



## Procession of Holy Oils into the Parish Church *Holy Week (Holy Thursday)*

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### Notes

*"The reception of the Holy Oils may take place in individual parishes either before the celebration of the Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper or at another time that seems more appropriate."*

— *Roman Missal, Chrism Mass, no. 15*

As is the custom in many parishes, the oils are ideally reserved in a suitable repository in the sanctuary or near the baptismal font.

The following ritual for the *Procession of Holy Oils into the Parish Church* after the Chrism Mass is offered as a sample to assist parishes. The most likely time this would occur is at the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday.

This sample provides several options. The option chosen may change from year to year.

It is recommended that the oils are processed during the entrance procession, ideally by those parishioners who received them at the Chrism Mass. At the conclusion of the procession and when the presider has reached the Chair, the people holding the oils stand across the centre facing the Assembly.

The following ritual takes place after the Greeting and any Introductory Remarks made by the presider, and before the Penitential Act.

The people's response after the presentation of each oil is optional. Two responses are provided.

Alternatively, the Holy Oils may be processed as above and placed in their permanent position in the church when the presider has arrived at his chair and while the entrance hymn continues. In this instance none of the following text would be used. The presider may like to include a comment in the Introductory Remarks similar to the one immediately below.

### Ritual

**Presider:** In accord with the most ancient tradition of the Church, on Tuesday night members of the diocesan community gathered at the Sacred Heart Cathedral for the Chrism Mass. Our new Bishop, Michael Kennedy, blessed the Oil of Catechumens and the Oil of the Sick, and consecrated the Oil of Chrism for use in our parishes in the celebration of the Sacraments.

On this holy night let us receive these oils as a sign of our commitment to the work of the Gospel.

*Allow a brief pause.*

*The person with the Oil of the Sick holds it high as the reader continues.*

**Reader:** Behold the Oil of the Sick for use in the ministry of consolation and healing.

*At the conclusion of the statement the oil is placed in position.*

*The people may respond with one of the following responses or watch in silence.*

**All:** May we be instruments of Christ's healing and consoling presence.

Or

**All:** May our sick who are anointed with it, experience the compassion of Christ, and his saving love.

*When the placement is complete the person with the Oil of the Catechumens holds it high as the reader continues.*

**Reader:** Behold the Oil of Catechumens for use in the ministry of initiation.

*At the conclusion of the statement the oil is placed in position.*

*The people may respond with one of the following responses or watch in silence.*

**All:** May we proclaim the Gospel of Love in the world.

Or

**All:** May our catechumens be strengthened by Christ in their journey towards baptism.

*When the placement is complete the person with the Oil of Chrism holds it high as the reader continues.*

**Reader:** Behold the sacred Chrism consecrated and sent to us to anoint the baptised and confirm them in their likeness to Christ.

Behold the sacred Chrism used to preserve the ordained for their sanctifying work.

*At the conclusion of the statement the oil is placed in position.*

*The people may respond with one of the following responses or watch in silence.*

**All:            May we live our priestly, prophetic and kingly ministry in service of the Gospel.**

*At the conclusion of the statement the oil is placed in position.*

*When the final placement is complete those who have presented the oils bow to the altar and return to their places.*

*The liturgy continues as normal.*

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