

## Reading

Romans 6:3–9  
*Let us live a new life.*

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

When we were baptised in Christ Jesus  
we were baptised in his death;  
in other words,  
when we were baptised we went into the tomb with him  
and joined him in death,  
so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the Father's glory,  
we too might live a new life.

If in union with Christ we have imitated his death,  
we shall also imitate him in his resurrection.

We must realise that our former selves have been crucified with him  
to destroy this sinful body and to free us from the slavery of sin.  
When a man dies, of course, he has finished with sin.

But we believe that having died with Christ  
we shall return to life with him:  
Christ, as we know,  
having been raised from the dead will never die again.  
Death has no power over him any more.

The word of the Lord.