

## **The Task of the Catholic Exegete**

Francis Moloney, S.D.B., in his presidential address to the Catholic Biblical Association in Aug. 2002 (*CBQ* 65.1 [Jan. 2003], 1), quoted RAYMOND E. BROWN, S.S., *The Gospel According to John* (2 vols.; AB 29029<sup>a</sup>; Garden City, NY: Doubleday, 1966, 1970), 1. vi.

Brown, he said, in his preface to the above commentary, “claimed that he wished to produce two volumes of synthesis, directed by: (1) the desire to present a ‘moderately critical theory of the composition of the Gospel’; (2) the conviction that the Fourth Gospel ‘is rooted in historical tradition about Jesus of Nazareth’; and (3) the principle that *‘[s]incere confessional commitment to a theological position is perfectly consonant with a stubborn refusal to make a biblical text say more than its author meant it to say’* (italics added).”

## **The Task of the Catholic Exegete**

Francis Moloney, S.D.B., in his presidential address to the Catholic Biblical Association in Aug. 2002 (*CBQ* 65.1 [Jan. 2003], 1), quoted RAYMOND E. BROWN, S.S., *The Gospel According to John* (2 vols.; AB 29029<sup>a</sup>; Garden City, NY: Doubleday, 1966, 1970), 1. vi.

Brown, he said, in his preface to the above commentary, “claimed that he wished to produce two volumes of synthesis, directed by: (1) the desire to present a ‘moderately critical theory of the composition of the Gospel’; (2) the conviction that the Fourth Gospel ‘is rooted in historical tradition about Jesus of Nazareth’; and (3) the principle that *‘[s]incere confessional commitment to a theological position is perfectly consonant with a stubborn refusal to make a biblical text say more than its author meant it to say’* (italics added).”