

The Emergency Sacraments and Rites for Catholic Patients Administered *In-Person* or by *Phone* 📞

The Sacraments	Who Administers	Meaning of the Sacrament or the Rite	Patient's Condition to Receive	Additional Information and Reflections
Anointing of the Sick Emergency Sacrament	Priest or Bishop in person only, as it includes the forgiveness of sins.	† Restores health, if conducive to salvation of his soul † Strengthens, offers peace and courage to endure in a Christian manner the sufferings of illness or old age. † Forgives sins, if the sick person was not able to obtain it through the sacrament of Penance.	Patient does not have to be conscious, or awake, or be dying.	The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick prepares the patient for passing over to eternal life.
Sacrament of Holy Communion Emergency Sacrament	Priest, Deacon or Eucharistic Minister brings Holy Communion or the Eucharist to the sick.	Holy Communion or the Eucharist is Our Lord Jesus' true Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity as He gives Himself to us. The Eucharistic Lord Jesus is our most preeminent source of inexhaustible spiritual regeneration, hope and healing. When given to the dying as "viaticum" Jesus "accompanies the soul on-the-way to the Father". <i>"Let Me solemnly assure you if you do not eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood you have no life in you. He who feeds on My flesh and drinks My blood has life eternal and I will raise him up on the last day."</i> (Jn. 6:53-58)	Holy Communion is given to the patient who is able to receive the Lord (even if only a fraction of the Host) and anytime (without one hour fasting when not possible). When no one is able to bring Holy Communion, then the nurse can offer to the patient a prayer called <i>An Act of Spiritual Communion</i> . When patient is unable to read, the nurse can recite it for him/her.	<p style="text-align: center;">An Act of Spiritual Communion</p> <i>My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.</i> Lord Jesus, you promised and said: "I Myself am the bread of life. No one who comes to Me shall ever be hungry. No one who believes in Me shall ever thirst." Come to heart. (See Jn. 6:35)
Sacrament of Penance or Confession Emergency Sacrament	Priest or Bishop in person only, as it includes the forgiveness of sins.	Jesus instituted the Sacrament of Penance (Confession) when He gave the apostles and their lawful successors the power to forgive. <i>Receive the Holy Spirit, whose sins you shall forgive are forgiven them ...</i> . (See Jn. 20:22-23).	Individual confession is offered to a patient who is able to converse privately with the priest. Brief Act of Contrition: <i>Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, have mercy on me, a sinner.</i>	The Priest prays: <i>God the Father of mercies through the death and resurrection of his Son has reconciled the world to himself and sent the Holy Spirit among us for the forgiveness of sins; through the ministry of the Church may God give you pardon and peace, and I absolve you from your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.</i>
General Absolution Emergency Sacrament Group Reconciliation	Priest or Bishop to a group of persons in imminent danger of death.	Collective absolution cannot be imparted except where there is an imminent danger of death, since there is not enough time to hear the confessions of individual penitents.	An emergency announcement can be made over the PA system: when death is imminent for a large number of people and not enough time to hear individual confessions.	Pope Francis on March 20, 2020, announced that during the pandemic, due to extreme contagion risk, the bishop or any priest may administer General Absolution in the case of grave need or at the point of death. (cf. <i>Ordo Paenitentiae</i> , n. 32).
Apostolic Pardon Remission of Sins and Release from Temporal Punishments 📞 Emergency Rite	Priest or Bishop within hearing (in person or by phone).	Through the <i>Apostolic Pardon Prayers</i> the priest grants in the name of God full pardon and remission of sins, as well as, release from temporal punishments due to sin in this and in the life to come. It is given when confession is not possible and death is imminent.	Patient does not have to be conscious or awake, and is dying.	The Priest prays: <i>By the authority which the Apostolic See has given me, I grant you a full pardon and the remission of all your sins in the name of the + Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. He may add:</i> <i>Through the holy mysteries of our redemption, may almighty God release you from all punishments in this life & in the life to come. May be open to you the gates of paradise and welcome you to everlasting joy. Amen.</i>
Special Prayer for the dying when Priest or Bishop is not available.	Nurse or Anyone (in person)	When priest is unavailable, a nurse may pray for the dying patient seeking his/her forgiveness of sins and release from punishment. While praying the nurse may use a Cross or Crucifix, or an image of The Divine Mercy, if available.	Patient does not have to be conscious or awake, and is dying. The nurse may recite the prayers in the next column, or when these are not available pray the <i>Our Father</i> .	The Nurse prays: <i>Merciful God, grant to the soul of your servant N., a kindly welcome, cleansing of sin, release from the chains of death, and entry into everlasting life, through Christ our Lord. Or simply:</i> <i>O God, be merciful to N., grant N. forgiveness of sins and lead N. to everlasting life. Amen.</i>
Baptism Emergency Sacrament	Priest, Deacon or anyone can baptize (in person).	Baptism removes original sin and all sins committed in one's life. It incorporates a person into the Body of Christ and His Church. It opens the gates to paradise and initiates one to receive other sacraments especially the Eucharist.	When patient or the family asks for baptism in situations of emergency: while pouring water the nurse says: <i>I baptize you, N. in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.</i>	Jesus asks: <i>Pray as much as you can for the dying. By your entreaties obtain for them trust in My mercy, because they have most need of trust, and have it the least. Be assured that the grace of eternal salvation for certain souls in their final moment depends on your prayer. (Diary, 1777)</i>