**Reconciliation with God**

**(Romans 5: 1-11)**

**By**

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The message to Romans is about the Grace we have received through our faith in Jesus Christ. He died for the ungodly outcasts we were once. By God’s grace we will be experiencing God’s glory. In this segment of the letter to the Romans St. Paul illustrates step by step the path from damnation to glory.

1. We are all sinners and thereby God’s enemies
	1. Our hearts tends to run from God and rebel against Him. The Bible calls this "sin."
	2. "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God(Romans 3:23)
2. We are powerless on our own to redeem ourselves or reconcile with God
	1. On our own we are unable to change the situation and save ourselves.
3. God loved us so much that he allowed His only son die for us.
	1. In order to save us from our sin, to offer us a new life of hope, God offered us His son. “I have come that they may have life and have it in abundance (John 10:10).
4. Jesus died for our redemption and reconciliation with God
	1. To give us this gift of salvation, God made a way through His Son, Jesus Christ. "But God demonstrates His own love for us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us!(Romans 5:8)
	2. We receive grace, unmerited favor, by faith alone."For by grace you are saved, through faith, and this not from yourselves; it is God's gift-not from works, so that no one can boast."Faith is a decision of our heart demonstrated by the actions of our life (Ephesians 2:8). "If you confess with your mouth, ‘Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved (Romans 10:9). We escaped God’s wrath/ punishment by our redemption through grace. The wrath of God is a divine response to human sin and disobedience. Those who do not believe in the Son, who do not receive Him as Savior, will be judged on the day of wrath (Romans 2:5-6).
5. We rejoice in the hope of the glory of God
	1. The glory of God is the infinite beauty and greatness of his manifold perfections. God’s glory reflects his essential nature. Once our sin is forgiven we will experience the glory of God.

In this season of Lent let us reaffirm our faith and praise God for His grace. May it be a time of prayer, penitence, self denial, discipline, moderation and may we be disciplined in our conversations, attitude to others and our day to day lives.

 Pope Francis "Lent comes providentially to reawaken us, to shake us from our lethargy."