**How the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick is Celebrated**

**Introductory Rite**

\* The priest gives a formal greeting to those present.

\* The priest sprinkles holy water around the room and on the sick person as a reminder of Baptism.

\* An opening prayer is prayed together and a Penitential Rite (or expression of sorrow for sin) is led.

**Liturgy of the Word**

\* Text from Scripture is read by the priest or someone else present. These readings may be either Matthew 11:25-30, Mark 2:1-12 or Luke 7:19-23. Silence follows the reading.

**Liturgy of Anointing**

\* A litany for the sick person is led by the priest.

\* Next, in silence, the priest lays his hands on the head of the sick person.

\* The priest then blesses the oil, or, if the oil is already blessed, says a prayer of thanksgiving.

\* The sick person is anointed on the forehead and hands; a prayer follows the anointing. e.g.

"God our healer, in this time of sickness you have come to bless N. with your grace. Restore him/her to health and strength, make him/her joyful in spirit, and ready to embrace your will. Grant this through Christ our Lord."

\* Next, the Lord's Prayer is said.

\* Then, in many cases, the Liturgy of Holy Communion will be celebrated for all present.

\* The ceremony concludes with the priest's blessing.