

MEMORANDUM

TO: Clergy and Parish Liturgy Coordinators
FROM: Deacon Modesto Cordero, Director, Office for Worship
RE: **Order of Anointing of the Sick and of their Pastoral Care.**
DATE: July 20, 2026

In March 2026, [Adoremus](https://adoremus.org) published an article outlining the principal changes introduced in the revised *Order of Anointing of the Sick and of their Pastoral Care*. Among the topics addressed are the rites for Confirmation in Danger of Death, the inclusion of serious mental illness among the conditions for which Anointing may be celebrated, and the revised formula for the Apostolic Pardon.

As part of the article, a helpful reference table is provided to assist priests in determining which section of the ritual book should be used in various pastoral situations:

Pastoral Situation	Rite to Use
Sick person not in immediate danger of death	Chapter II: <i>The Order of Anointing of the Sick: Ordinary Rite</i>
Person in danger of death who has previously received Anointing (unless there is a more serious relapse)	Chapter III: <i>Viaticum</i>
Person in imminent danger of death and in need of Penance, Anointing, and Viaticum	Chapter IV: <i>The Order of Offering the Sacraments to a Sick Person who is in Imminent Danger of Death: Continuous Rite</i>
Person in danger of death who requires the sacraments but is unable to consume the Eucharist	Chapter IV: <i>The Order of Offering the Sacraments to a Sick Person who is in Imminent Danger of Death: Conferring Anointing without Viaticum</i>
Extreme emergencies	Appendix IV: <i>The Emergency Rite of Penance, Viaticum, and Anointing of the Sick</i>

This table serves as a useful pastoral reference and may assist clergy in quickly identifying the appropriate rite when ministering to the sick and dying.

For the full article, see: <https://adoremus.org/2026/03/the-revised-order-of-anointing-practical-changes-for-pastoral-ministry/>

Please feel free to contact the Office for Worship, (714) 282- 3041/ 4283 or email at mcordero@rcbo.org / jvenegas@rcbo.org should you have any questions.