

TWELVE KEYS TO THE ANOINTING

by

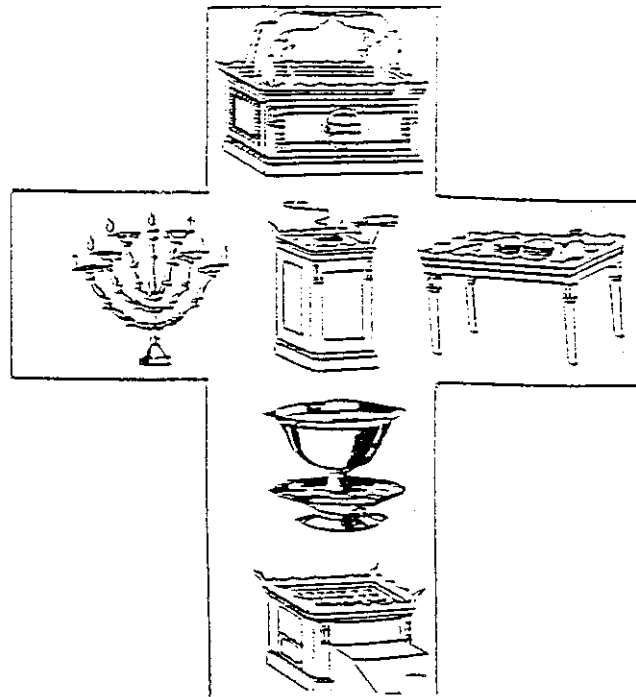
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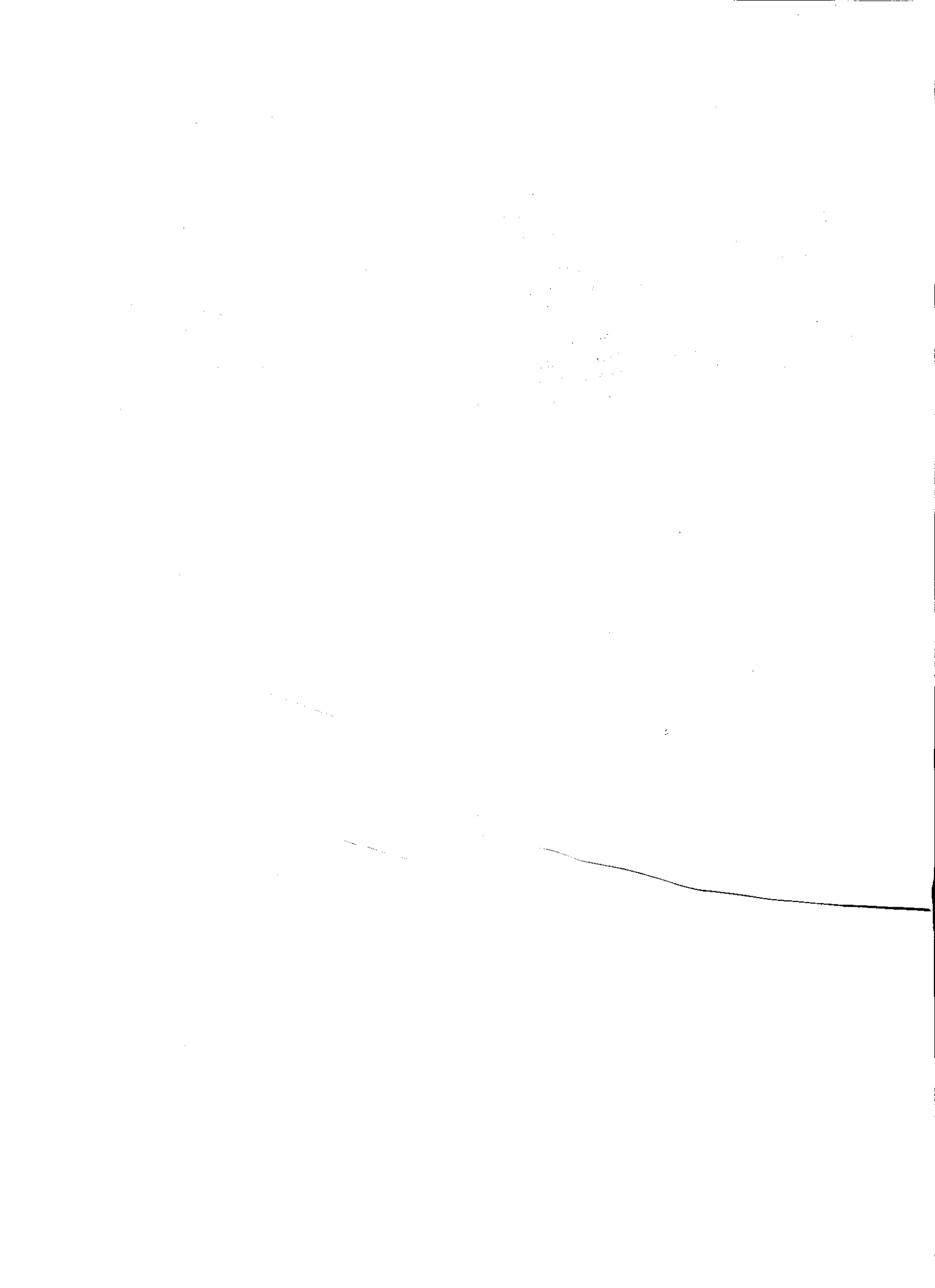
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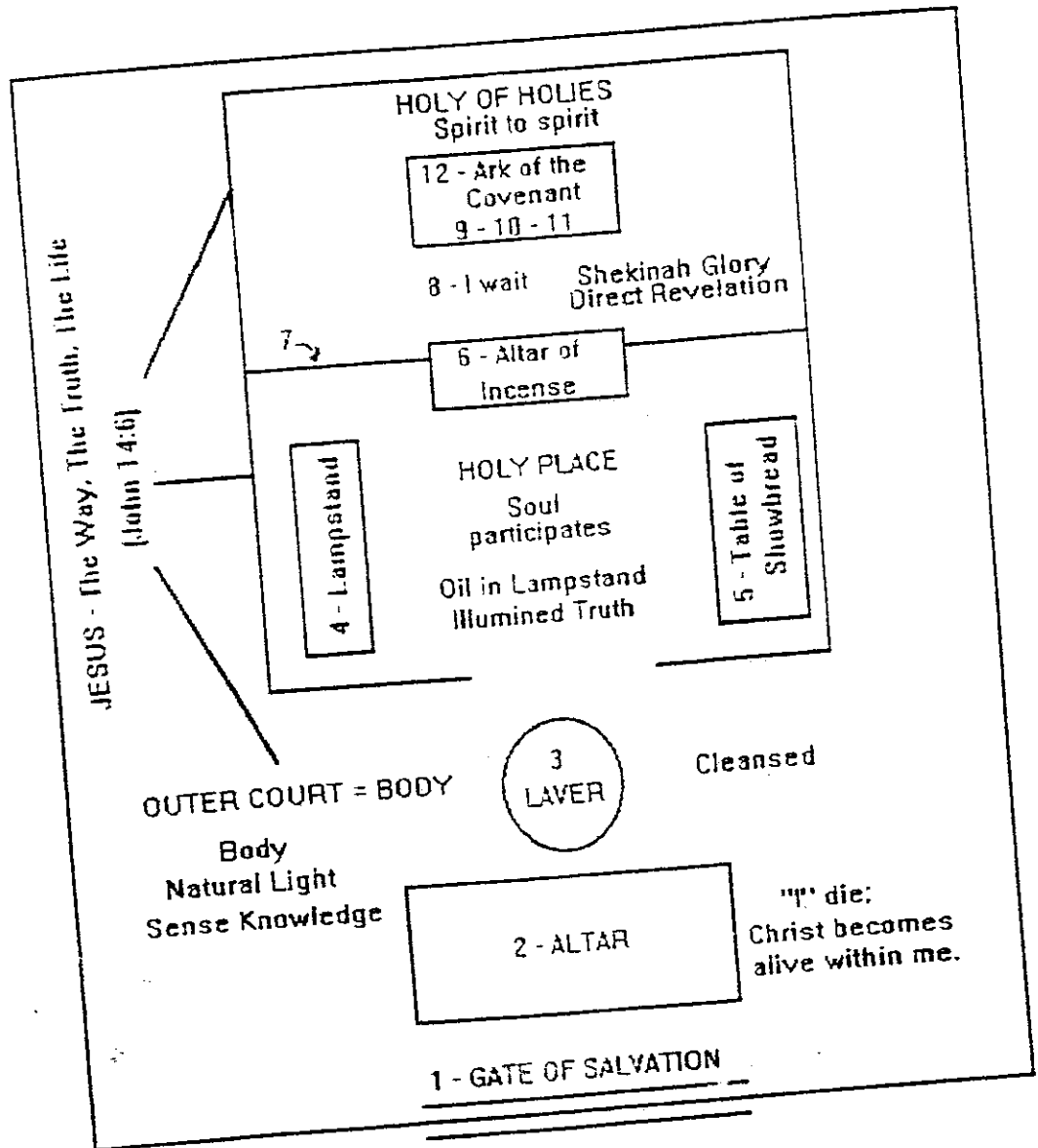


Twelve Keys to Receiving the Anointing

— Fr. Bill McCarthy

The Tabernacle Experience
 — God's Design for Approaching Him

12. Mary
- our Mother
11. God's supply
10. Expect miracles
9. Silence and awe
8. Flow with the Covenant
7. The Cross
6. Praise
5. Eucharist
4. Revelation knowledge
3. Forgiveness
2. Total Consecration
1. Know Jesus



Twelve Keys to Receiving the Anointing

There are a few persons today with a real anointing on their lives. Fr. Ralph DiOrto for one. Fr. Michael Scanlon, Sr. Briege McKenna, Mother Theresa to mention a few.

The Holy Spirit is free to work in them and through them in a special way. Through them God speaks, loves, heals and serves with a real simplicity and power. People sense the presence of Christ in their midst.

Kathryn Kohiman was being escorted through a kitchen in a hotel to an elevator. The cooks who had no idea of who she was or what had yet taken place at a charismatic service were all "slain" in the Spirit. One minute there they were with white hats and aprons preparing a meal, the next minute on the floor. What happened? The anointing passes, that's what. The presence of God so strong in a person that passed by that they were overcome in the Spirit.

The anointing is meant for everyone. In fact, it is a sign of God's judgment on a person's life not to receive it.

We are to walk in the anointing

- we are to think with anointed thoughts
- to love with anointed love
- to act with anointed power.

Toy see, God has revealed Himself in two great dispensations. Under the Old Covenant God worked primarily from without.

through the covenant

through the law

through the patriarchs

through the prophets

through the king.

He worked outward, downward and inward. But under the New Covenant, he has placed His own Spirit within and He works primarily inward, upward and outward. The release of Spirit within is most vital for the Christian life. It is described eloquently by St. Paul in Romans 7 and 8. In Romans 7 Paul is living under the law (which he mentions fourteen times) by force of the "self." In Romans 8, he is living by the "Spirit" which he mentions sixteen times.

Since this anointing is so important in the life of any Christian, the question might be asked, "How does one receive this anointing?" This is a crucial question. To answer this most important of questions, I want to take you back to the Tabernacle that Moses built at God's command and give you twelve important practical personal keys to receiving God's anointing. If you follow these and practice these, they will radically change your life.

Remember now that this is God's essential plan for bringing men and women all the way unto Himself. It has never changed. Nineteen times in the building of the Tabernacle, the Scriptures relate "Moses did as the Lord commanded him." Then it says something most extraordinary, that the "glory of the Lord filled the Tabernacle." Ex 40:3-4 Wow! The Shekinah presence was so strong that you literally could see it, as a "cloud" by day and a "fire" by night.

Just as the glory of the Lord filled Moses so that his face was "aglow" so now it was here for all the people. Jesus is the fulfillment of all of this. He is the manifest glory of God on earth for you and me. This pattern is still the same. You can see its outworking in the teachings of Jesus, in the sacramental system and in the lives of the saints. The essentials are always the same.

So let us look closely at the significance of the Tabernacle. There are twelve keys and all relate to Jesus.

The Door - Jesus

First of all there was an outer court with one door that the Israelites called "The Way." This symbolizes Christ The Way (Jn 14:6) and the door (Jn 10:9) The first key to the anointing is Jesus. So the first key is

Come to know Jesus, The Way

Learn His personality, His gospel, His character.

If you want to know the Father, Jesus tells us see Me. "He who sees Me, sees the Father." Jn 14:9 The first key means spending time each day

learning Jesus

looking at Jesus

seeing Jesus

knowing Jesus.

You can see Him on the cross.

Meditate on the cross.

You can see Him in the Gospels.

Read and meditate on them

You can see His character in the Beatitudes.

Let them soak into you.

Absolute Surrender & Consecration - The Brazen Altar

The second key is symbolized by the Brazen Altar, which means "total consecration to Jesus." Jesus wants our hearts, our surrendered lives. He wants to be Lord of us.

St. Paul urges us in Rom 12: "Present yourselves as a living sacrifice, this is your acceptable worship." As the high priest offered a lamb, as Abraham offered his son, so offer yourselves to God. Commit yourselves to the Lord. Only a surrendered life can be an anointed life.

Fervently say this prayer daily:

Dear Lord Jesus, I need you. I cannot live the Christian life by myself. When I try to do that, my struggle ends in failure and defeat. I need You to take over my life and live Your life through me. I believe that You died on the cross for my sins, and You rose from the dead to bring me new life. I am sorry for all my sins. Please forgive me. I forgive anyone who has ever offended me. I open the door of my life and receive You

as my Savior and Lord. I turn over my whole life, every detail of my life to You. Take control of my life. Help me to be the kind of person You want me to be. Thank You for forgiving my sins and giving me eternal life. Please send Your Holy Spirit upon me to fill me with love for the Father and for You and to guide and direct me in everything I do and say. I ask this in Your name, Jesus Christ my Lord.

Amen.

The Blood Equals Forgiveness - The Laver

The third key is symbolized in the laver. It stands for forgiveness by the Blood of the Lamb that was slain. Jesus died for the forgiveness of our sins so that we might be forgiven and we might forgive others.

There is no anointing without the forgiveness of sins. We must confess our sins and forgive all who have hurt us in any way. For Catholic Christians this means frequent (monthly) reception of the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Revelation Knowledge - The Golden Lampstand

The fourth key is symbolized in the golden lampstand which stands to the left as one enters through the veil known as The Truth and enters into the Holy Place.

Unless God enlightens our minds with inspired truth we cannot receive the anointing. We cannot do God's will, unless we know what it is. We cannot know what it is, unless He reveals it. He cannot reveal it unless we listen.

St. Paul prays "May the eyes of your understanding be enlightened." Eph 1:17 We need to learn how to listen to God's voice. God's voice usually sounds like the flow of spontaneous thoughts that flow from deep within. They are inspirations. God's normal channel of communication, therefore, is our minds. Our minds are the receivers of inspired wisdom

understanding

knowledge

counsel

prophecy

and discernment.

We need everyday to spend time listening to the Father so that we, like Jesus,

can do only what the Father tells us (cf. Jn. 5:30).

Listening prayer is a powerful key to an anointed life.

The Eucharist - Table of Shewbread

The faith key to the anointing is symbolized in the Table of Shewbread. The Table of Shewbread today is the altar and the Eucharist. Jesus says (Jn 6:53-54)

"unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man
and drink His Blood you have no life in you
But, he who feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me and I in
them."

When we consume the Eucharist, we become
bone of His Bone
flesh of His Flesh
humility of His Humility
holiness of His Holiness
joy of His Joy
peace of His Peace.

We are transformed "from glory into glory into Him" whom we consume. True devotion to the Eucharistic Christ enhances the anointing.

From a work by Saint Thomas Aquinas, priest

O precious and wonderful banquet!

Since it was the will of God's only-begotten Son that men should share in his divinity, he assumed our nature in order that by becoming man he might make men gods. Moreover, when he took our flesh he dedicated the whole of its substance to our salvation. He offered his body to God the Father on the altar of the cross as a sacrifice for our reconciliation. He shed his blood for our ransom and purification, so that we might be redeemed from our wretched state of bondage and cleansed from all sin. But to ensure that the memory of so great a gift would abide with us for ever, he left his body as food and his blood as drink for the faithful to consume in the form of bread and wine.

O precious and wonderful banquet, that brings us salvation and contains all sweetness! Could anything be of more intrinsic value? Under the old law it was the flesh of calves and goats that was offered, but here Christ himself, the true God, is set before us as our food. What could be more wonderful than this? No other sacrament has greater healing power, through it sins are purged away, virtues are increased, and the soul is enriched with an abundance of every spiritual gift. It is offered in the Church for the living and the dead, so that what was instituted for the salvation of all may be for the benefit of all. Yet, in the end, no one can fully express the sweetness of this sacrament, in which spiritual delight is tasted at its very source, and in which we renew the memory of that surpassing love for us which Christ revealed in his passion.

It was to impress the vastness of this love more firmly upon the hearts of the faithful that our Lord instituted this sacrament at the Last Supper. As he was on the point of leaving the world to go to the Father, after celebrating the Passover with his disciples, he left it as a perpetual memorial of his passion. It was the fulfillment of

ancient figures and the greatest of all his miracles, while for those who were to experience the sorrow of his departure, it was destined to be a unique and abiding consolation.

Praise and Worship

The sixth key to the anointing is symbolized in the daily incense altar. The rising incense is the symbol of praise and worship. When we "forget about ourselves and concentrate on Him and worship Him," we begin to flow out of God. For all life, all holiness comes from the Father

through the Son

by the working of the Holy Spirit.

The anointing comes "from above" so concentrate on the "above"
worship the Source
praise the Father.

The first thing that Jesus taught us in prayer was to pray "Our Father hallowed be thy name." When we concentrate on God and praise Him, the Spirit is free to do what God wants. Praise and worship

can free us

can heal us

can inspire us

can fill us

can anoint us.

The Lord inhabits the praises of His people.

The Veil - The Cross

The seventh key to the anointing is symbolized in the veil before the Holy of Holies.

The veil stands for the broken body of the Lord on His cross (cf. Heb 10:19) "Now since our sins have been forever forgiven and forgotten there is no need to offer more sacrifices to get rid of them. And so, dear brothers and sisters, now we may walk right into the very Holy of Holies where God is because of the blood of Jesus. This is the fresh, new life giving way which Christ has opened up for us by tearing the veil - his human body - to let us into the holy presence of God.

And since the great High Priest of our rules over God's household, let us go right in to God Himself with true hearts fully trusting him to receive us because we have been sprinkled with Christ's blood to make us clean and because our bodies have been washed with pure water.

Now we can look forward to the healing and salvation God has promised us. There is no longer any room for doubt and we can tell others that healing and salvation is ours, for there is no question that He will do what He says," "From His Holy Place, God has made this promise." (PS 60:5)

Through the blood of the cross, we come boldly into the Holy of Holies. We have to accept the cross

walk in the power of a disarmed life.
Paul prays "that mind set be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, Our Lord. He did not see Divinity Itself something to be clung to, but He emptied Himself took the form of a servant was born in humble human estate became obedient

even to the death on the cross."
We have to embrace Christ's strategy of living a disarmed life loving our enemies doing good to those who persecute us. Forgiving them and yes lying down our lives in some way for them.

The cross is intimately linked with the anointing. If you want the Spirit, then die to self. If you want the anointing, embrace your crosses.

The Ark of the Covenant

The eighth key to the anointing is living in the Covenant, the outflowing of God. God is covenanted to be our Father -
to love us

to grace us

to feed us

to reveal to us

to forgive us

to call us

to free us.

"I will be your God and you will be my people." I am God as your Father the Source of life, sustenance, healing, miracles. Live out of Him. Let go

Let go of worry and fear, put your faith in Him.

Let go of depression and failure. Put your faith in Him.

Let go of insecurity and rejections. let Him love you.

Yes, let God love you. Listen as He says in the depths of your heart, I love you. Your my beloved son or daughter. You are special. You are graced. I love you. Then love Him in return. Tell Him you love Him.

He's your Abba, your daddy. Love Him. Enjoy the intimacy of this flow of love; His love into you, your love into Him. This is a powerful key - the flow of intimate, covenanted love.

Silence and Awe - The Holy of Holies

The ninth key is the awe and silence of standing on Holy Ground in the quiet presence of God. Just be still and know that I am God. Let the silence of His presence go deeper and deeper into your spirit. Let your whole being grow still. Be still. This is Holy Ground. Be quiet. All is well. Be silent in His presence. Say nothing. Just be.

Let Him Be. He is the "I am." Just be quiet in the presence of His accepted tenderness and grace. Let go of everything. Be in the ocean of His love.

Silence and awe are powerful keys to the anointing. Five, ten, fifteen minutes of absolute silence in His presence will always fill you.

Expect the Miraculous - Aaron's Rod

The tenth key to the anointing is symbolized in Aaron's rod that miraculously budded. As we praise God, and sit in silent awe, then we expect the supernatural flow of God's wisdom, love and power.

Expect supernatural wisdom

expect supernatural love

expect supernatural power.

Expect the miraculous. God is a mighty God, who wants to give us "infinitely more than any thing we can dare or hope for." If we can be brought into

total faith-filled

total hope-filled

total love-filled

dependency on our supernatural and miraculous God, then

we can literally expect miracles

and healings in our lives

spiritual miracles and healings

emotional miracles and healings

and, yes, physical miracles and healings.

The Pot of Manna - God's Daily Supply

The eleventh key is symbolized by the pot of manna. It stands for God's daily supply. There is a river of blessings, graces and gifts flowing out of God. We have to jump into that river and live under the Glory Spout of God's gracious love. He will supply all of our needs. He will supply

healing when healing is needed

wisdom when wisdom is needed

counsel when counsel is needed

hope when hope is needed

bread when bread is needed

just at the right time. God's supply is overflowing and His timing is perfect. We can walk in daily supply by faith, love and hope.

Ark of the Covenant - Mary

The twelfth key to the anointing is our devotion to Mary, our Mother, symbolized by the Ark of the Covenant. The Ark of the Covenant is the container of the tablets of the covenant past as Mary is the container of Jesus, the New Covenant of Love and

Grace. Mary is the new ark leading the Church in these end times into the fullness of the kingdom. Just as Joshua would only go into battle behind the Ark, so now John Paul II will battle Satan and evil behind Mary to whom the Lord dedicated his pontificate, the whole Church and the world (Totus Tuus).

The Ark is mentioned the second to the last time in Scripture in II Maccabees 2:4-8 where it reads:

"Further, this document records that, prompted by a divine message, the prophet gave orders that the Tent of Meeting and the ark should go with him. Then he went away to the mountain from the top of which Moses saw God's promised land. When he reached the mountain, Jeremiah found a cave-dwelling; he carried the tent, the ark, and the incense-altar into it, then he blocked up the entrance. Some of his companions came to mark out the way, but they were unable to find it. When Jeremiah learnt of this he reprimanded them. 'The place shall remain unknown,' he said, 'until God finally gathers his people together and shows mercy to them. Then the Lord will bring these things to light again, and the glory of the Lord will appear with the cloud, as it was seen both in the time of Moses and when Solomon prayed that the shrine might be worthily consecrated.'

The last time the Ark is mentioned in Scripture is in Revelation 11:19 where John on the Isle of Patmos in mystic ecstasy looks up and sees the Ark which has been missing for five hundred years in the heavens. He writes

"And the temple of God which is in heaven was opened; and the ark of His covenant appeared in His temple, and there were flashes of lightning and sounds and peals of thunder and an earthquake and a great hailstorm."

Then he looks again and sees what it is

"And a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars; and she was with child; and she cried out, being in labor and pain to give birth."

Then Satan appears

"And another sign appeared in the heaven: and behold, a great red dragon having seven heads and ten horns, and on his heads were seven diadems. And his tail swept away a third of the stars of heaven, and threw them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was about to give birth, so that when she gave birth he might devour her child."

But God rescues both.

"And she gave birth to a son, a male child, who is to rule all the nations with a rod of iron; and her child was caught up to God and to His throne. And the woman fled into

the wilderness where she had a place prepared by God, so that she might be nourished for one thousand two hundred and sixty days."

So Satan turns on the rest of her children, that's us, who keep the commandments of God and bear witness to Him.

"And the dragon was enraged with the woman, and went off to make war with the rest of her offspring, who keep the commandments of God and hold to the testimony of Jesus."

Yes, Mary is the new ark. Devotion to her is so important, especially since she is returning so often to earth in these days with countless appearances all over the world urging her children to "Do whatsoever (Jesus) tells you." She is asking us to live her messages

of Peace, Purity and Prayer
Eucharist, Confession, Fasting
Love, Forgiveness and Zeal.

As St. Louis de Montfort stated

*"We can approach the mystery of Mary only by the grace of
God made a world for the traveler, our own;
He made one for the blessed, heaven;
and He made one for Himself, which He called Mary."*

Can we do less.

The People - Evangelize

The last key to the anointing is symbolized by the people surrounding the Tabernacle.
God wants us to go out to them

to share His love
to share His wisdom
to share His holiness.

We are to be

His eyes
His hands
His heart
His feet
His lips.

We are to continue across our time and space the
redemptive
healing

evangelizing
work of Jesus.

If you daily follow these keys the anointing will be upon your life.

SUMMARY OF THE TWELVE KEYS

1. Know and love the personality, the virtues and Spirit of Jesus wherever you seek Him.
Love His humility, His purity of heart, His great love, His compassion, His tenderness, His gentleness, His meekness, His forgiveness, His union with the Father.
Seek Him in Scriptures (He's on every page), especially in the Gospels and, most especially, in the Sermon on the Mount.
He's the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords, but also the Good Shepherd in search of His sheep, who call them each by name.
He's the Mighty God, the refulgence of the Father's glory, but also the Lamb of God who lays down His life for His little ones - the broken and the sinful.
He's the Alpha and Omega, but also the Jesus who loves little children and asks us to become like them.
He's the Bright Morning Star, the Lord of Creation, but also the gentle compassion of the Father healing us of the shadows of the moment.
He's God's great gift to us, but also the one who gives His life in ransom for many.
He is everything holy who washes away everything unholy.
We see Him in the flowers and the morning sun and evening rain.
We see Him in the old people and in the straying sinners.
We see Him in little children and young couples.
He is everywhere to those with the eyes of faith to see Him.
2. Consecrate your life to Him each morning. Each morning say the Morning Offering or a prayer like the following

DEAR LORD JESUS, I NEED YOU!

Dear Lord Jesus, I need you. I cannot live the Christian life by myself. When I try to do that, my struggle ends in failure and defeat. I need you to take over my life and live your life through me. I am deeply and heartily sorry for all my sins of thought, word, action or omission. I do now receive your forgiveness. I forgive all those who have hurt me or harmed me in any way. Take all that I am and all that I have - my time, talent and treasure; my past, my present, my future; my family, my friends, my foes; my doubts, my insecurities, my fears. I place them all in your loving heart. Now fill me with your spirit. Fill my mind with your wisdom; fill my heart with your love; fill my life with your power. AMEN.

3. Whenever you sin, immediately repent and ask His forgiveness.
Whenever someone hurts you, immediately forgive.
Each evening say the Act of Contrition and every month go to Confession.
Try to get a regular Confessor who gets to know you and your struggles.

4. Make your priority two hours of daily prayer
 - a time of praise
 - a time of listening
 - a time for discernment
 - a time of intercession
 - a time of silence

5. Love the Eucharist. Love the Mass. Try to receive the Body and Blood of Christ daily. Spend quiet time in Eucharistic adoration. At each Mass just before Communion ask Jesus to put into your mind the area of your life He wishes to heal and as you receive Him, receive Him with the faith of the woman who said, "If I but touch Him, I shall be healed."

6. Make Praise a way of life. Praise God whenever you are mindful. Praise Him for working out everything for His glory and your good.

7. Accept the cross as a strategy for living a non-violent and disarmed life. Accept all your crosses as a means of purification.

8. Learn to be silent and still. "Be still" before the Lord and listen to the still voice within.

9. Realize God is creating a consecrated people. Live in right relationships (open, loving, forgiving and pure with everyone). Love with the warmth and affection of Jesus.

10. Expect the miraculous flow of God's graces.

11. Realize that in the "moment" you have all the specific graces you need
 - for counseling
 - for healing
 - for patience
 - for purity
 - for holiness
 - for prophecy

12. Love Mary, imitate her. Be devoted to her. Listen to her. Evangelize. Be good news to others. Go out to the least, the lost and the last. Reach out.