



Week 1 & 2 | Can Catholics Use Homeopathy?

CLASS DISCUSSION

Question:

"I remember seeing a reply to a letter originally sent to St. Pope John Paul the Great. I believe it was a different priest that sent the reply. It was clarification to Vatican document Jesus Christ, The Bearer of Life. A Christian reflection on "New Age". In the original document, homeopathy is addressed as New Age and "energy healing". I had a holy Catholic person who is involved in deliverance ministry challenge me on continuing to practice homeopathy with this Vatican document. I was searching for the Church's clarification to provide that resource to them. I am attaching that document for reference"

https://www.vatican.va/roman_curia/pontifical_councils/interelg/documents/rc_pc_interelg_doc_20030203_new-age_en.html

Answers:

Deacon Rick: I think the defining line is the last one in the paragraph, "The source of healing is said to be within ourselves, something we reach when we are in touch with our inner energy or cosmic energy." Since we don't believe that the healing is from something within us, I don't see how the homeopathy practiced here has any relation to the type mentioned in the document. Additionally, this is not a Papal document. It was produced by the Pontifical Council for Culture and the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue. My opinion is that we should take the information contained in the document seriously, but without a direct statement from a Pope or the former Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, which would be more binding, I don't see any "thou shalt not engage in homeopathy" in the document. My opinion is that it all comes down to intent. If it is our love for our neighbor that motivates us to use homeopathy to try and help them, I don't see the harm. I've read other posts where the people were concerned about the source of the products for the remedies, and I think that's a valid concern.

Mick: Talitha, my understanding is that yes, having a priest bless the remedies would take care of this issue. My understanding is also that the best way to have this done is to ask the priest to say the prayers from the *Rituale Romanum* (a book of the official prayers of the Catholic Church) rather than to extemporize or ad lib the prayers; and also that the prayers are most effective when said in Latin. I'd love to hear what Dcn. Rick, Beckita/Fr. Wang, and Dcn. Ron (Jacquie, could you please ask him?) have to say about this topic. Also a question for the four of them: May a deacon also bless and exorcise items by using the Latin prayers in the *Rituale Romanum*?

Beckita: Mick, Fr. Wang simply casts out any demons that may have attached to the remedies by someone else's curse, incantation, etc over them. He then blesses the remedies, including the people who use them, that the remedies fulfill their healing purpose.

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Any demonic attachment has to go when we give the command in Jesus' Name and He gave that commission to every disciple. Stella Davis is a prime example. She is a lay woman with an extensive deliverance ministry who is consulted by exorcists from all over the world when they encounter challenges in their ministry.

Another important distinction in this realm is knowing that there are those who use homeopathy who have been delivered of demons, but homeopathy use was not the portal the enemy used to gain entrance for attachment.

Additionally, there are priest willingly blessing homeopathic kits for parishioners setting them apart for God's wishing to have their efforts to help their families and their neighbors - widely used pharmaceuticals/over the counter products don't come from 'holy' sources.

Others:

Beckita: That there is no official Church clarification is significant. If homeopathy was a portal to the enemy, there would be clarification. I'm involved in deliverance ministry as well. I also provide care for a holy, learned, wise priest who is aging and is also a canon lawyer who was retained by our bishop for consultation for over 50 years. This priest had read a story about a woman who used homeopathy remedies. The concern expressed was that she was delivered of some evil spirits... but on further investigation, the source of entry of those spirits was something else and she simply happened to also be using homeopathy remedies.

Charlotte: So right! We cannot expect an authoritative decision from the Vatican in every issue, because there are things outside the scope of the Vatican's authority. Much of the territory of our authority over home, health, child raising, and interaction with the culture is our training ground for freedom. In the resolution of the tensions presented, specifically, to us in our unique circumstances and with unique characteristics, we draw upon God's grace to find the next right step for us. Even if someone wonderful says "it's bad if the source of healing is inside you," that person is revealing such a depth of misunderstanding the body's homeostatic design that I think they show they are not qualified to direct you. Is it better to believe that healing comes from a pill than to believe a healthy state is restored by supporting God's design gently? Any one of us would say "The electricity comes from the outlet, or from the power plant," without forgetting that it wouldn't exist without the Creator! I love Charlie's and Mick's take on the question of homeopathy and on discernment without demonizing everything whose mechanism you don't understand. God bless you all for being devout and obedient Catholics while opening yourselves within limits to the good available in this and other healing modalities. You are helping to heal the world and the Church of a kind of blindness.

Jessica: I think the main point about homeopathy is that it's a science. Doctors/scientists make a hypothesis and then test it. If the symptoms resolve and the person is considered healed, then the remedy works. Only remedies that work remain in the repertory and the process continues. This is just like allopathic medicine (in theory), and therefore I don't think there is cause for concern for a Catholic.



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Remember. It is only recently that the scientific explanation is understood. Same goes for acupuncture. There is real demonstrable reasons for effect. Previous explanations that sounded new ages was due to lack of accurate vocabulary. (Rena)

Question:

The authors at <https://womenofgrace.com/blog/13002> highly discourage Catholics from using homeopathy. What should I think about their concerns?

Answer:

Mick Blunt: If homeopathy had its roots in the occult, I'd have nothing to do with it. The same for herbalism. But the truth of the matter is that neither herbalism nor homeopathy has its roots in the occult; and the people at Women of Grace are misinformed and, dare I say, ignorant in these matters. It is clear that they know next to nothing about homeopathy and absolutely nothing about Hahnemann. Had they done their homework, they would know that homeopathy is science-based, and that Hahnemann never dabbled in spiritism. I can confidently make this assertion because I just spent a year studying Hahnemann and the history of homeopathy in a formal educational setting (online). I hope this reassures you. If you'd like a more detailed explanation than I can give here, I wrote a blog article at Charlie's request a year or so ago. Here's the link; hope it helps: <https://assignofhope379.com/2021/09/30/about-homeopathy/>

Question:

Kate Birch is into some weird new age spiritualism, can we still use her book?

Answer:

Beckita: Someone wrote to me privately about concerns with this video and what it may mean for the book. After utilizing the book in the most recent study in Region 11, I know she didn't taint the book with the "spiritual" which she covers in the vid. Actually, we're all interacting with people - unbeknownst to us - who offer us services, products and care who may well be spiritually lost in this now predominantly pagan western civilization. Once we know a source is solid in presenting the principles of homeopathy, such as Kate Birch's book does, I say we stick with it and simply address the concerns as they arise. The person who wrote also shared a piece posted on a Medjugorje site which pointed to the magical parts of preparing the remedies. I was happy to correct the incorrect characterization of succussion and then shared Anne's video about the Catholic roots of homeopathy and Mick's article posted on ASOH. Both the video and the article brought great clarity. I also shared the experiences of tending to a priest's health with remedies.



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Natalie: I know a few people who are so worried about spirits that they won't go outside after dark without first using holy water along with those who won't buy an herb without knowing that it didn't come from a pagan source. I don't consider myself sloppy and I believe strongly in spiritual warfare but IMO our Church gives us Eucharist and Reconciliation as part of our armor? Forgive me if I say it wrong. I know that it's a relationship but God's love for us incorporated physical practices to help us humans understand His loving care for us. If I stay close to Him in those practices, that seals up a lot of cracks where the enemy might find a place to wedge. Keep the Light clear and clean and the eye can see. Let it get dirty or darkened and we stumble. I'm not powerful in my own ability to fight demons but God gives us so many weapons of our warfare! We must hide in Christ but don't let fear take our joy away or cause us to shrink back from the work we must do. Lord help us! Please correct me if I said this wrongly.

Kimberly: We must keep reminding each other gently that the evil one tries to steal or render pointless our health efforts mainly these days through the new agers magic talk. God's creation was made for our use. He loves us. If new agers are mesmerized by the healing "powers" of creation then I want to start praying that it is a starting point for their conversion to God. We can ignore or rebuke new age teaching yet keep the created goodnesses given to us by God.

Beckita: Right on target, Natalie!! Greater is He Who is in us than the enemy who is the author of fear and panic. And we can dwell on the enemy's work or we can dwell on the Kingdom of God which is in each of us and which contains the Light of Christ, our Redeemer Who precisely went through what we are now celebrating, honoring and praying through to overcome every darkness. God is a God of Life, not death!! Because of what we carry when in a state of grace, God in us can change atmospheres. -Beckita

Additional resources:

<https://asignofhope379.com/2021/09/30/about-homeopathy/>

<https://corac.co/2022/11/22/homeopathys-catholic-roots-virtual-class/>

<https://corac.co/2021/06/11/concerning-homeopathy/>

<https://corac.co/2021/10/01/about-homeopathy/>

<https://corac.co/2021/10/18/my-homeopathic-testimony/>

