

The Putting Hands, the Anointing and the Healing - Biblical Basis –

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Abstract

This paper deals with the prefiguration of the Sacrament of the Holy Anointing Oil in the Old Testament and with the Biblical grounds in the New Testament. Moreover, it brings forward the dogmatic and liturgical implications, as well as the reality of the sacrament itself in the contemporary world.

The Holy Anointing Oil is the sacrament in which the Christian receives healing and forgiveness for the sins. Through the priest's prayer and after receiving the laying on of hands in the Name of God, the Christian is anointed with the holy oil.

Alienation from God, due to not fulfilling the commandments or to perpetual sin, brings along weakness of the soul, suffering and physical illness. For forgiveness and healing there is the need for personal prayer, penitence, priests' prayer, redress and anointment with the holy oil. Only through all these could the body be healed of all evil and the soul search forgiveness and reconciliation with God.