

## Renewal of Baptismal Promises

*Use this complete prayer service with Chapter 3 of Meeting Jesus in the Sacraments. You may also choose to use only individual parts of the prayer service.*

Needs:

- holy water in a bowl
- copies as needed

*Prayer Introduction*

**Leader:** Today we have the opportunity to renew our baptismal promises and rededicate ourselves to letting God work through us as disciples of Christ.

**All:** Sign of the Cross

*Scripture Reading*

**Reader:** A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans (Rm 6:3–8),

Are you unaware that we who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were indeed buried with him through Baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live in newness of life.

For if we have grown into union with him through a death like his, we shall also be united with him in the resurrection. We know that our old self was crucified with him, so that our sinful body might be done away with, that we might no longer be in slavery to sin. For a dead person has been absolved from sin. If, then, we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him.

The Word of the Lord.

**All:** Thanks be to God.

*Meditation on the Reading*

**Leader:** St. Paul wrote that your Baptism makes you a sharer in Jesus' Passion, Death, and Resurrection. When you unite yourself to Jesus by remembering your Baptism and accepting the call to actively follow him, you choose to live in Christ. It may seem that living as a disciple of Christ is asking a lot of you. Do not be afraid of the radicalness of the call from your Baptism, but remember that Jesus, who loved you first, is ready to give himself to you. If Christ asks much from you, it is because he has given you the grace to do it. It is through the graces of Baptism we can have a life of joy and fulfillment.

*Renewal of Baptismal Promises*

**Leader:** Through the Paschal Mystery we have been buried with Christ in Baptism that we may walk with him in newness of life. Let us renew the promises of holy Baptism, which we once renounced Satan and his works and promised to serve God in the holy Catholic Church. And so I ask you:

**Leader:** Do you renounce sin, so as to live in the freedom of the children of God?

**All:** I do.

**Leader:** Do you renounce the lure of evil, so that sin may have no mastery over you?

**All:** I do.

**Leader:** Do you renounce Satan, the author and prince of sin?

**All:** I do.

**Leader:** Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth?

**All:** I do.

**Leader:** Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was born of the Virgin Mary, suffered death and was buried, rose again from the dead and is seated at the right hand of the Father?

**All:** I do.

**Leader:** Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting?

**All:** I do.

**Leader:** And may almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us new birth by water and the Holy Spirit and bestowed on us forgiveness of our sins, keep us by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord, for eternal life.

**All:** Amen.

(Leader takes the bowl of holy water)

**Leader:** Blessed are you, Lord, all-powerful God, who in Christ, the living water of salvation, blessed and transformed us. Grant that when we are sprinkled with this water or make use of it, we will be refreshed inwardly by the power of the Holy Spirit and continue to walk in the new life we received at Baptism.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**All:** Amen.

(Leader blesses himself/herself with the holy water using the Sign of the Cross. He/She walks around letting each student bless himself with holy water using the Sign of the Cross.)

*Closing Prayer*

**Leader:** Lord, we thank you for the gift of Baptism by which you have saved us and made us your children.

**All:** May this renewal of our baptismal promises remind us of your great love and bring about our ongoing conversion. Help us to no longer live for ourselves, but for you.

**Leader:** In Jesus' name we pray.

**All:** Amen.