

The Holy Mystery of Chrismation

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11-15-14

SAT Prep

Baptism : Christ's Death and Resurrection ::

Chrismation : _____

Acts 2:1-4



When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. ² And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. ³ Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and *one* sat upon each of them. ⁴ And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Acts 10:44-48

- ⁴⁴ While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who heard the word. ⁴⁵ And those of the circumcision who believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles also. ⁴⁶ For they heard them speak with tongues and magnify God. Then Peter answered, ⁴⁷ “Can anyone forbid water, that these should not be baptized who have received the Holy Spirit just as *we have?*” ⁴⁸ And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then they asked him to stay a few days.



Epiphany



- Why was Christ baptized? Anointed with the Holy Spirit?
- What does it mean that Christ is “Anointed”?
- Let’s see what St. Athanasius says in “Against the Arians”

Your throne, O God, is forever and ever;
A scepter of righteousness is the scepter of Your kingdom.
You love righteousness and hate wickedness;
Therefore God, Your God, has anointed You
With the oil of gladness more than Your companions. (psalm
45:6,7)

- We are the “companions”... Christ is the first line – eternal
- He is anointed here not that He may become God, because He is God already
- Not that He may become King, because His Kingdom is eternal

- “but the Savior on the contrary, being God, and ever ruling in the Father's Kingdom, and being Himself He that supplies the Holy Ghost, nevertheless is here said to be anointed, that, as before, being said as man to be anointed with the Spirit, He might provide for us men, not only exaltation and resurrection, but the indwelling and intimacy of the Spirit.” (St. Athanasius)
- And for their sakes I **sanctify Myself**, that they also may be sanctified by the truth. (John 17:19)
- He is the Sanctifier... He sanctifies Himself... that we may be sanctified in truth

If then for our sake He sanctifies Himself, and does this when He has become man, it is very plain that the Spirit's descent on Him in Jordan was a descent upon us, because of His bearing our body. And it did not take place for promotion to the Word, but again for our sanctification, that we might share His anointing, and of us it might be said, 'Do you not know that you are God's Temple, and the Spirit of God dwells in you?' (1 Cor 3:16?) For when the Lord, as man, was washed in Jordan, it was we who were washed in Him and by Him. And when He received the Spirit, we it was who by Him were made recipients of It. And moreover for this reason, not as Aaron or David or the rest, was He anointed with oil, but in another way above all His fellows, 'with the oil of gladness', which He Himself interprets to be the Spirit, saying by the Prophet, 'The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because the Lord has anointed Me' (Isaiah 61:1);

as also the Apostle has said, 'How God anointed Him with the Holy Ghost' (Acts 10:38) When then were these things spoken of Him but when He came in the flesh and was baptized in the Jordan, and the Spirit descended on Him? And indeed the Lord Himself said, 'The Spirit shall take of Mine;' and 'I will send Him;' and to His disciples, 'Receive the Holy Ghost.' And notwithstanding, He who, as the Word and Radiance of the Father, gives to others, now is said to be sanctified, because now He has become man, and the Body that is sanctified is His. From Him then we have begun to receive the **unction** and the **seal**, John saying, 'And you have an unction from the Holy One;' and the Apostle, 'And you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise.' Therefore because of us and for us are these words.

For, when He is now said to be anointed in a human respect, we it is who in Him are anointed; since also when He is baptized, we it is who in Him are baptized. But on all these things the Savior throws much light, when He says to the Father, 'And the glory which You gave Me, I have given to them, that they may be one, even as We are one' (Jn 17:22). Because of us then He asked for glory and the words occur, 'took' and 'gave' and 'highly exalted', that we might take, and to us be given, and we might be exalted in Him; as also for us He sanctifies Himself, that we might be sanctified in Him.

Why are you Chrismated? (Confirmed)

- Vocabulary
 - Seal
 - Indwelling – we become a temple
 - Consecrated
 - Anointed

What do we receive in Chrismation ?

- The Holy Spirit dwells within us
- We become a temple of the Holy Spirit
- “... do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own?”
1 Corinthians 6:19
- Our own personal Pentecost



What do we receive in Chrismation ?

- The Seal of the Holy Spirit
- We belong to God
- “... Nevertheless the solid foundation of God stands, having this seal: The Lord knows those who are His”.
2 Timothy 2:19
- “Now He who establishes us with you in Christ and has anointed us is God, who also has sealed us and given us the Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee.
2 Cor 1 :21-22



What do we receive in Chrismation ?

- The Fruits and the Gifts of the Holy Spirit

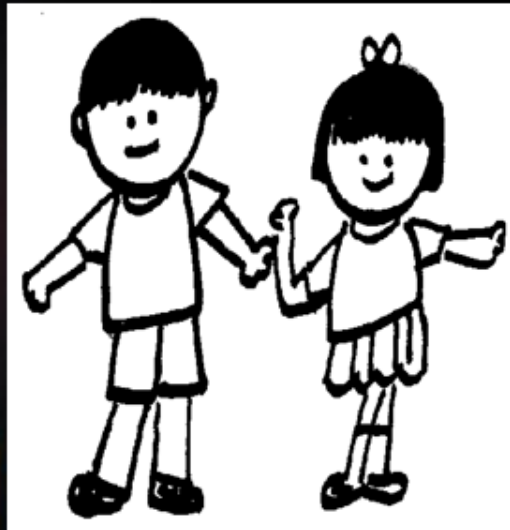


- “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.
1 Corinthians 6:19
- The Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon Him, The Spirit of wisdom and understanding, The Spirit of counsel and might, The Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord.
Isaiah 11:2-3



What do we receive in Chrismation ?

- Adoption
- We become children of God and heirs to the Kingdom of Heaven
- "...God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, *"Abba, Father."* So you are no longer a slave, but a son; and since you are a son, God has made you also an heir..." Galatians 4:6



Biblical References

Acts 8:14-17

¹⁴ Now when the apostles who were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, ¹⁵ who, when they had come down, prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit. ¹⁶ For as yet He had fallen upon none of them. They had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. ¹⁷ Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

Acts 19:1-6

And it happened, while Apollos was at Corinth, that Paul, having passed through the upper regions, came to Ephesus. And finding some disciples ² he said to them, “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?” So they said to him, “We have not so much as heard whether there is a Holy Spirit.” ³ And he said to them, “Into what then were you baptized?” So they said, “Into John’s baptism.” ⁴ Then Paul said, “John indeed baptized with a baptism of repentance, saying to the people that they should believe on Him who would come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus.” ⁵ When they heard *this*, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. ⁶ And when Paul had laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied.

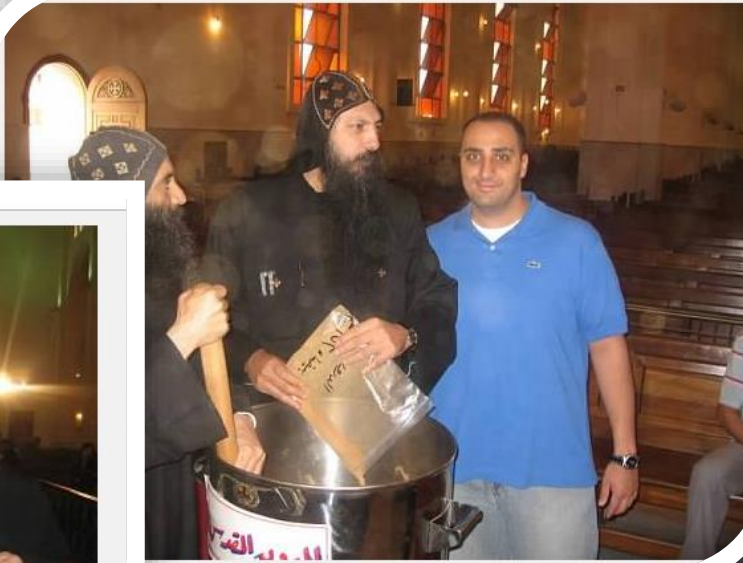
- The roots of this Sacrament are clear in both the Old and New Testaments. In his sermon on Pentecost, St. Peter quotes the famous words of Joel the Prophet; “I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh” (**Acts 2:17; Joel 2:28**). Other Old Testament prophets who speak of this same promise of the Spirit include Ezekiel (**Ezek 16:9; 36:26-27**).
- Moreover, our Lord Jesus Christ instituted this Holy Sacrament through His various promises for granting the Holy Spirit:
- “If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water. But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.” (Jn 7:37-38)

- “And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever –the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you.” (Jn 14:16-17)
- “But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.” (Jn 14:26)
- “Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart I will send Him to you.” (Jn 16:7)
- Most Important “And being assembled together with them, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, ‘which,’ He said, ‘you have heard from Me; for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.’” (Acts 1:4-5)

Holy Myron







Holy Myron



History of the Holy Myroon Oil



- Our Fathers the Apostles took the spices that were on our Lord's body in the tomb and the spices that the women had prepared (Luke 24:1), and mixed them in olive oil and blessed it.
- They decreed that this holy oil be used to anoint the newly baptized in order to receive the seal of the Holy Spirit.
- They also decided to replenish it when supplies were used up by adding to it, the spices and perfumes that God had ordered Moses the Prophet, in the Old Testament to use to anoint all the holy vessels of the tabernacle.

His Holiness Pope Shenouda with Patriarch Phillobos of
the Eritrean Orthodox Church and His Grace Bishop
Sarabamoun – Abbot of St. Bishoy's Monastery –
Adding spices





Mixing of the 30 Spices and Fragrances



Liturgy of the Chrism at St. Bishoy's Monastery

- HH Pope Shenouda sifting some spices

