

NOTES ON THE LITURGY

Office of Divine Worship - Archdiocese of Newark

The Roman Missal and the Presentation of the Oils

From the USCCB website: <http://old.usccb.org/liturgy/chrismmass.shtml>

A new rubric is provided in the *Roman Missal* under the Chrism Mass (CM) that indicates “a reception of the Holy Oils may take place in every parish either before the celebration of the evening Mass of the Lord’s Supper or at another time that seems appropriate” (CM, no. 15). **The Reception of the Holy Oils Blessed at the Chrism Mass** is no longer in print. Since this can be a means of catechizing the faithful about the use and effects of the Holy Oils and Chrism in Christian life, we are making it available on the USCCB website, www.usccb.org/liturgy/holyoils.shtml. The link reads **The Reception of the Holy Oils blessed at the Chrism Mass**. The information located there is provided below. Note that it is the same information which appears in the 1994 *Sacramentary Supplement*.

The Reception of the Holy Oils Blessed at the Chrism Mass

Introduction

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.
2. The reception of the holy oils may take place at the Mass of the Lord’s Supper on Holy Thursday or on another day after the celebration of the Chrism Mass.
3. The oils should be reserved in a suitable repository in the sanctuary or near the baptismal font.
4. The oils, in suitable vessels, are carried in the procession of the gifts, 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 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.

Presenter of the Oil of the Sick: The oil of the sick.

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

The people may respond: Blessed be God forever.

Presenter of the Oil of Catechumens: The oil of catechumens.

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

The people may respond: Blessed be God forever.

Presenter of the Holy Chrism: The holy Chrism.

Priest: 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.

The people may respond: Blessed be God forever.

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