

The Parish Reception of the Holy Oils Blessed at the Chrism Mass



1. It is appropriate that the oil of the sick, the oil of catechumens, and the holy chrism, which are blessed by the bishop during the Chrism Mass, be presented to and received by the local parish community. [This may also be done by other communities that reserve the oils and chrism for use during the year.]
2. The reception of the holy oils may take place at the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday or on another suitable day after the celebration of the Chrism Mass.
3. The oils should be reserved in a suitable repository (ambry) in the sanctuary or near the baptismal font.

[During the homily or prior to the procession of gifts, the priest may speak briefly about the significance of the Chrism Mass for the diocese and of the oils and the chrism in the life of the community.]
4. The oils, in suitable vessels, are carried in the procession of the gifts, [after the gifts for the poor and] before the bread and wine, by members of the assembly.
5. The oils are received by the priest and are then placed on a suitably prepared table in the sanctuary or in the repository (ambry) where they will be reserved.
6. As each of the oils is presented, the following or other words may be used to explain the significance of the particular oil.
7. The people's response may be sung.

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There is a musical setting for this reception: "Rite for Receiving the Holy Oils", for cantor, assembly, SATB, and keyboard. John Schiavone. OCP Publications, no. 9120.

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8. The Presenter of the Oil of the Sick announces:

The oil of the sick.

9. The priest, in these or similar words, says:

May the sick who are anointed with this oil experience the compassion of Christ and his saving love, in body, mind, and soul.

11. The people respond:

Blessed be God for ever.

12. The Presenter of the Oil of Catechumens announces:

The oil of catechumens.

13. The priest, in these or similar words, says:

Through anointing with this oil may our catechumens who are preparing to receive the saving waters of baptism be strengthened by Christ to resist the power of Satan and reject evil in all its forms.

14. The people respond:

Blessed be God for ever.

15. The Presenter of the Holy Chrism announces:

The holy chrism.

16. The priest, in these or similar words, says:

Through anointing with this perfumed chrism may children and adults, who are baptized and confirmed, and presbyters, who are ordained, experience the gracious gift of the Holy Spirit.

17. The people respond:

Blessed be God for ever.

18. The bread and wine for eucharist are then received and the Mass continues in the usual way.