

Chapter IV

Confirmation to be Administered to a Sick Person in Danger of Death

52. It is of the greatest importance that the initiation of every baptized Christian be completed by the Sacraments of Confirmation and the Eucharist. It is recommended that the member of the faithful in danger of death, if he (she) has reached the age of reason, should be strengthened by Confirmation before he (she) receives Viaticum, after the necessary and possible catechesis.

Nevertheless, Confirmation in danger of death and Anointing of the Sick are ordinarily not to be conferred in a continuous rite.

In the case of a child who has not yet reached the age of reason, Confirmation is conferred in accord with the same principles and norms laid down for the conferral of Baptism.

53. When circumstances permit, the entire rite described above is followed.

54. In case of urgent necessity, the minister of Confirmation lays his hands over the member of the faithful, as he says:

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
who brought this your servant to new birth
by water and the Holy Spirit,
freeing him (her) from sin:
send upon him (her), O Lord, the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete;
give him (her) the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and fortitude,
the spirit of knowledge and piety;
fill him (her) with the spirit of the fear of the Lord.
Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

55. Then the minister dips the tip of the thumb of the right hand in the Chrism and, with the thumb, makes the Sign of the Cross on the forehead of the one to be confirmed, as he says:

N., BE SEALED WITH THE GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

The newly confirmed replies, if able:

Amen.

Other parts of the preparatory and concluding rites may be added in individual cases, with due consideration for the circumstances.

56. In case of extreme necessity, it is sufficient that the anointing with Chrism be done with the sacramental form:

N., BE SEALED WITH THE GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.