

## CLIFTON DIOCESE DEPARTMENT OF LITURGY

### RECEPTION OF THE HOLY OILS BLESSED AT THE CHRISM MASS

#### INTRODUCTION

1. The old Oils are either burned or consumed in lamps. While the validity of the Oils remains, the old Oils should not normally be used for Christian Initiation at Easter.
2. It is appropriate that the Oil of the sick, the Oil of catechumens, and the Chrism, which are blessed by the Bishop during the Chrism Mass at Clifton Cathedral, be presented to and received by the local parish community.
3. The reception of the holy Oils may take place at the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday or another suitable time. This does not replace the Penitential Rite if the presentation takes place at the beginning of the Mass. In the proposed Revised Sacramentary the oils are presented during the preparation of the gifts.
4. The Oils should be reserved in a suitable repository in the sanctuary or preferably near to the baptismal font.
5. The Oils, in noble vessels, are carried in the procession of the gifts, before the bread and wine, by members of the assembly.
6. The Oils are received by the priest and are then placed on a suitably prepared table in the sanctuary (not on the altar, where the primary focus remains Eucharistic) or they may be placed in the repository where they will be reserved.
7. As each of the Oils is presented, one of the following forms may be used to explain the significance of the Oils. This practice is particularly appropriate in the context of a parish program for the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults.
8. Music may accompany the presentation of the Holy Oils.  
The people's response may be sung.  
Music Suggestions: Rite for Receiving the Holy Oils ó Schiavone (OCP) Laudate 210

Procession of Oils ó Inwood/Griffiths, Magnificat Music)  
Hymn of Chrism ó Ogden (WLP)  
There is a Balm in Gilead - Spiritual/Poovey (TRN)  
Blest by the sun, the olive tree ó New English Hymnal 512

## SUGGESTED RITES FOR THE RECEPTION OF THE HOLY OILS

### FORM ONE

(This rite has been confirmed by the Apostolic See for the USA)

*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, mind and soul.

*The assembly may respond:* **Blessed be God for ever.**

*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 saving waters of baptism be strengthened by Christ to receive the saving waters of baptism be strengthened by Christ to resist the power of Satan and reject evil in all its forms.

*The assembly may respond:* **Blessed be God for ever.**

*Presenter of the Holy Chrism:* **THE HOLY CHRISM**

*Priest:* Through anointing with this perfumed Chrism may children and adults, who are baptised and confirmed, and priests who are ordained, experience the gracious gift of the Holy Spirit.

*The assembly may respond:* **Blessed be God for ever.**

*At the preparation of the gifts, the gifts for the poor and the bread and wine for the Eucharist are then received. The Mass continues in the usual way.*

### ALTERNATIVE FORM

*Priest:* Let us pray for those who will encounter Christ through His church when they are strengthened to be his witnesses by the signs of the new covenant.

*Presenter of the Oil of the Sick:* **THE OIL OF THE SICK**

*Intercessor:* Let us pray that the Spirit of God may strengthen those who suffer illness, anxiety or pain. Through the prayer of faith and the anointing of this oil may they experience the healing power of Christ.

*Presenter of the Oil of Catechumens:* **THE OIL OF CATECHUMENS**

*Intercessor:* Let us pray for those who are to be anointed with this oil in preparation for their baptism that they may accept the challenge of Christian witness and experience the joy of new birth in the family of the Church.

*Presenter of the Holy Chrism:* **THE HOLY CHRISM**

*Intercessor:* The Lord sent his Spirit to fill the Church with every gift and complete his saving work. Let us pray for those who are to be anointed with this oil in the sacraments of Confirmation and Holy Orders. Sealed by the Spirit may they be transformed into the likeness of Christ and witness to him as they share his work of service.

*At the preparation of the gifts, the gifts for the poor and the bread and wine for the Eucharist are then received. The Mass continues in the usual way.*