

Luis Marín de Sant Martín, *Los Agustinos. Orígenes y espiritualidad*, Studia augustiniana historica 16, Institutum historicum Augustinianum, Roma, 2009, ISBN 978-90-5573-915-8, 311 p.

The last decades the history of the Order of the Augustinians, its spirituality and its relation to the person of Augustine of Hippo were the subject of extensive research and of several kinds of publications. All this converges in the present study, which offers a well considered overview, with a lot – sometimes very detailed – information. The author succeeded to bring together all the material in a well-balanced presentation, which is a great merit. The book consists of four parts: I. The continuation of Augustinian religious life after the death of Augustine. II. The mendicant orders. III. The Augustinians. IV. The spirituality of the Order of Augustinians. The fourth part is, besides descriptive, a draft for the future of this Order. Attached are Augustine's *Rule for Community Life*, a list of General Chapters and of Priors General, a list of Augustinian saints and beatified Augustinians, and a name index. The book is a well got-up and easy to read publication of the Augustinian Institute in Rome (libri@osacuria.org).

Wim SLEDDENS

Edward Morgan, *The Incarnation of the Word: the Theology of Language of Augustine of Hippo*, Clark, London, 2010, ISBN 978-0-567-03382-6, 191 p.

Morgan studies the relation between God and humanity as mediated by language, human speech act and sociality in Augustine. The author argues that the mediation by language, speech and sociality stands central in Augustine's vision on (the study and preaching of) Scripture and the identity of the human person *vis-à-vis* God. Morgan explores Augustine's theology of language in three key texts. *De doctrina christiana* I reveals that all reading (of Scripture) is shaped by an eschatological concern: the desire to understand how God speaks and has spoken to humanity and how humanity should respond to God's speech act, the eschatological orientation of the human mind to conversation with God. *De doctrina christiana* II and III learn how Scripture has to be read for this end, how the biblical signs should be examined. *De doctrina christiana* IV indicates that preaching – by making God present to the human mind and stimulating its search for God – enables this eschatological conversation. The narrative and

exemplary speech act of confession in the *Confessiones* indicate that conversion towards (conversation with) God proceeds within the context of sociality. These themes find a climax in *De Trinitate*, in which (via the analogy of human speech and incarnation of the Word of God) human speech is understood as a basis of interchange between God and the human person: the language of the human person of Christ embodies the bridge between the divine and human. This monograph offers an original analysis, in a very systematic and focussed way, of three of Augustine's most important writings and is a significant contribution to the research of Augustine's vision on linguistic and social mediation.

Anthony DUPONT

Gabriele Ferlisi, *I Salmi delle lodi pregati con Sant'Agostino*, Ancora, Milano, 2009, ISBN 978-88-514-0700-1, 287 p.

The author uses Augustine's *Enarrationes in Psalmos* to offer a help to reflect and to meditate on the Psalms prayed during the lauds (morning prayer) in the Catholic breviary. The book is structured as the breviary: the Psalms prayed day by day during a cycle of four weeks. The author begins each reflection by a short synthesis of the content and intent of each discussed Psalm and the main line in Augustine's reading of it. Subsequently the *enarratio* devoted to the Psalm in question is quoted, structured by the author with clarifying subtitles. The reflection is concluded with the possible significance and message of this Psalm for Christian life. The book is complemented with an index and an elaborate table of contents.

Anthony DUPONT

Noëlle-Laetitia Perret, *Les traductions françaises du De regimine principum de Gilles de Rome: parcours matériel, culturel et intellectuel d'un discours sur l'éducation*, Education and Society in the Middle ages and Renaissance 39, Brill, Leiden, 2011, ISBN 9789004206199.2011, XVIII, 465 p.-[8] p.

The present monograph illustrates and substantiates that the (medieval) tradition and both material and intellectual-cultural transmission of ideas and texts is a creative process. Perret presents a study