

# **Abstract**

## **Anointing with the oil as a sacramental – new possibilities?**

The use of oil as a sacramental is present in the whole history of the Church. In this thesis we deal first with the nature of sacramentals and with the concept of blessing in the antiquity and in the biblical period. We also consider the sacramental use of oil in the history of liturgical worship. Then we examine recent ways of using the oil as a sacramental according to liturgical books – i.e. we study different ways of application of the oil of the catechumens, of the chrism oil, of the blessed oil intended as a meal and of the blessed oil (“myron”) used for anointing in the Eastern Church. Present ways of the sacramental use of oil that are not directly presupposed in the liturgical books are further investigated. These include: anointing of the assembly during a youth meeting, during retreats and Pentecost vigils. The question of the “exorcised oil” is also briefly considered. Finally, several proposals are presented for the inclusion of anointing into the liturgical worship of the Church.

## **Keywords**

Anointing, oil, blessing, sacramental.