

Introduction to the Sacraments

Mystery

Greek: Mysterion Latin: Sacramentum

* St Paul in Ephesians 3:8-12 “To me, who am less than the least of all the saints, this grace was given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, and to make all see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the ages has been hidden in God who created all things through Jesus Christ; to the intent that now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church to the principalities and powers in the heavenly *places*, according to the eternal purpose which He accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through faith in Him.”

- * “Mystery of His will”
 - * Ephesians 1:9
- * “Mystery of God”
 - * Colossians 2:2-3
- * “Mystery of Christ”
 - * Ephesians 3:4
- * “Mystery of the Kingdom of God”
 - * Mark 4:11
- * “Mystery of the Gospel”
 - * Ephesians 6:19
- * “Mystery of the Faith”
 - * 1 Timothy 3:9
- * “Mystery of godliness”
 - * 1 Timothy 3:16

Mystery

- * This mystery is the mystery of Gods love to humanity since He created them and which continued after Adams sin
 - * Romans 5:8 “...but God demonstrates his own love for us, in that *while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.*”
- * After Our Lords Resurrection He returned Mankind, who sinned and were separated , back to the bosom of the Father
- * Through our representation in Christ's Body, we are now accepted to the Father
- * There is no longer enmity with God, we are redeemed
- * Redemption is the mystery of Gods love to mankind which was demonstrated to us through His Son’s Incarnation, Crucifixion, and Resurrection .
 - * Romans 1:7-10 “In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace which He made to abound toward us in all wisdom and prudence, having made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His good pleasure which He purposed in Himself, ¹⁰that in the dispensation of the fullness of the times He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth—in Him.”
- * The continuation of this mystery (Gods love to Mankind) is performed through the action of the Holy Spirit, who was sent by the Father, through different means/gifts which are the Sacraments of the church.

What is a Sacrament?

- * The church sacrament is an invisible grace we receive by practicing a visible rite and using a visible sign or substance, performed by a priest
- * To have a sacrament we need 3 things
 1. Priest
 2. Visible Rite
 3. Substance
- * 7 Sacraments performed in the Church
 1. Baptism
 2. Confirmation
 3. Repentance & Confession
 4. Communion
 5. Matrimony
 6. Priesthood
 7. Unction of the Sick

Sacrament Snapshot

| Sacrament | Performer | Invisible Grace | Visible Rite | Substance |
|----------------------------|-----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Baptism | Priest | Release from the bondage of original sin & 2 nd birth from Water and Spirit | Burying in water | Water |
| 2. Confirmation | Priest | The Holy Spirit dwells in Us | Anointing with oil | Myron |
| 3. Repentance & Confession | Priest | Forgiveness of sins | Putting the cross on the persons head | Cross in Priests hand |
| 4. Communion | Priest | To Abide in Christ | The Liturgy | Bread and Wine |
| 5. Matrimony | Priest | Union of Two into One | Matrimonial Prayer | Matrimonial Garb |
| 6. Priesthood | Bishop | Accept special gifts of priesthood | Priesthood Prayer | Priestly Garb |
| 7. Unction of the Sick | Priest | Healing of spirit and body | Prayers for the Sick | Oil |

Sacraments

- * All Sacraments are Biblical
- * Two types of Sacraments; Redemptive and Non-Redemptive Sacraments
- * Redemptive Sacraments
 - * Are essential for Salvation
 1. Baptism
 2. Confirmation
 3. Repentance & Confession
 4. Communion
 - * These sacraments give the believer the seal of the Holy Spirit
- * Non-Redemptive Sacraments
 - * Are not essential for Salvation
 1. Matrimony
 2. Priesthood
 3. Unction of the Sick

Medicinal Comparison

Physical & Spiritual

| | Preventative | <u>Curative</u> | Supplementary |
|------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Physical | Vaccines against diseases ex: small pox, polio, measles,.. | Specific medicines to treat disease and infection ex: Antibiotics, antiallergics | To strengthen body immunity to fight diseases ex: Vitamins, minerals |
| Spiritual | <i>Confirmation</i> ex: Holy Spirit dwells to fortify against sin and evil <i>Matrimony</i> ex: Protects couple from falling into sin of adultery | <i>Baptism</i> ex: Provides cure from original sin and from committed sins <i>Repentance & confession</i> ex: Provides forgiveness of sins <i>Unction of the Sick</i> ex: Provides cure for physically, spiritually, and psychotically illness from sin | <i>Communion</i> ex: We gain power to overcome the evil one <i>Priesthood</i> ex: Gives the priest grace and power in his struggle to be our example and not a stumbling block; power to live in purity <i>Repentance & confession</i> ex: Receive advice, help and encouragement from Spiritual Father |

Sacraments

- * Imperishable Sacraments

- * These sacraments must not be repeated again at any time

- * The features of these sacraments are never lost

1. Baptism – Son of God forever

2. Confirmation – Soldier of our King forever

3. Priesthood – Servant and Priest of the High Priest forever

Summary of Sacramental Benefits

- * All sacraments allow us to become members of Christ's Body
 - * Ephesians 5:30 “For we are members of His body, of His flesh and of His bones.”
- * Continuously fed spiritually by the Body and Blood of Our Lord
 - * John 6:51;57-58 “I am the living bread which came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread that I shall give is My flesh, which I shall give for the life of the world... As the living Father sent Me, and I live because of the Father, so he who feeds on Me will live because of Me. This is the bread which came down from heaven—not as your fathers ate the manna, and are dead. He who eats this bread will live forever.”
- * Through the rest of the sacraments we become His friends and His servants

1. Baptism

- * Initiation of the gate through which we enter into the fellowship of Christian life
- * It is the door by which the believer enters the church and has the right to partake of the rest of the sacraments
- * It is the first sacrament by which we are born again by water and spirit to become the Sons of God
 - * By nature we are nature we are born from Adam children of wrath, but by baptism we are regenerated in Christ, children of mercy
- * John 1:12-14 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.
- * It is a redemption sacrament, necessary for redemption and entry into eternal life
 - * John 3:5 Jesus answered, “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.

Other names for the Sacrament

- * Mystery of burial with Christ
- * Mystery of New Birth
- * Mystery of new creation, planting
- * Mystery of purgation
- * Mystery of illumination
- * Sacrament of faith
- * Sacrament of christening

Symbols of Baptism

* Noahs Ark

- * 1 Peter 3:20-21 who formerly were disobedient, when once the Divine longsuffering waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight souls, were saved through water. There is also an antitype which now saves us—baptism (not the removal of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God), through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,

* Passing of Moses and the Israelites the Red Sea

- * 1 Corinthians 10:1-2 Moreover, brethren, I do not want you to be unaware that all our fathers were under the cloud, all passed through the sea, all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea,

* Passing of Joshua and the Israelites the Jordan River

- * Joshua 3:15-17 and as those who bore the ark came to the Jordan, and the feet of the priests who bore the ark dipped in the edge of the water (for the Jordan overflows all its banks during the whole time of harvest), that the waters which came down from upstream stood still, and rose in a heap very far away at Adam, the city that is beside Zaretan. So the waters that went down into the Sea of the Arabah, the Salt Sea, failed, and were cut off; and the people crossed over opposite Jericho. Then the priests who bore the ark of the covenant of the LORD stood firm on dry ground in the midst of the Jordan; and all Israel crossed over on dry ground, until all the people had crossed completely over the Jordan.

* The sacrifice of Elijah on Carmel Mount

- * 1 King 18

* Passing of Elijah and Elisha the Jordan River

- * 2 King 2:8 Now Elijah took his mantle, rolled it up, and struck the water; and it was divided this way and that, so that the two of them crossed over on dry ground.

* Healing of Naaman the Syrian after he washed in the Jordan river 7 times as Elisha told him

- * 2 King 10:14 Now Elisha took his mantle, rolled it up, and struck the water; and it was divided this way and that, so that the two of them crossed over on dry ground.

Institution of the Sacrament by our Lord Jesus Christ

- * He was baptized in River Jordan by the John the Baptist
- * Our Lord Jesus Christ told Nicodemus
 - * John 3:5 Jesus answered, “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.
- * Jesus Christ and His disciples were baptizing
 - * John 3:22, 4:2 After these things Jesus and His disciples came into the land of Judea, and there He remained with them and baptized... (though Jesus Himself did not baptize, but His disciples)
- * Baptism was proclaimed by Our Lord after His Resurrection as He said to His disciples
 - * Matthey 28:19 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit
 - * Mark 16:16 He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned.

Timing and Age of Baptism

- * As Baptism is burial and resurrection with Christ, Sunday becomes the best day for baptism before the liturgy
- * The baptized person and his parents may attend the liturgy and receive the Holy Sacraments
- * Baptism for males after 40 days and 80 days for females from delivery
- * If the baby is sick he can be baptized at any time

Ritual of the Sacrament of Baptism

- * The ritual is divided into 4 major [arts
 - * Woman's Absolution
 - * Renouncing Satan; person refuses to remain under the bondage of Satan and casts him out of his life
 - * Liturgy of Baptism; sanctification of baptismal water
 - * Baptism and water discharge; by gradually dipping the child into the water until the child is completely immersed 3 times
 - * In the name of the Father
 - * And the Son
 - * And the Holy Spirit
 - * The discharge of water by the priest praying and asking God to return this water to its first nature to be restored to the earth

Is Baptism by immersion or sprinkling

- * Our Lord was baptized by immersion
 - * Matthew 3:16 When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him.
- * Disciples baptized by immersion
 - * Acts 8:38-39 So he commanded the chariot to stand still. And both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water, and he baptized him. ³⁹ Now when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught Philip away, so that the eunuch saw him no more; and he went on his way rejoicing.
- * Baptism symbolizes death and resurrection with Christ; burying means complete covering with water
 - * Romans 6:3-4 Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.
- * The word Baptism in Greek means immerse

Why do we baptize children?

- * No one will enter the Kingdom of Heaven without being born again from water and Spirit
- * Disciples baptized families which had children
 - * Acts 16:15 And when she and her household were baptized, she begged us, saying, “If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come to my house and stay.” So she persuaded us.
 - * 1 Corinthians 1:16 Yes, I also baptized the household of Stephanas. Besides, I do not know whether I baptized any other.
- * Baptism gives the person illumination to understand our faith in the right way as he is growing
- * Though children do not understand the gifts of baptism but we cannot prevent them from having it
 - * God said to Abraham to circumcise each male, adult and child, as a sign of covenant between God and the person, though children don’t understand what covenant means
 - * God blessed the children though children don’t understand what blessing means
 - * Luke 18:16 But Jesus called them to Him and said, “Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of God.
 - * St. Peter said to them though children don’t understand what promise means
 - * Acts 2:38-39 Then Peter said to them, “Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call.”

The Sponsor/God parents

- * He is the person that receives the child after he is baptized and he is responsible for raising him in the Christian faith
 - * Ananias taught Saul the Christian faith in Acts 9
 - * Peter taught Cornelius the Christian faith

2. Confirmation

- * Holy sacrament with which we receive the seal of the Holy Spirit to become a temple of the Holy Spirit
- * Other names:
 - * Sacrament of myron
 - * Sacrament of Holy anointment
- * The baptized person receives it immediately after baptism
- * It is independent sacrament

Institution

- * Our Lord Jesus Christ instituted when he said
 - * John 7:37-39 On the last day, that great *day* of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, “If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.” But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet *given*, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

History of the Sacrament

- * Our fathers granted the sacrament by the laying of their hands after baptism
- * Acts 9:2-6 and asked letters from him to the synagogues of Damascus, so that if he found any who were of the Way, whether men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. As he journeyed he came near Damascus, and suddenly a light shone around him from heaven. Then he fell to the ground, and heard a voice saying to him, “Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?” And he said, “Who are You, Lord?” Then the Lord said, “I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. It is hard for you to kick against the goads.” So he, trembling and astonished, said, “Lord, what do You want me to do?” Then the Lord said to him, “Arise and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do.”
- * As the laying of hands for the dwelling of the Holy Spirit is a specific rite of the fathers, which are the apostles, and their successors, the bishops, and as the region of mission increased, consequently the number of believers and those who entered the faith increased, so they established the anointment of myron as an alternative
- * Myron was done by the apostles as they kept certain fragrant oils which were on the Body of Our Lord Jesus Christ during His burial and they added spices that were brought by the women who prepared them to anoint Jesus Christ but Christ had risen. They melted it (the fragrant oil and the spices) with olive oil and prayed in the upper room in Zion, and through St. Mark reached our church.
- * Tertullian said “In the sacrament of Baptism the body is cleansed so that the soul could be purified, and then the sacrament of anointment the body is anointed so the soul may be sanctified.”

The rite of anointing of the Holy Myron

- * The priest anoints the person with the oil in the sign of the cross 36 times on all the joints and senses
- * These crosses are to protect the person against Satanic warfare so that the devil does not abide in this person by any means.
- * First group; 8 crosses
 - * Top of head
 - * Two eyes
 - * Two nostrils
 - * Two ears
 - * Mouth
- * Second group; 4 crosses
 - * Heart
 - * Naval
 - * Back
 - * Lower back
- * Third and Fourth group; 6 crosses for 6 joints on each arm
 - * Shoulder
 - * Under arm
 - * Elbow
 - * Inner elbow
 - * Wrist
 - * Back of wrist
- * Fifth and Sixth; 6 crosses for the 6 joints on each leg
 - * Hip
 - * Inside of Hip
 - * Knee
 - * Inner knee
 - * Ankle
 - * Above ankle

The rite...

- * The priest anoints the new white garment with 3 signs of the cross and dresses the baby
- * The priest puts a red belt/girdle/ribbon around the waist of the child as when a soldier ties a girdle around his waist before going into battle which signifies that the child has now become a soldier of Christ, ready to attack any evil encounter

3. Repentance & Confession

- * A Holy Sacrament by which the sinner returns to God confessing his sins before the priest to be absolved by the priest through the authority granted to him by God
- * Instituted by Our Lord Jesus Christ when He said to His disciples
 - * Matthew 18:18 **Assuredly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.**
 - * After the Resurrection, the Lord said to His disciples
 - * John 20:21-23 **When He had said this, He showed them *His* hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. So Jesus said to them again, “Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you.” And when He had said this, He breathed on *them*, and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the *sins* of any, they are retained.”**

Aspects of the Sacrament

- * It has 2 aspects
 - * True repentance
 - * Confession
- * True Repentance
 - * Contrite Heart and remorse fro previous sins
 - * Steadfast intention to improve
 - * Strong faith in Christ and hope in His love to forgive
 - * This should be followed by verbal confession of sins before priest

Necessity of Confessing to a priest

- * If the priest has authority to forgive and retain sins as Our Lord said, how can they do this if they are not aware of the sins?
- * The person gets wise counseling and comfort as he needs to speak to someone regarding problems or worries, it is human nature sharing their joys as well as their sorrows
- * The person gets absolution and solution for his sins

Confession to a priest

* Evidence from Old Testament

- * Trespass offering - Leviticus 5:1-6
- * Confession of Achan the son of Carmi - Joshua 7:19-20
- * Confession of David to Nathan the prophet - 2 Samuel 12:13
- * Proverbs 28:13 **He who covers his sins will not prosper, But whoever confesses and forsakes them will have mercy.**

* Evidence from New Testament

- * John the Baptist preached repentance – Matthew 3:1-6
- * The prodigal son became aware of his sins, returned to his father confessing – Luke 15:21
- * Repentance and Confession were practiced during the days of the apostles – Acts 19:18
- * 1 John 1:9 **If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**
- * James 5:16 **Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.**
- * Confession should be :congregation to authorized person as we say teach each other or heal each other

Acceptable Confession

1. True repentance out of our love to God
2. To be honest with ourselves
3. To have honest intention and steadfast will to abandon sin and its causes
4. Careful examination of conscious and self
5. Truth in confession
6. Not to hide any secrets and hidden thoughts; be brave without embracement
7. Do not find excuses for yourself
8. Adhere to the advise of the father of confession
9. Struggle with God in prayer for support
10. After absolution and forgiveness pray thanking God
11. Don't venture from one confessional father to another unless for very strong reasons

4. Eucharist

- * It is the Holy Sacrament by which the believer eats the Holy Body and Precious Blood of Jesus Christ presented by the bread and wine
- * It is the crowning of all sacraments
- * The sacraments of the church are a continuous way of life leading up to the Eucharist (the mystery of mysteries)

Known as...

- * Sacrament of Holy Communion
- * Sacrament of Thanksgiving
- * The Lords Supper
- * Sacrament of community

Institution

- * The Lord Jesus instituted the Holy Eucharist on Covenant Thursday in the upper room of Zion after He celebrated the Passover of the Jews
 - * John 6:53-56, Matthew 26:26-28, 1 Corinthians 11:23-25

Benefits of the Holy Communion

- * Abiding in Christ and we become members of His Body
 - * John 6:56
 - * Ephesians 5:30 **For we are members of His body, of His flesh and of His bones.**
 - * We also become partakers of the Divine nature
 - * 2 Peter 1:4 **by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption *that is* in the world through lust.**
- * It gives us the promise of eternal Life
 - * John 6:54,58
- * It provides growth in the Spirit and spiritual perfection and life in Jesus Christ
 - * John 6:55,57
- * It provides immunity and remedy to the soul body and spirit
 - * As the priest says in the liturgy “...unto the purification of our souls, bodies, and spirits...”

Requirements before taking Communion

- * Person should have true faith in the Lord Jesus Christ
- * Repentance and confession
- * Reconciliation with others
 - * Matthew 5:23-24
- * Physical purity and cleanliness of body and clothing
- * Fasting for 9 hours for adults and less time for children pending their age
- * Warning: If the person is not prepared for communion and he receives the Holy *Mystery*
 - * 1 Corinthians 11:29 **For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord's body.**

After Communion

- * Read the prayer, after Holy Communion and thank God for the wonderful grace received
- * It is advisable that the remainder of the day to be spent relaxing rather than mingling with others but reading spiritual books to feel the existence of God inside you

5. Holy Matrimony

- * Matrimony is a Holy sacrament officiated by a priest of uniting a man and a woman by the action of the Holy Spirit
- * Through this Holy sacrament the man and woman become one
 - * Matthew 19:5-6
- * St. Paul expressed the sanctity of the sacrament saying
 - * Hebrew 13:4 **Marriage is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge.**
- * Established by God in the Paradise of Eden when He introduced Eve to Adam
 - * Genesis 2:18-22

The Goals of the Christian Matrimony

- * Cooperation between a man and a woman
 - * Genesis 2:18
 - * Two Can face troubles of life better than one
 - * Ecclesiastes 4:10
- * Procreation to preserve the human kind from extinction
 - * Genesis 1:28, Psalm 127:3-5, Psalm 128:3-6
- * Protection against adultery and fornication
 - * 1 Corinthians 7:2 **Nevertheless, because of sexual immorality, let each man have his own wife, and let each woman have her own husband.**

Certain Characters of Christian Marriage

- * Unity
 - * Monogamy
 - * God created one Adam and one Eve
 - * Two become one in Christ
 - * Ephesian 5:31
- * Continuity
 - * Without divorce
 - * Mark 10:6-9, Matthew 19:6
 - * Except in case of adultery
 - * Matthew 5:32
 - * Also death and apostasy
- * Bearing fruits through the Holy Spirit
 - * The family raise their children in the fear of God and in the church
- * Similar to the unity between Christ and the Church
 - * Ephesians 5:23-24, 32

Rite of Marriage

- * First step is Betrothal/Engagement
 - * It is not part of the sacrament but it is a voluntary agreement resulting from pure love between a man and woman for the purpose of marriage. A period of acquaintance that may continue or be discontinued
- * Second is the ceremony of marriage
 - * In the past it was done after Matins before the Liturgy where the contract papers are prepared.
- * Holy Matrimony
 - * Starts when the priest puts the crowns upon the head of the bride and groom

Annulment of marriage Contract

- * Annulment means it is as if it didn't happen
- * This occurs in the case if one is lying or not declaring severe diseases, infectious diseases, cancer, psychological problems, severe heart problems, or deception of personal information

6. Unction of the Sick

- * It is one of the sacraments through which the sick who is faithful is healed from psychological and physical disease
- * The priest anoints the person with the holy oil from which they obtain the grace of remedy from God
- * Established by Our Lord Jesus Christ as He said to his disciples
 - * Luke 10:8-9
 - * Our Lord Himself healed the sick, opened the eyes of the blind, purified the lepers and the lame, and forgave their sins that was the main cause of their sickness
 - * John 10:10, Acts 1:38
 - * The disciples practiced according to the order of their Master
 - * Mark 6:12-13
- * St James wrote
 - * James 5:14 is any one among you sick ? 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 will save the sick and the Lord will raise him up .And if he has committed sins he will be forgiven.
 - * The priest is the one who prays and it is God who heals
 - * Exodus 15:26
- * This sacrament entails healing of bodily problems that results from spiritual or psychological reasons

Confession is necessary before partaking of this sacrament

- * There is a strong link between soul and body. If the soul is sick the body will likewise suffer
- * The church asks that her children to firstly repent from their sins so that the spirit and souls may consequently be healed
 - * Healing of the lame man in Bethsaida who was sick or 38 years – John 5:14
 - * Healing the paralytic man that his friends lowered from the rooftop on a stretcher. The first word the Lord said to him were “Your sins are forgive” - Matthew 9:26
 - * Healing of the women who had a spirit of infirmity for 18 years, unable to stretch – Luke 13:16

Why to use oil?

- * The disciples used it as in Mark 6:13
- * The kings and prophets were anointed with oil as in Exodus 29:7
- * The rite of preparing the holy oil
 - * A plate of oil and 7 wicks of cotton wool, arranged in the sign of the cross, and each one lit at the beginning of each prayer
 - * The Holy Spirit dwells and sanctifies the oil in order to heal those anointed by it

7. Priesthood

- * The sacrament of priesthood is a holy sacrament by which the Bishop lays his hands on the head of the elected candidate so that the Holy Spirit will descend on him and grant him one of the priestly ranks
- * He is then given authority to officiate the sacraments of the church doctrines and others
- * Known as...
 - * Laying of hands
 - * Ordination
 - * Anointment

Institution

- * By our Lord Jesus Christ when He chose the twelve disciples and consecrated them for ministry
 - * Luke 6:13
- * Then He sent them
 - * Matthew 18:18
- * After His resurrection He appeared to them in the upper room in Zion and said to them
 - * John 20:22-23
- * Only for them He said
 - * Matthew 28:19-20 *Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” Amen.*
- * Only to them He gave His Holy Body and His Precious Blood
 - * Luke 22:14-20

Priesthood is...

- * Honor- it is a consecration of the work with God for the salvation of the souls of the people of God
 - * Hebrews 5:4-6
- * Divine Call
 - * Mark 3: 13-15
- * Divine Choice
 - * Luke 6:12-13, John 15:16
- * Appointment
 - * Luke 10:1
- * Selection
 - * Acts 13:2-3, Galatians 1:15:16
- * Consecration
 - * John 17:19
- * Faithfulness and Stewardship
 - * Luke 12:42-43, 1 Corinthians 4:1-2

Ranks

- * 3 Ranks

- * Deacons – Servants that help priests and bishops
- * Priests – Teachers/Elders
- * Bishops – Overseers and Shepherds

Deacons

- * Ebsoltos - Chanter
- * Ognostos - Reader
- * Epideacon - Subdeacon
- * Deacon - Full Deacon
- * Archdeacon – Leader of Deacons

Priest

- * Priest
- * Archpriest – Hegemon which is provider or presenter
- * Khorieposcopos – Helps the Bishops

Bishop

- * Bishop
- * Metropolitan – the Bishop of progressing mother city
 - * Progresses the bishops in all church rites
- * Pope – Head of the church of God on earth