

**THE SACRAMENTS:
A DOGMATIC
TREATISE, VOL. IV**

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The sacraments: a dogmatic treatise, Vol. IV by Joseph Pohle & Arthur Preuss

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THE SACRAMENTS

A DOGMATIC TREATISE

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PART I

EXTREME UNCTION

INTRODUCTION

Extreme Unction, says the Tridentine Council, was regarded by the Fathers as the completion of Penance and of the whole Christian life.¹

Outwardly the intimate relation existing between the two Sacraments of Extreme Unction and Penance is evidenced by the fact that the same Council deals with Extreme Unction in connection with Penance, as it deals with Confirmation in connection with Baptism.²

Aside from the decrees of Trent, the dogmatic teaching of the Church on Extreme Unction is stated most fully in the famous *Decretum pro Armenis*, issued by Pope Eugene IV, in 1439.

The name *Extrema Unctio* became a technical term in the West towards the end of the twelfth century. The adjective "Extreme" does not mean that the anointment given in this Sacrament

¹ *Conc. Trid., Sess. XIV, De vitæ consummationem existimatum Extr. Unct.: "Sacramentum extremæ unctionis non modo paenitentiae, sed et totius christianæ*

vitæ consummationem existimatum est a Patribus."

² *Conc. Trid., Sess. VII.*