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Outline

- Healing in Jesus' ministry
- Healing in Catholic Tradition
- Healing and Evangelization Today
- Some Misconceptions about Healing

Healing in Jesus' Ministry In that hour he cured many of diseases and plagues and evil spirits, and on many that were blind he bestowed sight. And he answered them, "Go and tell John what you have seen and heard: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, the poor have good news preached to them."

– Luke 7:20-23



Healing is an essential dimension of the apostolic mission and of Christian faith in general. [Christianity is a] 'therapeutic religion'—a religion of healing.... When understood at a sufficiently deep level, this <u>expresses the entire content</u> of 'redemption.'

– Pope Benedict XVI

He healed **all** who were sick. – Matthew 8:16

All those who had any that were sick with various diseases brought them to him; and he laid his hands on **every one of them** and healed them. – Luke 4:40

All the crowd sought to touch him, for power came forth from him and healed them **all**. – Luke 6:19





When Jesus saw their faith...







Healing in Catholic Tradition





Those who are in truth Jesus' disciples, receiving grace from him, perform miracles in his name for the well-being of others, according to the gift each one has received from him. For some do truly drive out devils, so that those who have been cleansed from evil spirits frequently believe in Christ and join themselves to the Church. Others have foreknowledge of things to come: they see visions, and utter prophecies. Still others heal the sick by laying their hands on them, and they are made whole. Yes, moreover, the dead have even been raised up, and remained among us for many years.

– St. Irenaeus

By that grace [of the Holy Spirit, received in baptism] we are given power in all purity to heal the sick, whether of body or of mind, to reconcile enemies, to quell violence, to calm passions, to reprimand demons and force them to disclose their identity, punishing them with sharp blows until, with loud shrieks and struggles, they flee in terror.

– St. Cyprian of Carthage

Our Lord Jesus Christ restored sight to the blind, raised Lazarus to life.... Let no one then, brethren, say that our Lord Jesus Christ does not do those things **now** and on that account prefer the former to the present ages of the Church.

– St. Augustine







Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick





Preach as you go, saying, "The kingdom of heaven is at hand." Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, cast out demons.

- Matthew 10:7-8

Whenever you enter a town and they receive you... heal the sick in it and say to them, "The kingdom of God has come near to you."

– Luke 10:9-10

"And he said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation.... These signs will accompany **those who believe**: in my name they will cast out demons; they will speak in new tongues; they will pick up serpents, and if they drink any deadly thing, it will not hurt them; they will lay their hands on the sick, and they will recover."

– Mk 16:15-18



Some Misconceptions about Healing

"Only great saints can expect to see miraculous healings in answer to prayer."

"I'm not worthy to be healed."

"God wants us to just accept our suffering."

