

Reconciliation Parent/Adult Catechesis 2:1

Alternate Opening Prayer

Leader: Let us pray.

Make the Sign of the Cross.

Renewal of Baptismal Promises

Leader: In remembrance of our Baptism and God's wonderful mercy, let us begin by renewing our baptismal promises.

Leader: Do you reject sin so as to live in the freedom of God's children?

All: I do.

Leader: Do you reject Satan and all his works and empty promises?

All: I do.

Leader: Do you believe in God, the Father almighty; in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord; in the Holy Spirit and the holy Catholic Church?

All: I do.

Make the Sign of the Cross as the leader sprinkles the participants with holy water.

Scripture Reflection

Reader One:

A reading based on Romans 7:10–20.

I know that my selfish desires won't let me do anything that is good. Even when I want to do right, I cannot. Instead of doing what

I know is right, I do wrong. And so, if I don't do what I know is right, I am no longer the one doing these evil things. The sin that lives in me is what does them.

Reader Two:

A reading based on Romans 8:31–35, 37–39.

What can we say about all this? If God is on our side, can anyone be against us? God did not keep back his own Son, but he gave him for us. If God did this, won't God freely give us everything else? If God says his chosen ones are acceptable to him, can anyone bring charges against them? Or can anyone condemn them? No indeed! Christ died and was raised to life, and now he is at God's right side, speaking to him for us. Can anything separate us from the love of Christ? Can trouble, suffering, and hard times or hunger and nakedness, or danger and death?

In everything, we have won more than a victory because of Christ who loves us. I am sure that nothing can separate us from God's love—not life or death, not angels or spirits, not the present or the future, and not powers above or powers below. Nothing in all creation can separate us from God's love for us in Christ Jesus our Lord!