

# Invention of Printing

In 1457 the German Johann Gutenberg published a Latin Bible in Mainz, printed for the first time with movable metal type that could be reset and used again.

The printing press, although used at first solely for the production of religious books, was about to become an instrument for the diffusion of new ideas, of Humanism, and of the social advances connected with reading.

In Italy, thanks to the work of the Humanist Aldo Manuzio, Venice became an important center for the circulation of printed texts, the earliest examples of which are called incunabula. Most of his elegant editions, known as Aldines, were classical works in Greek and Latin.