

Teaching of Modern Popes regarding the Bible and the Laity:

- “The calm and fair consideration of what has been said will clearly show that the Church has never failed in taking due measures to bring the Scriptures within reach of her children, and that she has ever held fast and exercised profitably that guardianship conferred upon her by Almighty God for the protection and glory of His holy Word...” (Pope Leo XIII, *Providentissimus Deus*, On the Study of Sacred Scripture, 1893).
- “Nothing would please us more than to see our beloved children form the habit of reading the Gospels - not merely from time to time, but every day.” (Pope St. Pius X)
- “Our one desire for all the Church’s children is that, being saturated with the Bible, they may arrive at the all-surpassing knowledge of Jesus Christ” (Pope Benedict XV, *Spiritus Paraclitus*, On the Centenary of the Death of St. Jerome, 1920).
- “Let also the minds of the faithful be nourished with this same food, that they may draw from thence the knowledge and love of God and the progress in perfection and the happiness of their own souls.” “...This author of salvation, Christ, will men more fully know, more ardently love and more faithfully imitate in proportion as they are more assiduously urged to know and meditate the Sacred Letters, especially the New Testament...” (Pope Pius XII, *Divino Afflante Spiritu*, Promotion of Biblical Studies, 1943).