

St Raymund of Penyafort, O.P., (1175 – 1275) was a Dominican friar in the 13th-century. With King James of Aragon and St. Peter Nolasco he founded the Order of Our Lady of Ransom. He is honoured as the patron saint of lawyers, especially canon lawyers.



First Reading: (1 Jn 4:19 - 5:4) We love, because he first loved us. If any one says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, cannot love God whom he has not seen. And this commandment we have from him, that he who loves God should love his brother also. Every one who believes that Jesus is the Christ is a child of God, and every one who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome. For whatever is born of God overcomes the world; and this is the victory that overcomes the world, our faith.

Ps 71:1-2, 14-15, 17

R./ All nations shall fall prostrate before you, O Lord.

Gospel: (Lk 4:14-22) Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit into Galilee,

and a report concerning him went out through all the surrounding country. And he taught in their synagogues, being glorified by all. And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up; and he went to the synagogue, as his custom was, on the sabbath day. And he stood up to read; and there was given to him the book of the prophet Isaiah. He opened the book and found the place where it was written, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord." And he closed the book, and gave it back to the attendant, and sat down; and the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. And he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." And all spoke well of him, and wondered at the gracious words which proceeded out of his mouth

REFLECTION

Jesus declares his mission manifesto in the gospel, making it clear the essential purpose and the tenets of his mission. Yes, he has come to give the good news of comfort and hope to the dis comforted, give liberation to the captives, give sight to the blind, and joy to the sad. All this is possible because he is anointed and empowered by the Holy Spirit. Obedience to the will of the Father for the salvation of humanity and dedication to that mission of salvation in charity become the motivating and driving forces. **True mission is in fact a mission of love which comprises love for God in communion and love for the other in compassion, and moves on the power of the Spirit.**