

Catholicism for Cradle Catholics
Sacrament of Anointing
February 18, 2009

1. Anointing of the sick. Why this topic now?
2. Sickness, pain and suffering, not to mention death, are among life's greatest tragedies. They can have two effects:
 - a.
 - b.
3. The connection between these tragedies and the tragedy of sin.
 - a. A hint of things to come in Is 53:11...
4. Jesus' ministry
 - a. He came to heal:
 - b. The NT testimony...
 - i. The sacraments continue this work of Jesus
 - c. But...He did not heal everyone...unless we understand healing the right way
 - i. This Sunday's Gospel and what we learn from it...they were wrong about his real sickness!
 - d. The Passion of Jesus and what it means for our suffering
5. The most active moment of His life was _____. As a result, all suffering, in whatever form it takes, can be _____.
 - a. Col 1:24
 - b. No one's prayers are more powerful than one who suffers
6. And *yet* Jesus *did* heal, and He *did* command *us* to heal, so we *do* have this sacrament (cf. Mt 10:1ff; Mk 6:13)
 - a. From the beginning the Church had a special sacrament set aside for the sick
 - i. James 5:14-15
 - b. This has been associated with oil from the beginning, as well as the laying on of hands, and the prayer of the presbyter, i.e., the priest, or bishop.
 - c. No longer reserved to those on the point of death. See CCC 1514-1515
 - d. Like all sacraments, it should be associated with the proclamation of the Word, at least in some form, and often associated with confession.
7. What happens as a result of this sacrament?
 - a. Something always happens! The sacraments *always* work; *they bring about what they signify*.
 - i. A particular gift of the Holy Spirit
 - ii. Union with Christ
 - iii. An ecclesial grace
 - iv. A preparation for the final journey home