

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters:

**Hope does not disappoint,
because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts
through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.**

**For Christ, while we were still helpless,
died at the appointed time for the ungodly.**

**Indeed, only with difficulty does one die for a just person,
though perhaps for a good person
one might even find courage to die.**

But God proves his love for us

in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us.

**How much more then, since we are now justified by his Blood,
will we be saved through him from the wrath.**

Indeed, if, while we were enemies,

**we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son,
how much more, once reconciled,
will we be saved by his life.**

Not only that,

**but we also boast of God through our Lord Jesus Christ,
through whom we have now received reconciliation.**

The word of the Lord.