



THE



SANCTUS

A PUBLICATION OF ALL SAINTS ANGLICAN CHURCH

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THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY UNCTION

*(The following tract is a reproduction of a sermon given by P.W. Wilkinson – a priest of the Anglican Catholic Church of Canada.)

During His life on earth, Our Lord went about preaching and teaching and enabling men to profit by the saving power of His body through contact with it. *But* once He was risen and glorified, his new heavenly existence did not conform with the life of this world and of the church on earth. So, in order that men might hear him and that he might act upon them in a way that was natural to *them*, he had to make use of earthly instruments to make them aware of his presence. Therefore he has certain organs whose function is to communicate his Resurrection life to men. The two means by which he does this are: 1) the Apostles, and the apostolic ministry which succeeds them; and 2) the sacraments, and the anointing of the sick is a sacrament.

Thus the anointing of the sick is one of the earthly instruments by which the Risen Lord gives himself to his people for the healing of body and soul.

Some time ago, a sick woman, whom I had anointed, suggested to a friend, who had a similar illness that she too should be anointed. The friend (an elderly, life-long Anglican) replied, 'Never heard of such a thing!' When I next saw the woman that I had anointed, she said, 'Father, what sort of teaching have these people been getting that they don't know about the anointing of the sick?'

What about you? I know that the anointing of the sick is taught and practiced in many parishes. If I were to ask you to find the service of the anointing of the sick in the Book of Common Prayer, could you find it? If I asked you where it is mentioned in the New Testament, could you tell me? If I asked you when you should be anointed, could you tell me? If I asked you whether it is a sacrament, could you tell me its outward and visible sign, and the inward and spiritual grace given? If I asked you how you would prepare for anointing, could you tell me?

First of all, *where is it mentioned in Holy Scripture?* One place is in St. Mark's Gospel (6: 12- 13): 'So they (i.e., the twelve apostles) went out and preached that

men should repent. And they cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many that were sick and healed them.'

We are nowhere given any words of our Lord expressly ordering that the sick should be anointed with oil. But we may reasonably suppose *either* that he did so, *or* that the apostles did what they knew to be his wish. When they returned from the mission upon which our Lord had sent them, they reported to him about it and in verse 30 we read, "and (they) told him all that they had *done* and *taught*." Presumably, what they had *done* was to exorcise demons and anoint the sick with oil to heal them; and what they had *taught* was that men should repent.

A *second* place the anointing of the sick is mentioned in Sacred Scripture is in St. James's Epistle (5: 14-15). St. James says: "Is any among you sick? Let him call for the elders (what we would now call Bishops and priests) 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 man, and the Lord will raise him up; and if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven."

St. James, who wrote these words, is described in the New Testament as "one of the Lord's brethren," and head of the church in Jerusalem. We know from this description of him that he must have had a very close and intimate knowledge of our Lord. St. Paul says that the risen Lord appeared to St. James. He would therefore be likely to know, as well as anyone, what Jesus had taught and commanded, and what was in accord with his mind. Both these passages of scripture are read when holy unction is administered. And when the Bishop consecrates the oil to be used, the prayer he uses begins in this way: "O Lord ... as your holy apostles anointed many that were sick and healed them ..." So it is the teaching of the church that the anointing of the sick is to be found in Holy Scripture, and is therefore to be used by Christians in accordance with the rites of the church.

Now, how many of you remember your catechism definition of the two parts of a sacrament? "The two parts of a sacrament are the outward and visible sign, and the inward and spiritual grace." Let's apply this to the anointing of the sick:

- 1) *What is the outward and visible sign of Holy Unction?* It is oil applied to the forehead (usually) of the sick person in the form of the sign of the Cross, together with prayers for healing.
- 2) *What is the inward and spiritual grace given by God?* It is fortification against the power of evil over body, mind, and spirit.

The Priest signs you with the sign of the Cross: the same sign and the same place as at Baptism. *Then* it was done with water, the sign of washing (from sin) and new birth (to eternal life.) Only *now* it is done with holy oil, the sign of healing and peace. Prayer is offered for your recovery and healing; and God will not fail to bless you.

Preparation for Holy Unction. God will always do his part. But we must do ours. We must lay ourselves open to receive God's help. We must be in that condition which makes it possible for God to help us. *The first step is faith.* By "faith" I mean simply trusting your heavenly Father. Remember that in union with Christ you are his son or daughter, that he loves you and that he has blessings in his hand that he wants to give you. Don't try to tell him what he ought to do. He knows best. If you have fears and find it difficult to trust him, tell him that too.

The second step is to confess your sins. You should be ready to confess anything that troubles your conscience. It is very desirable to make a particular confession in the presence of the priest who is going to anoint you. The Priest will absolve you in God's name so that you may have no doubt about being forgiven.

The third step is to pray. To pray for the doctors and nurses who will care for you if you are going into the hospital, or require medical attention. For the priest who ministers to you. And to ask Christian friends and relations to pray for you.

Do these things to the best of your ability, and then rest assured that you are going to receive Holy Communion and Holy Unction for the healing of your body, mind, and spirit.

Holy Communion and Holy Unction. I mention Holy Communion because you should receive Holy Communion as frequently as possible during your illness. It is the Bread of Life, by which a Christian is sustained in health and sickness alike. Remember the words of administration, "preserve thy *body* and *soul* unto everlasting life." Think of the relation between Holy Communion and Holy Unction something like this. *Holy Communion* is a personal meeting and union between you and the Glorified Christ. He is as present to you in Holy Communion as he was to those whom he healed on earth. "I am with you always," he said. This is especially true at Holy Communion. *But* on this occasion, when you receive Holy Communion before Holy Unction, you have come with a request for a special favor. When you receive

him in Holy Communion it will be as if he says to you, "What do you wish me to do for you?" Your answer will be, "Lord, that I may be healed." He will then stretch out his hand to touch you by means of the Sacrament of Holy Unction in order that you may receive the special blessing you need in your illness.

When should one be anointed? Only when it is thought that death is near? *No.* You should receive the anointing of the sick *early* in an illness. There are two reasons for this answer:

- 1) Our Lord always taught illness as a manifestation of evil. He never taught that our heavenly Father sends sickness upon us. Christ is God Incarnate and the fact that he healed the sick declared God the Father's loving will toward them. The Apostles were sent to *heal* the sick. St. Mark says, "they anointed with oil many that were sick, and healed them" (6:13). Anointing is primarily meant for healing, not just as a preparation for a holy death.
- 2) Oil is a symbol of consecration and healing. The Good Samaritan poured in oil and wine upon the wounds of the man who fell among the thieves. We speak of pouring oil on troubled waters. Oil has itself soothing properties. But oil is not used in Holy Unction for its *natural* healing value, but sacramentally – as an efficacious sign of God's healing power.

Holy Unction is not just for the dying. It is for all those with any serious, or chronic, ailment.

Afterwards: We hope for miracles. We look for a healing that comes sooner than we should normally expect it to, or one that comes when it was not expected at all. That often does happen. But not always. Sometimes the healing comes slowly. Sometimes God in his love and wisdom does not grant recovery and heals our infirmities by the deliverance into his nearer presence which we call death.

- 1) *If you are restored to full health:* Your response must be the rededication of your life to God so that you may serve him better than you have ever done before.
- 2) *If he allows your infirmity and suffering to remain:* remember this, a) He will give you grace to endure until he either heals your affliction or calls you to himself; b) He can and will use you to glorify him and to help others if you will learn to bear your sufferings patiently. Even St. Paul's "thorn in the flesh" was not removed (whatever it was); but he was told, "My grace is sufficient for you," and it was.

When you go home look up the section in the Book of Common Prayer entitled "Visitation of the Sick," page 308. Read it! It begins with a very significant rubric

– a command! – “When any person is sick, notice shall be given to the Minister”. Then follow forms for the Ministry of the Word, Laying on of Hands and Anointing, Holy Communion and a collection of special prayers.

So what have we learned: The anointing of the sick is found in St. Mark’s Gospel and in St. James’ epistle. It is a sacramental rite. *Its outward and visible sign* is anointing with oil with prayers for healing. *Its inward and spiritual grace* is fortification against the power of evil over body, mind and spirit. We prepare for it by trust in God, confession of sin, and prayer. The results that may be expected are: sometimes full or partial recovery of body or mind; sometimes a happy death; sometimes a gift of grace to share the cross; always peace and tranquility because the matter is passed to God and he has taken charge of it. To whom we ascribe all might, majesty, dominion, power, and glory, now and forever.

Fr. Hines

SYNOD

From Wednesday May 19th till Saturday the 22nd, the clergy will be out of town attending the annual Diocesan Synod. A synod is a gathering of clergy and laymen to discuss Church matters. The Synod this year will be hosted by St. Alban’s in State College, Pennsylvania. Information on issues and votes will be relayed to the parish when the clergy return.

FROM THE SENIOR WARDEN

It looked like spring had finally sprung...but then, as usual, Chicago weather changed. But we need to begin looking to the “jobs” which need to be done outside. Work parties will need to be formed to do many of the tasks that we can do with our sweat equity. If you are “particularly” handy with certain types of jobs “around the house” that could be easily transferred to “around God’s house”, let Chuck Carr know.

As we have previously reported in the newsletters, the Vestry is focusing major attention to the parking lot condition and configuration. The Vestry took action at the April meeting to approve a concept of maximizing greenscape, while still more than accommodating the needs for parking and other pavement conditions. Authorization was also given for the retention of a civil engineering firm to work with the Development Committee to complete the directions given by the Vestry. Prior to submittal to the Village, the Vestry will be taking one more look at the plans to make sure they best address our needs. **There will be a special meeting after Mass on May 23rd concerning this project. Please plan on attending.**

This time of year also brings “spring house cleaning”. As you are cleaning up around your house, keep in mind that All Saints will again have a Flea Market (Garage Sale) in the fall. It will be either the second or third weekend in September. So once you have picked out the one or two “special” items for the Waitek New to You Auction on May 15, 2004, box up those other items that are just too good to throw away. In the near future, you will be receiving more information on the Flea Market. And just in case, if you would be interested in working in the committee structure of the Flea Market, let me know. Not as your Senior Warden, I have offered to serve as general chairman of the event this year. A Steering Committee is being formed and the old saying, “Many hands make work light,” certainly applies to this undertaking.

I do want to take one final moment to encourage all of you to participate in our Morning Prayer program. The ACM took this responsibility on as part of their religious commitment to our growth as a parish. We hold Morning Prayer on the first Saturday of every month at 8:30 am. “Yes”, it might cut into some of our Saturday plans. And, “Yes”, it only takes a half an hour. But it is early enough and short enough that you can still get to Home Depot or Jewel and get back to your home to work on the To Do List you have at home.

Lastly, I want to thank all of you who have offered me words of encouragement relative to the Deaconate Program. My next official act will be to travel to the Synod and meet with the Discernment Committee and Standing Committee to obtain their approvals. My studies continue. As an ex teacher, I am learning from a different perspective that “Learning Never Ends.”

Mark Maute

ALL SAINTS ANGLICAN CHURCH ENDOWMENT FUND

In November 2001, All Saints Church established provisions governing the “ All Saints Anglican Church Endowment Fund “. The purpose of this fund foundation is to benefit the parish of All Saints for as long as the parish shall exist.

The highlights of the Fund guidelines are:

1. Funding of the Fund: The Fund will accept funds from wills, a remainder trust, or a direct gift from anyone wishing to make a donation.
2. Control of the Fund: The control of the Fund will rest solely with the Vestry and Rector of All Saints. They as a quorum-voting unit will designate the investment of the Fund principal.

3. Use of the Fund: Only the income derived from the Fund principal will be available for use except as specifically outlined in paragraph (4) herein. Income may be used in any way the Rector and Vestry see fit in support of the parish and/or its activities.
4. Special Loan Provisions: By a vote of the Vestry and subsequent approval of pledging members of the parish in good standing, special funds established by the Vestry may borrow sums from the principal of the Fund for periods not to exceed five (5) years, or in the case of a fund to finance a major building addition or renovation, ten (10) years.
5. Accountability: A full report on the status of this Fund will be made by the Rector at each annual meeting of the parish.

Bob Wilson, Treasurer

ANGLICAN CHURCH WOMEN

At our meeting on April 26, nominations for officers for the next year were made. In the past we have not had a Vice President, however, the Provincial ACW By-laws provide for one. If anyone is interested in filling this position, please either call me or let Father Hines know. As our numbers increase, we look forward to fresh ideas and greater involvement by everyone.

Following is our slate of officers for the 2004-2005 year:

President, Barbara Jepson
 Vice President, (to be filled)
 Secretary, Jane Munsie
 Treasurer, Lilli Longinow

Our next Joyful Noises potluck and "New to You Auction" will be held at Karen and Ron Waitek's home on May 15 at 6:00 p.m. Children are welcome! A dish to pass and \$5.00 per person (\$10 maximum per family) will give you a fun evening you won't want to miss. Bring one or more items, new or used, useful or decorative, but in good condition to be auctioned off. Proceeds will be designated for the new parking lot and landscaping.

All Saints 2nd Annual Flea Market will be held the weekend after Labor Day. Chris Oschman and Jane Munsie will be the ACW representatives on the Steering Committee. If you have any suggestions, please let them know.

The Lipseys are doing well with their new twin boys. Father Hines will be paying them a visit in the near future, so if you would like to provide them with a meal, please contact Father Hines.

Barbara Jepson, President

CHILDREN'S ROOM

A BIG THANK YOU to Christine Hall for the wonderful job she did in re-decorating the Children's Room! For those of you who have not yet seen the transformation, take a peek Sunday following Mass.

ANGLICAN CHURCH MEN

It's been a very busy time for all of us at All Saints, and so much has taken place since the ACM last contributed an article for the newsletter. All Saints has been blessed in so many ways recently, increased membership and most joyfully the arrival of several new parish babies. The Easter season has been a memorable one and the ACM are pleased to continue Morning Prayer on the first Saturday of each month.

Over the next few months, the ACM will hold their annual leadership elections, and we strongly encourage our members to consider serving the ACM as President, Secretary or Treasurer. Nominations will be accepted at the next meeting, and elections will be held during the May meeting.

The date, location and agenda for this year's Golf Tournament will be discussed in the next ACM meeting, and an announcement made shortly... look for a sign-up sheet in the next week or two.

Also, as we continue to map our outreach plans, the appearance of our Church property is a very good first step, and the ACM is asking members to provide availability over the spring and summer months for weekly chores such as lawn mowing and minor landscaping.

Yours in Christ,
 Donnie Marini, President

ALTAR GUILD

We thank everyone who contributed to the special offering on behalf of the Altar Guild, which was taken on Maundy Thursday. For those who may not know, the Altar Guild does not have a specific line in the church budget except for supplies such as wine, wafers, candles and the smaller linens. The furnishings and vessels (chalice, wine and water cruets, etc.) used in the sanctuary for the Eucharist have been gifted to All Saints. If you would like to give this kind of gift whether for a special event in your life or as a memorial gift, please contact Fr. Hines or me.

Thank you to all the Altar Guild members who gave of their time during Holy Week not only to prepare for the different services but also spent time at church during

the morning hours to polish and clean the sanctuary and all the items used to make ready for our wonderful Easter Morning Eucharist.

Marie Spencer, Directress

**ALL SAINTS ANGLICAN
CHURCH LIBRARY**

We are getting closer to an opening and dedication of our library. The bookshelves are up!

What kind of books will be in the library? We will have a collection of books to support our mission to “educate, enrich, enlighten and inspire, sharing the news of Jesus Christ and providing nourishment for Christian growth”. It would be wonderful for a parishioner to go into the library after a service and find a commentary for further study on the lessons or sermon.

The foundation of our collection centers on a body of books donated by the Maute family. Other donations have been made as well as purchases of books from a bibliography provided by St. Joseph of Arimathea Seminary. A copy of that bibliography is available for viewing in the reception room –our soon to be library, as well as forms to donate or purchase books for the library.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Sue Peterson

\$5.00 PER PERSON
MAX. \$10 PER FAMILY

Bring a dish to pass & an item to auction
CHILDREN WELCOME
BRING A FRIEND OR TWO
Sign up sheet in narthex

All Saints Anglican Church
(Traditional Episcopal)
Using the
1928 Book of Common Prayer

131 East Boughton Road
Bolingbrook, IL 60440
630 783-8280

WEBSITES

www.allsaintsanglicanparish.org
www.anglicanpck.org

Holy Eucharist and Church School
Sundays at 9:30 AM
Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays
At 10 AM and Wednesdays at 7 PM

The Rev. John A. Hines, Rector
The Rev. Mr. Blair Schultz, Deacon

2004 IMPORTANT DATES

May 19th – 22nd – Diocese of the Eastern States Synod

July 18th – 23rd – Diocese of the Eastern States Youth Summer Camp

September 8th – Enquirer’s Class Begins (Topic: to be announced)

September 18th – Retreat Day (Warrenville Cenacle)

September 23rd – 25th – Pilgrimage to Fond du Lac, Wisconsin

November 7th – Annual All Saints’ Day Celebration

Newsletter Editorial Staff

Fr. Hines

Marie Spencer

Technical Assistant

Will Spencer

If you have any questions, comments, suggestions or wish to contribute in any way, please contact Fr. Hines or Marie Spencer.

JOYFUL NOISES POTLUCK

&

NEW TO YOU AUCTION

Saturday May 15th

6 PM TO 9 PM

At the home of

Ron & Karen Waitek