And to all that dwell in it.**

*Having placed the Oil upon the table and (if not already vested) having put on surplice and violet stole, the Priest gives the sick man a Cross to kiss. Then he shall sprinkle him, the bystanders, and the room, in the form of a Cross, saying:*

Thou shalt purge me, O Lord, with hyssop, and I shall be clean: thou shalt wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

*If the sick person wishes to confess, he shall hear him and absolve him. Then he shall comfort him, and, if time permit, briefly admonish him concerning the power and efficacy of this Sacrament.*

*Then he says:*

*V.* Our help is in the Name of the Lord.

**R. Who hath made heaven and earth.**

*V.* The Lord be with you.

**R. And with thy spirit.**

Let us pray: Let there enter into this house, O Lord, Jesu Christ, with the coming of us unworthy, everlasting happiness, divine prosperity, serene gladness, fruitful charity and everlasting health: let no evil spirits approach this place: may Angels of peace be present, and all evil discord far removed from this house: magnify upon us thy holy Name, O Lord, and ☩ bless this dwelling-place, and all that inhabit it, and give to them a good Angel guardian, and make them so to serve him, that they may consider the wondrous things of his law: may he turn from them all adverse powers: deliver them from all fear, and from every disquiet, and vouchsafe to preserve them in safety in this dwelling-place: Who with the Father and the Holy Ghost liveth and reigneth, world without end. **Amen.**

Let us pray: Graciously hear us, O Lord holy, Father almighty, everlasting God: and vouchsafe to send from heaven thy holy angel to guard and cherish, protect, visit and defend all who dwell in this place. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*These prayers, if time does not allow, may be omitted in whole or in part. Then the general Confession is made in the accustomed manner, and the Priest says in the singular number:*

Almighty God, have mercy upon thee (*or if there be several you*), etc.  
The almighty... grant unto thee.

*The Priest, extending his right hand over the head of the sick person, says:*

In the Name of the ☩ Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the ☩ Holy Ghost, may there be extinguished in thee all power of the devil, through the imposition of our hands, and through the invocation of the glorious and holy Virgin Mary Mother of God, and of her illustrious Spouse Joseph, and of all the holy Angels, Archangels, Patriarchs, Prophets, Apostles, Martyrs, Confessors and virgins, and of all the Saints. **Amen.**

*Then, dipping his thumb in the holy Oil, he anoints the sick person in the form of a Cross on the parts mentioned below, adapting the words of the form to the appropriate place in this manner:*

*At the eyes.*

Through this holy ☩ Unction, and his most tender mercy, the Lord pardon thee whatsoever thou hast done amiss by seeing. Amen.

*The Clerk, if he be in Holy Orders, or the Priest himself, after each anointing shall wipe the place anointed with a fresh pellet of cotton-wool, and place it in a clean vessel, and afterwards carry it to the Church, burn it, and cast the ashes into the sacrarium.*

*At the ears.*

Through this holy ☩ Unction, and his most tender mercy, the Lord pardon thee whatsoever thou hast done amiss by hearing. Amen.

*At the nostrils.*

Through this holy ☩ Unction, and his most tender mercy, the Lord pardon thee whatsoever thou hast done amiss by smelling. Amen.

*At the mouth, the lips being closed.*

Through this holy ☩ Unction, and his most tender mercy, the Lord pardon thee whatsoever thou hast done amiss by tasting and speaking. Amen.

*At the hands.*

Through this holy ✠ Unction, and his most tender mercy, the Lord pardon thee whatsoever thou hast done amiss by touching. Amen.

*And note, that the hands of Priests are not anointed on the inside, but on the outside.*

*At the feet.*

Through this holy ✠ Unction, and his most tender mercy, the Lord pardon thee whatsoever thou hast done amiss by walking. Amen.

*This unction of the feet may be omitted for any reasonable cause.*

*All these things being done, the Priest rubs his thumb with bread crumbs, washes his hands, and wipes them with the towel. The water and bread shall in due course be cast into the sacrarium or the fire. Then he says:*

Kyrie eleison, **Christe eleison**, Kyrie, eleison.

Our Father...

*V.* And lead us not into temptation.

*R.* **But deliver us from evil.**

*V.* O Lord, save thy *servant (handmaid)*.

*R.* **Who putteth his (her) trust in thee.**

*V.* Send *him (her)* help from thy holy place.

*R.* **And evermore mightily defend him (her).**

*V.* Be unto *him (her)*, O Lord, a tower of strength.

*R.* **From the face of the enemy.**

*V.* Let the enemy have no advantage over *him (her)*.

*R.* **Nor the wicked approach to hurt him (her).**

*V.* O Lord, hear my prayer.

*R.* **And let my cry come unto thee.**

*V.* The Lord be with you.

*R.* **And with thy spirit.**

Let us pray: O Lord God, who through thine Apostle James hast said: Is any sick among you? Let him call for the elders 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, and the Lord shall raise him

up: and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him; cure, we beseech thee, O our Redeemer, by the grace of the Holy Ghost, the weakness of this sick person heal *his (her)* wounds and put away *his (her)* sins; cast out from *him (her)* all pain of mind and body and mercifully give back to *him (her)* full health, both inwardly and outwardly, that, being restored by the help of thy mercy, *he (she)* may return to *his (her)* duties as of old: Who with the Father and the same Holy Ghost livest and reignest God, world without end. **Amen.**

Let us pray: Look, O Lord, we beseech thee, upon this thy *servant (handmaid)* *N.*, Languishing in weakness of body, and comfort again the soul which thou hast created: that, being amended by thy chastisement, *he (she)* may feel *himself (herself)* to be saved by thy healing. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray: O Lord holy, Father almighty, everlasting God, who in pouring the grace of thy blessing upon sick bodies dost preserve by thy manifold goodness thy handy-work: graciously assist us who call upon thy Name; deliver thy *servant (handmaid)* from *his (her)* sickness, and give *him (her)* health; raise *him (her)* up by thy right hand; strengthen *him (her)* by thy might; protect *him (her)* by thy power; and with all the prosperity which *he (she)* desires restore *him (her)* to thy holy Church. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*During the anointings the bystanders should say suitable prayers for the sick person, e.g., one or more of the Penitential Psalms (6, 32, 38, 51, 102, 130, 143) or the Litany of the Saints (p. 79).*

*At the end he may give brief and salutary exhortations to enable the sick person to die in the Lord, and to strengthen him (her) to put to flight the temptations of evil spirits.*

*Finally he should leave with him (her) holy water and a Cross, that he may frequently look up on it, and according to his (her) devotion kiss it and embrace it.*

*He should also warn the relatives and servants of the sick man (woman) to send at once for the Parish Priest, if the disease grows*

*worse, that he may help the dying man (woman), and commend his (her) soul to God; but if death is at hand, the Priest, before he departs, shall duly commend the soul to God.*

*When this Sacrament is administered to several sick persons at the same time, the Priest shall present the Cross to each to be devoutly kissed, and shall say all the prayers which precede and follow the anointing once for all in the plural number; but he shall perform the anointings with their respective forms separately on each sick person.*