

Week 30

Paragraphs 1485–1538



THE CATECHISM IN A YEAR

WITH FR. MIKE SCHMITZ

f faith.⁸² By “analogy of faith” we mean the

How We Worship PART TWO: THE CELEBRATION OF THE CHRISTIAN MYSTERY

HOW DOES JESUS HEAL US?

Suffering is a severe consequence of the world’s brokenness, although not every suffering directly results from personal sin. Jesus is the ultimate healer of both our souls and bodies. However, Jesus does not physically cure everyone who asks, nor does he remove suffering; instead, he redeems and transforms suffering. Sin has far worse effects than any suffering; when we accept our suffering and join it to Christ, suffering becomes redemptive.

Keep in Mind

- In suffering, we can refuse God’s will and become resentful, or we can unite ourselves with Christ’s sufferings.
- God may allow suffering to help us grow, soften our hearts, correct our lives, or because it is redemptive.
- The sufferings of Christ lack nothing; when we unite our sufferings to his, we can be coworkers in his redemptive work.
- Whether we receive healing or not, we can unite our sufferings to Christ.
- The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick is for anyone “in danger of death from sickness or old age” (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1514).
- The sick are anointed with holy oil for healing and forgiveness.
- The sacrament can be received again if the person recovers but falls seriously ill again.
- The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick is sometimes received along with Confession and Holy Communion (Viaticum) to prepare a person for death.
- The sacrament provides grace to fortify a person in the face of severe sickness or to spiritually prepare for death.



Dive Deeper VIATICUM

The Church provides countless spiritual riches in preparation for death. This image shows one such gift, Viaticum, the Eucharist given as food for the journey (see CCC 1524).

How does the notion of uniting your suffering with Jesus challenge your understanding of suffering? How can suffering lead to spiritual growth and a deeper connection with Christ?

- The grace of the Anointing of the Sick “renews trust and faith in God,” protects from “discouragement and anguish,” and fortifies us “for the final struggles before entering the Father’s house” (CCC 1520, 1523).
- The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick may include an apostolic pardon, a powerful prayer that grants a plenary indulgence that removes the temporal consequences of sin.
- Above all, the sacrament prepares us “for passing over to eternal life” (CCC 1532).

Use the space below to reflect on this week's content.

Take It to Prayer

God our Father, please meet us in our need. Fill our breath and our lungs with your Holy Spirit. Fill our minds with your truth, clarity, and goodness. Help us to say “yes” to you at this moment and every moment of our lives. We pray this through Jesus Christ, Our Lord. Amen.



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The Catechism in a Year is a daily podcast produced by Ascension and hosted by Fr. Mike Schmitz. It helps us understand what it means to be Catholic by reading the entire *Catechism of the Catholic Church* and allowing those truths to shape our lives. This bulletin was adapted from the books that complement the podcast: *The Catechism in a Year Companions* by Petroc Willey, Fr. Mike Schmitz, and Matthew Doeing.