

# BIBLICAL EVIDENCE OF THE SACRAMENTS

The sacraments celebrated by the Church are signs of grace that make a deeper reality present to us. One reality we encounter through the sacraments is Christ's presence in the Church community, his Body. This recognition of Christ's presence in the community should lead to a stronger awareness of being sent on mission to engage in love-inspired action in the world.

As Pope Benedict XVI notes in *Deus Caritas Est* (God Is Love), the celebration of the sacraments and the ministry of love are "inseparable." Love in action, he says, is "an indispensable expression" of the Church's being (no. 25).

– USCCB Sacraments and Social Mission Living the Gospel, Being Disciples

One of the greatest myths and misconceptions about our Catholic faith is that the seven sacraments are not found anywhere in Scripture. Let's get right to the point: this is an absolutely false assertion.

The sacraments were instituted by Jesus, and they were then formally carried out by His apostles and handed on to their successors, the bishops. All of the sacraments have a clear biblical basis, intrinsically and implicitly. A sacrament is defined as "an outward sign, instituted by Christ, to bring grace. Always remember that the Catholic Church is founded on Sacred Scripture and Sacred Tradition. The two work hand-in-hand to make known to us the fullness of God's revelation, through the guidance and inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

In fact, the need to adhere to both Scripture and Tradition is itself, a biblical truth and Scriptural command, "*Therefore, brothers, stand firm and hold fast to the traditions that you were taught, either by an oral statement or by a letter of ours*" (2 Thessalonians 2:15).

Below are some of the Scriptural references we use when giving a Scriptural basis for the Catholic sacraments.

– Courtesy of the GreatAdventureOnline.com

The following scriptures focus on the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick. Anointing of the Sick is the sacrament that is received by those who are ill or suffering. By the sacred anointing and the prayer of the priest, the whole Church commends those who are sick to Christ. The sick person receives the Holy Spirit's gifts of strength, faith, peace, and courage, and his or her suffering is united with the suffering of Christ for the building up of the Church (Catechism of the Catholic Church [CCC], nos. 1520-23).



# **ANOINTING OF THE SICK** *Joined to Christ, Witnesses of Hope and Healing*

## **Old Testament**

- Genesis 12:1-4 – Leave your country, and come into the land I will show you.
- Job 19:1-27 – I know that my redeemer lives
- Wisdom 3:1-9 – He accepted them as a holocaust.
- Wisdom 4:7-14 – A blameless life is a ripe old age.
- Isaiah 25:6-9 – The Lord God will destroy death forever.
- Lamentations 3:17-26 – It is good to wait in silence for the Lord God to save.
- Daniel 12:1-3 – Of those who lie sleeping in the dust of the earth many will awake.
- 2 Maccabees 12:43-46 – It is good and holy to think of the dead rising again.

## **New Testament**

- Matthew 5:1-12 – Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.
- Matthew 11:25-30 – You have hidden these things from the learned and have revealed them to children.
- Matthew 25: 1-13 – Look, the bridegroom is coming, go out and meet him.
- Matthew 25: 31-46 – Come, you whom my Father has blessed.
- Mark 6:12-13 – “Anointed with oil many sick, cured them.”
- Mark 10:13-16 – Anyone who does not welcome the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.
- Mark 15:33-39, 16:1-6 – Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last.
- Luke 7:11-17 – Young man, I say to you, get up.
- Luke 12:35-40 – Be like men waiting for the arrival of their master.
- Luke 23:33, 39-43 – Today you will be with me in paradise.
- Luke 23:44-49, 24:1-6 – Father, into your hands I commit my spirit.
- John 3:16-21 – Everyone who believes in him will have everlasting life.
- John 6:37-40, 44-47 – He who believes has eternal life, and will be raised up on the last day.
- John 11:17-27 – I am the resurrection and the life.
- John 12:23-28 – If a grain of wheat falls on the ground and dies, it yields a rich harvest.
- John 14:1-6 – There are many rooms in my Father’s house.
- John 17:24-26 – Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am.
- Acts 10:34-44 – God has appointed Jesus to judge everyone, alive and dead.
- Romans 5:5-11 – Having been justified by His blood, he will be saved from God’s anger through Him.
- Romans 5:17-21 – However great the number of sins committed, grace was even greater.
- Romans 6:3-11 – When we were baptized we joined Jesus in death so that we might walk in the newness of His life.
- Romans 8:31-35, 37-39 – Nothing can really come between us and the love of Christ.
- Romans 14:7-12 – Alive or dead, we belong to the Lord.
- 1 Corinthians 15:20-23 – All men will be brought to life in Christ.
- 1 Corinthians 15:51-57 – Death is swallowed up in victory.
- 2 Corinthians 5:1, 6-10 – We have an everlasting home in heaven.
- Philippians 3:20-21 – Jesus will transfigure these wretched bodies of ours to be like his glorious body.
- 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 – We shall stay with the Lord forever.
- 2 Timothy 2:8-13 – If we have died with Him, then we shall live with Him.
- 1 John 3:1-2 – We shall see him as he really is.
- Revelations 14:13 – Happy are those who die in the Lord.
- Revelations 20:11-21:1 – The dead have been judged according to their works.
- Revelations 21:1, 3-5 – There will be no more death.