

Sickness and death are part of human life. So it's necessary to know certain things that are important to our Catholic Faith and practices.

If a member of your family is in the hospital and you don't know where things are going to go from there, I would strongly recommend getting hold of your pastor and asking him to pay a visit.

Unless you let your pastor know of the sickness of the person you love, there is no way your pastor can know they are in the hospital. These days there are strict privacy rules observed by hospitals.

If the person is very ill, they will receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick and they will receive Communion if they are able to receive it.

If your loved one is seriously ill, don't wait for the worst to happen. Some people think that the Sacrament of the Anointing (which is notoriously known as "the Last Rites") can be received only when the person is about to die.

It is always recommended that the sick person receive the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick when they are fully conscious.

And it is a very beautiful thing for the people who are receiving it; they are receiving the Lord when they are probably afraid for their own life. We need to give the person the opportunity to pass away in peace, to know that they are in good relationship with the Lord.