To Walk Together Again: The Sacrament of Reconciliation

by Richard M. Gula

John 20:21-23 Jesus said to them again: "Peace be with you. As the father has sent me, so I send you." Then he breathed on them and said "Receive the Holy Spirit."

Sacrament of Reconciliation The sacrament through which we obtain pardon from God for sins committed after Baptism and for which we are truly repentant, and are reconciled with the Christian community, the Church. (CFC, 1848).

Experiencing Penance as Conversion Another name for the sacrament of reconciliation is penance. Reconciliation as Coming Back Together The word reconciliation literally means "coming back together." Reconciliation among people involves the restoring of relationships that have been broken or wounded.