

Host or designated reader/leader begins the Upper Room prayer hour by reading this message from Fr. David:

Message for January 2018

Dear Friends in Christ;

The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is for many things, not just one. It is for people who are seriously ill; those facing serious surgery; those struggling with an addiction (i.e. drugs, alcohol, gambling, and sex); those struggling with a mental illness and (of course) those who are dying. Some people think that the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick is for that last reason only (they would be mistaken); this Sacrament is not “Last Rites”. It may be a part of Last Rites but Last Rites is whatever is done last for the dying person; there are many variations of rites which may turn into “Last Rites”. This is just a small teaching on the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. Let’s look at other parts now in this Upper Room.

To Christ through Mary;

Fr. David

*Open with Sign of Cross and **Prayer to the Holy Spirit***

L: Come, O Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of Your faithful, and enkindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth Your Spirit, O Lord, and they shall be created.

R: And You shall renew the face of the earth

L: Let us pray – God our Father, pour out the gifts of your Holy Spirit on the world. You sent the Spirit on Your Church to begin the teaching of the Gospel; now let the Spirit continue to work in the world through the hearts of all who believe. Through Christ our Lord.

R: Amen

L: You, O lord, will open my lips.

R: And my tongue shall announce Your praise.

L: Incline unto my aid, O God.

R: O Lord, make haste to help me.

L: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

R: As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be world without end. Amen

- 1) Read James 5:13-15
 - What is a presbyter?
 - Does the sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick actually forgive sins too?
 - This sacrament is quite literally outlined in the book of James. What other sacraments are similarly revealed in the Bible?
- 2) What is the “matter” of the Sacrament and what is the “form”? (This may be a look-it-up question for the group.)
- 3) Only a person who has reached the “age of reason” can receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. Why?
- 4) Compare Anointing of the Sick with a Priest to going to a Doctor. Do they have the same ends? Do they have the same means to that end? Now discuss how there is a place for both and why.
- 5) If a person isn't healed from the Sacrament what is the other purpose? Is there another purpose?
- 6) Should you wait for the “last minute” to contact a priest for an anointing? Why or why not? When does Father anoint parishioners? Where does Father anoint parishioners?

Read these Paragraphs from the Catechism of the Catholic Church and discuss what you may have learned (or summarize) these paragraphs.

1500-1501; 1504; 1508; 1513; 1518; 1520-1523

Prayer:

Read Mark 6:7-13, add some silence, and then pray a Rosary for the intention of healing for the physically and mentally ill, addicted and terminally ill.

Next month's UPPER ROOM is on the Sacrament of Confirmation