



# STREAMS OF LIFE

CATECHETICAL TEXTBOOK SERIES OF THE SYRO - MALABAR CHURCH



## Lesson 11

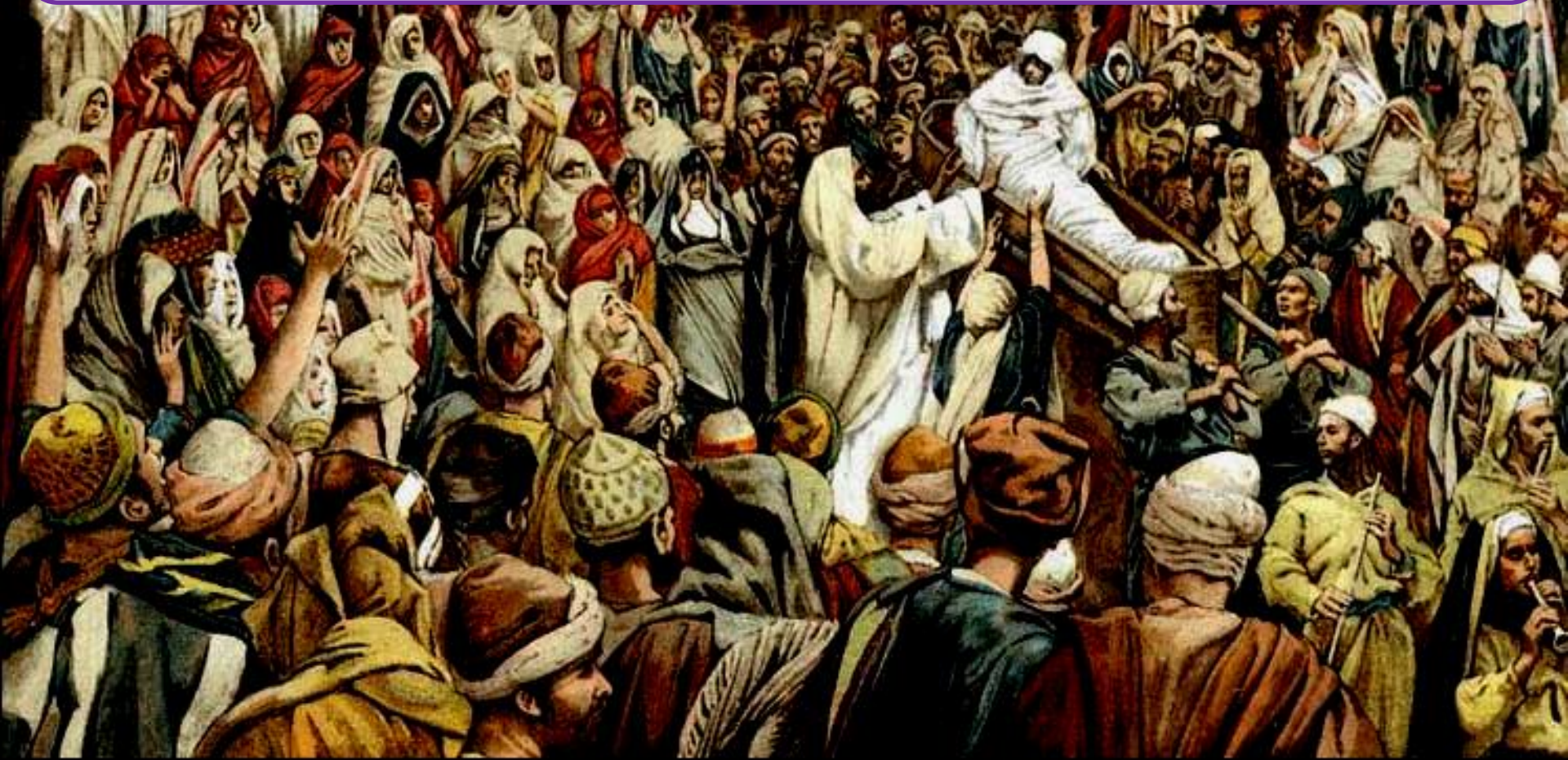
# The Anointing of The Sick

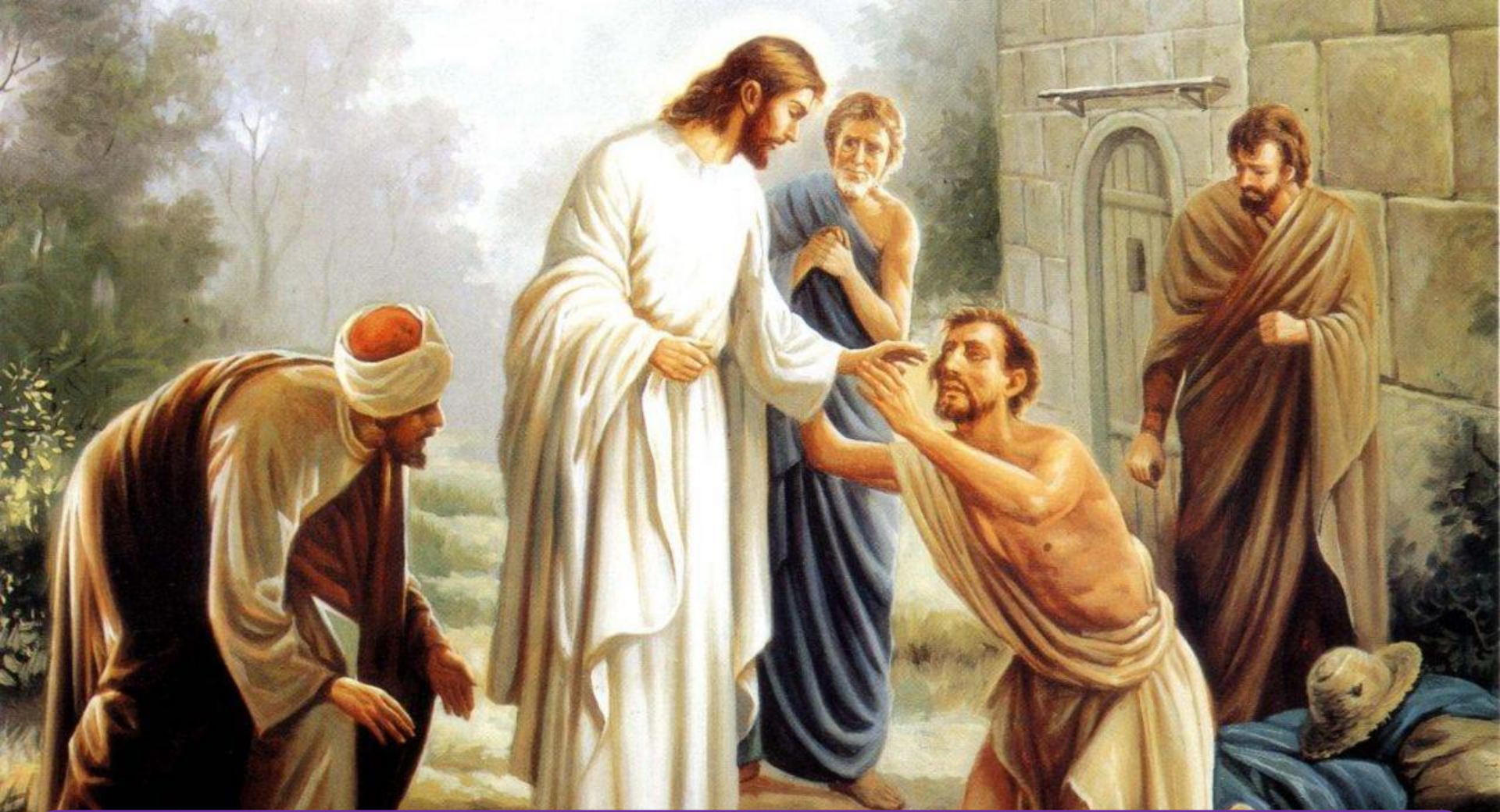




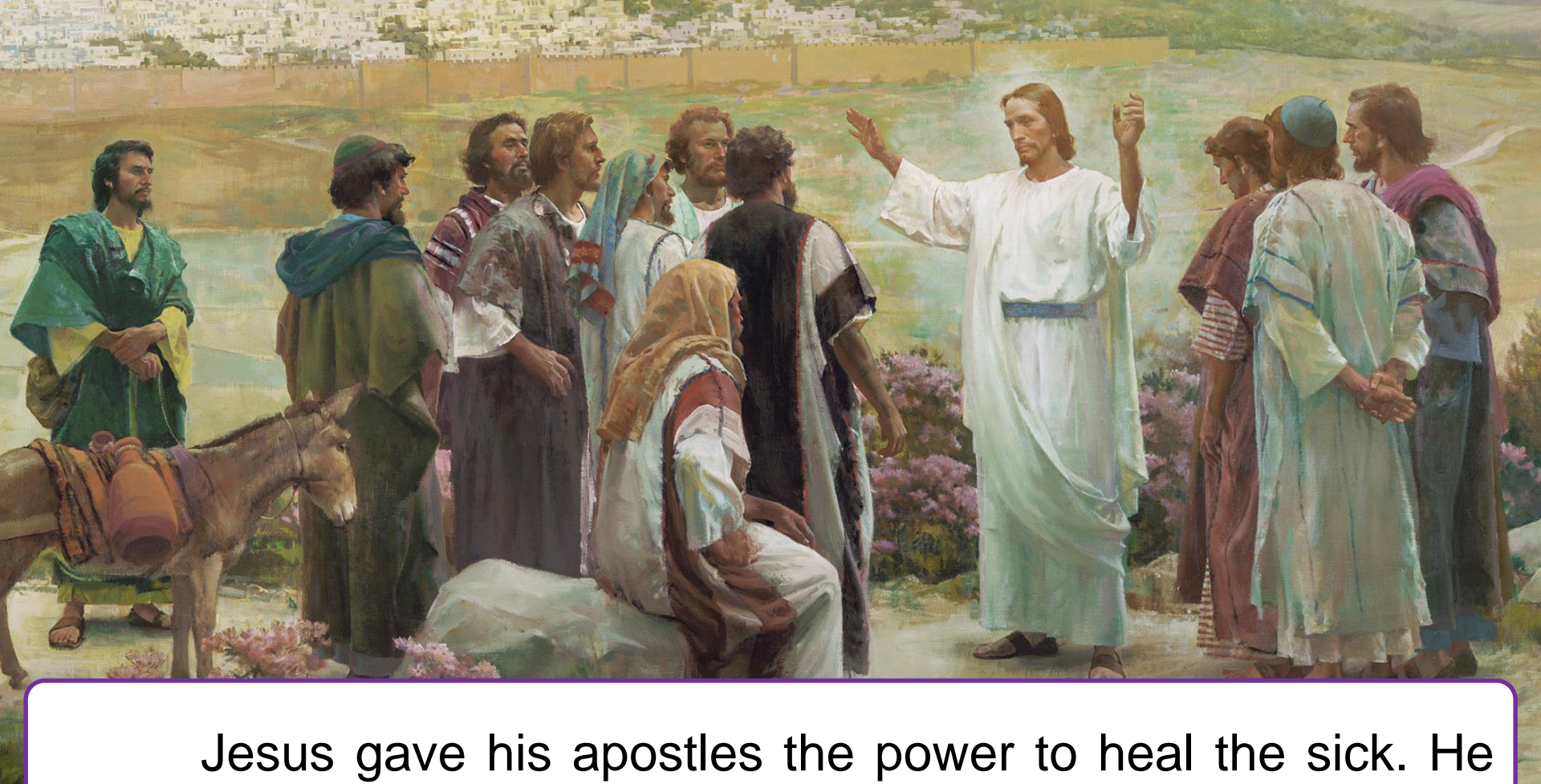
Once Jesus was preaching to the people in a house. Then some people carried a paralysed man on a cot and brought him to Jesus. They were not able to reach Jesus because of the thick crowd. Hence they got on to the top of the House, removed the roof above Him and took him down to Jesus. Seeing their faith, Jesus said to the paralysed man.

“ son, your sins are forgiven. Get up and return home with your cot”. Immediately the paralysed man took up his cot and went home while everyone was looking at him. Everybody was greatly taken up with it and praised the Lord, our God (Mark 2:1-12).

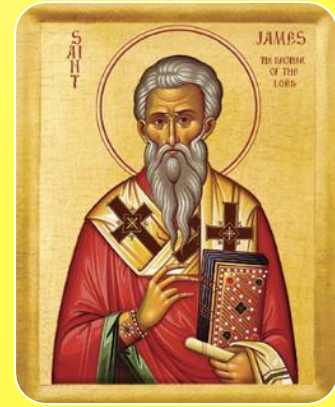




During his public life, Jesus healed many people. **He had the power to heal the sick.** The lepers, the deaf and the blind rushed to him to receive healing. Jesus touched and healed them. He also cast out many demons and set them free.



Jesus gave his apostles the power to heal the sick. He called the twelve apostles and gave them authority to cast out unclean spirits and to heal all sorts of sickness (Mathew 10:1). The apostles who went out according to the command of Jesus preached repentance to the people. They cast out many demons and anointed the sick and healed them (Mark 6:12-13).



The apostles who received the mission to heal the sick continued the **anointing** of the sick and praying for them. St. James, in his epistle, says: **“If one you is ill, he should send for the elders of the church and they must anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord and pray over him. The prayer of faith will save the sick man and the Lord will raise him up again; If he has committed and sin, he will be forgiven (James 5:14-16).** This is the earliest form of the anointing of the sick. The sacrament of Anointing the sick is administered by the power that Jesus gave to the Church through the apostles.

Anointing of the sick is the sacrament that gives us the health in body and soul through the forgiveness of sins and healing of sickness.



Like Jesus who said 'it is not the healthy but the sick who needs a doctor, the Church is always compassionate towards the sick. She prays and works for the sick.





When the sacrament of Anointing of the sick is administered, the Church prays over the sick for the sanctification of body and soul, forgiveness of sins and healing of sickness and anoints the person with holy oil.

The celebrant anoints the forehead, eyes, ears, lips, hands and legs of the sick with holy oil and prays for him invoking God's mercy. Along with this, he also prays that the patient may be strengthened to accept the sickness and its sufferings in union with the passion of Jesus Christ. Thus, this sacrament of Anointing of the sick gives the patient the power to accept and suffer the sickness and its pain and get healed, if it is God's will.



It is part of our Christian mission to visit the sick, console them, pray for them and nurse them. When we visit the sick, we must definitely pray for them. Our visit, love, concern, service and prayers will surely console and strengthen them. When we are sick we also must pray to Jesus, the Healer.

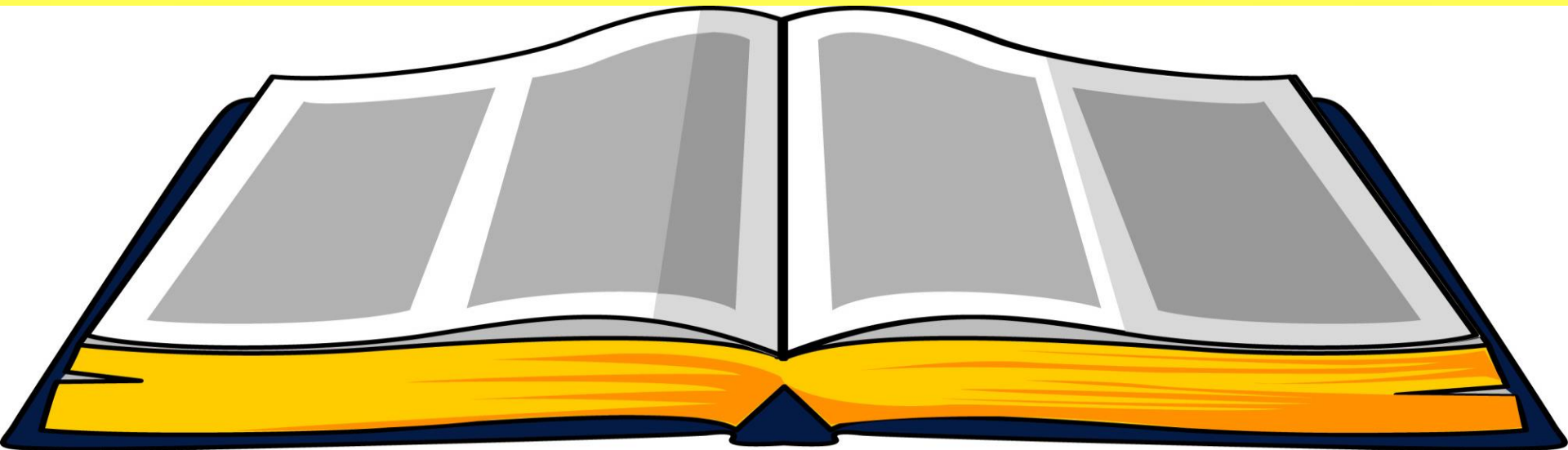



Let us pray

Jesus. The mighty healer, bless us to be merciful to the sick and the suffering and pray for them.

## A Word of God to remember

“ Looking at their faith, Jesus said to the Paralyse man: ‘son, your sins are forgiven’  
(Mark 2:5).





Let us read the  
Word of God with devotion

(Mark 2: 1-12)



## My decision

I will nurse the sick and the old with concern  
And pray for them.



## Activity

Read the biographies of Fr. Damian,  
Mother Theresa etc. who nursed with love the sick  
And the orphans.



# Let us find out the answers

1. Whom did Jesus heal in His public life?
2. What is the teaching that the apostle St. James gives on the Sacrament of the Anointing of the sick?
3. What is the sacrament of the Anointing of the sick?
4. What are the blessings we pray for in the Sacrament of Anointing of the sick?
5. What is the Christian mission towards the sick?





**Thank you**