

# A Gift of Strength

Keep these ideas in mind as you study **Chapter 15**.

❖ Sickness and suffering are not good, but God can bring good out of evil. We cannot understand God's plans for us. We must remember that God uses everything, even sickness and suffering, to bring us closer to him.

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❖ All Christians are to help those who are suffering. When we help those who are sick and suffering, we are doing the healing work of Jesus.

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❖ The name *Jesus* means "God saves." The name *Christ* means "anointed." The name *Jesus Christ* shows that Jesus was given a special mission to save us.

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❖ The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick can heal the body, but it is meant to give us strength and courage to accept our sickness. It takes away sin. It may be celebrated whenever someone is seriously ill or facing major surgery.

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❖ The Anointing of the Sick is meant for those who face life-threatening illness, those who are about to have major surgery, and those who are elderly, when they grow weak and sick. Children are sometimes afflicted with life-threatening illnesses, and some children face major surgery. These children may be anointed.

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❖ The Anointing of the Sick may be celebrated wherever someone who is sick may be suffering. It may be celebrated during Mass or outside of Mass.

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❖ The Anointing of the Sick should be celebrated with family and friends present. During the sacrament, everyone will pray for the person who is ill.

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❖ During the Anointing of the Sick, the priest lays his hands on the person in silence. Then he anoints the person with the oil of the sick.

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❖ Communion given to someone who is dying is called viaticum.

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