



St. Francis Borgia (1510-1572) is regarded as the second founder of the Jesuits. He grew up in an important Spanish family, but a series of events made him join Jesuits. He helped in the founding of the Gregorian University in Rome. At 55 he was elected Head of the Jesuits. He founded missions in Florida, Mexico and Peru.

First Reading: (Rom 1:1-7) Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and designated Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all the nations, including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ; To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Ps 97:1-4

R./ The Lord has made known his salvation.

Gospel: (Lk 11:29-32) The crowds grew very big and Jesus addressed them, "This generation is an evil generation; it seeks a sign, but no sign shall be given to it except the sign of Jonah. For as Jonah became a sign to the men of Nineveh, so will the Son of man be to this generation. The queen of the South will arise at the judgment with the men of this generation and condemn them; for she came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon, and behold, something greater than Solomon is here. The men of Nineveh will arise at the judgment with this generation and condemn it; for they repented at the preaching of Jonah, and behold, something greater than Jonah is here.

REFLECTION

To be a servant or a slave of Christ is a liberating experience. It is the paradox of the revelation through Jesus Christ that God's values are opposite to the values of the world. While the world imprisons and enslaves us Jesus liberates us to discover our true identity in him. **When we realize that we are in Christ who is all embracing we will not exclude anyone from our life and our service.** Jonah was sent to the gentile city of Nineveh to preach repentance. Solomon received non-Jewish persons as well. God shows no partiality. Our liberating Christic experience must make us apostles who accept everyone as a brother or sister without any discrimination.