A FAMILY OF Faith

March Adult Meeting
Agenda
Opening Questions

Do you know anyone who has received the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick? What were the circumstances?

Do you know anyone who is badly sick? How do you think they would feel if they were healed?
Opening Questions

Do you think it is possible to learn or become stronger from suffering? Do you know anyone who has changed for the better because of suffering?

What is the best thing we can do with our suffering?
Opening Questions

Which do you think is the most important: the healing of the body or the healing of the soul?

Would you agree that our culture tends to banish suffering and death from public view? What effect do you think this might have on our culture and our families?
Introduction: The Meaning of Suffering
Blessed Chiara Badano
Blessed Chiara Badano
Blessed Chiara Badano

AT THIS POINT I HAVE NOTHING LEFT, BUT I STILL HAVE MY HEART AND WITH THAT I CAN ALWAYS LOVE.

- Bl. Chiara Luce Badano
Jesus came to accomplish an even greater healing than physical healing alone.

This greater healing was victory over sin and death through His Passion, Death and Resurrection.

Our suffering now has redemptive value if we patiently endure it and join it with the suffering of Christ.
Anointing of the Sick: Healing in Obedience to Christ
The Sacrament of Anointing

“Is anyone among you sick? He should summon the presbyters of the church, and they should pray over him and anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord, and the prayer of faith will save the sick person, and the Lord will raise him up. If he has committed any sins, he will be forgiven.”

(James 5:14-15)
Who can receive the Sacrament?

Any baptized Catholic who is in danger of death from serious illness or old age (CCC 1514)
How is it celebrated?

- “The priests of the Church--in silence--lay hands on the sick; they pray over them in the faith of the Church.... They anoint them with oil blessed, if possible, by the bishop” (CCC 1519).

- The priest or bishop prays: “Through this holy anointing may the Lord in His love and mercy help you with the grace of the Holy Spirit. May the Lord who frees you from sin save you and raise you up” (CCC 1513).
The Fruits of Anointing

- Strength, peace, and courage to overcome the difficulties of suffering
- Unity with the Passion of Christ
- Consecration of suffering for participation in salvation
- Forgiveness of sins
- Physical healing (if that is God’s will)
- Grace and preparation for the recipient’s final journey home
In conjunction with the anointing, a person may receive the Eucharist as *viaticum* or “food for the journey.”
The Triduum
The Triduum are the holiest days of the year in the Church calendar, beginning with evening Mass on Holy Thursday and ending with Evening Prayer on Easter Sunday.
The Triduum begins with the Mass of the Lord’s Supper on Holy Thursday evening.

- At this Mass we celebrate the institution of both the Eucharist and the priesthood.
- During the liturgy, the priest also washes the feet of 12 people from the congregation.
On Good Friday, we celebrate the Liturgy of the Lord’s Passion

- We commemorate the Lord’s Passion in a Liturgy of the Word.
- We venerate the Cross.
- We pray for the Church and the world.
- The liturgy concludes with the reception of Holy Communion.
Holy Saturday and the Easter Vigil

The first part of the day continues in somber anticipation.

Once evening falls, the Easter Vigil is celebrated.

- This is the first Mass celebrated since Thursday evening.
- The new Easter Candle is lit for the first time.
- Those going through RCIA are received and welcomed into the Church.
- We celebrate the Resurrection of Christ!
The Easter Vigil
Easter Sunday

This is a great day of feasting and celebrating, and we should spend it rejoicing in the glory, hope, and promise of the Resurrection of Christ!
Sacred Art Discussion: *Healing of the Blind Man*

Whom do you see in this painting?
What appears to be happening?
Sacred Art Discussion:
*Healing of the Blind Man*

Who do you think the man on the far right is? What does it look like he is doing?

He looks almost identical to the blind man Jesus is healing to his left. Do you think he could be the same man? Why or why not?
Sacred Art Discussion:
*Healing of the Blind Man*

How might stories in Scripture help you better understand this artwork?
Sacred Art Discussion:
*Healing of the Blind Man*

Jesus said, “Those who are well do not need a physician, but the sick do. I did not come to call the righteous but sinners” (Mark 2:17).

How might this statement, together with this painting, relate to the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick?
Key Points in Our Readings this Month

Jesus told the Apostles to heal the sick in His name.

Our suffering can be redemptive if we unite it to Christ’s.
Key Points in Our Readings this Month

The Triduum begins with evening Mass on Holy Thursday and ends with Evening Prayer on Easter Sunday.

The Easter Vigil is the greatest celebration in the Church year.