

Reminiscence of Father Raymond Brown

At least from the time Father Brown's *Gospel According to John* appeared in two volumes (1966 and 1970) in the Anchor Bible commentaries, the stellar quality of his work was recognized widely. The books on Johannine Literature raised the standard for others assigned to the Anchor Bible series so Luke and Mark now have two volume commentaries.

Father Brown took part in many meetings of the Catholic Biblical Association but on some occasions we'd hear that he was in Louvain for a New Testament seminar. Regional meeting of the Catholic Biblical Association took place in Corpus Christi Church in Manhattan, with Msgr. Myles Bourke as host. When Father Brown lived there, close to Union Theological Seminary he would participate in these gatherings.

After he retired to Menlo Park I invited him to give a lecture at Seton Hall University. He stipulated that it must be linked to two other events on the East Coast. He explained: "I don't wish to shorten my life by too many trips across the continent". On October 6, 1996 he offered the fourth Msgr. John M. Oesterreicher Memorial Lecture with the title "The Treatment of the Jews in the Fourth Gospel." A good crowd came for his presentation and this topic continued to be part of the pastoral dimension of his ongoing work.

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