

*Example of Valladolid*, offre informazioni sugli uditori, sulle occasioni di predicazione e sull'impatto sociale e politico di alcuni predicatori spagnoli.

I tre saggi dell'ultimo gruppo esplorano la teoria della predicazione e come questa possa esprimersi attraverso la pittura e la scultura. Bert Roest, in *“Ne Effluat in Multiloquium et Habeatur Honerosus”: The Art of Preaching in the Franciscan Tradition* offre un panorama dell'*ars praedicandi*, in particolare presso alcuni autori francescani. Jay M. Hammond, *Preaching by Image: The Counter Façade of the Basilica of St. Francis*, studia la “predica” in immagine offerta dagli affreschi controfacciata della Basilica. Ultimo contributo, quello di Francesco Lucchini, *The making of a Legend: The Reliquary of the Tongue ant the Representation of St. Anthony of Padua as a Preacher*, che presenta un intrigante rapporto tra la conservazione della reliquia e la crescita della fama di Antonio di Padova come predicatore.

Con il saggio di Lucchini il discorso sembra tornare al principio: la parola diventata carne che occupa un posto centrale nella vita e nell'attività francescana.

Il volume, oltre che dalla miniatura di copertina tratta dalla *Legenda Maior* di Bonaventura del Museo Francese di Roma, è arricchito dalle illustrazioni relative alla controfacciata della Basilica di Assisi e al reliquiario di sant'Antonio e dagli indici dei nomi e delle materie.

Gabriele Ingegneri

Michael J.P. Robson, *The Greyfriars of England (1224-1539): Collected papers* (Centro Studi Antoniani, 49). [Piazza del Santo, 11; I-35123] Padova, Associazione Centro Studi Antoniani, 2012. 24 cm, XIV+400 p. (€ 49,00) ISBN 978-88-85155-90-9

As the book's title makes explicit, this is a collection of essays with the thematic common denominator that they all have as their focal point the English Province of the Greyfriars in the Middle Ages. There are in all sixteen studies and they were already published in various periodicals and monographs between 1994 and 2008. By bringing together in one volume these dispersed papers the author and the publishers have done a service of significance not only for the study of the history of the Greyfriars in England but also of the entire Minorite Family. The *Chronology of the English Province* (p. IX-XII) and the *Introduction* (p. 1-19) bring into bold relief numerous instances of how the paths of English friars crossed those of their confreres on the Continent. In the wake of the arrival of the friars in England in the summer of 1224, the English social, cultural and religious life blended to such an extent with the Minorite lifestyle and values that “few sectors of English life escaped the friars' influence in the succeeding three centuries” (p. 1). *A Select Bibliography* (p. 381-389) and the *Index* (391-400) will certainly serve students and researchers as effective tools in their investigation.

A list of the titles of the sixteen papers gives an idea of the specific areas covered by the essays: *Agnellus of Pisa, minister provincial of England (1224-1236)* (p. 23-48), *An edition of Robert Grosseteste's sermon ad Collacionem Fratrum Minorum in festo Nativitatis Domini* (p. 49-72), *Albert of Pisa, minister provincial of England (1236-1239)* (p. 73-95), *Robert Grosseteste and the Greyfriars in the Diocese of Lincoln* (p. 97-121), *Hugh, the exiled bishop of Byblos (c. 1245/50-1325)* (p. 123-144), *Franciscan Lectors at Christ Church Cathedral Priory, Canterbury (1275-1314)* (p. 145-164), *Robert Grosseteste; his memory among the Greyfriars, his cult in Lincoln cathedral and the petition for his canonisation* (p. 165-179), *The birthplace of Blessed John Duns Scotus: Thomas Gascoigne, a hitherto unnoticed witness* (p. 181-194), *Queen Isabella (c. 1295-1358) and the Greyfriars: an example of royal patronage based on her accounts for 1357/58* (p. 195-217), *Padua and the English friars in the thirteenth century* (p. 219-240), *The Greyfriars in York, c. 1450-1530*, (p. 241-252), *Benefactors of the Greyfriars in York: Alms from Testators, 1530-1538* (p. 253-274), *The Greyfriars' itinerant ministry inside their limitatio: evidence from the custody of York (c. 1230-1539)* (p. 275-299), *Franciscans de Colonia present in Medieval England* (p. 301-325), *The Greyfriars in Canterbury (1224-1498/99)* (p. 327-354), and *The growth of the libraries of the Greyfriars in England (1224-1539)* (p. 355-380). This collection of studies is very much in line with the significant contributions to Franciscan historiography already made by scholars from England.

*Benedict Vadakkekara*

*I Francescani e la Cina: Un'opera di oltre sette secoli. Atti del X Convegno storico di Greccio: Greccio, 4-5 maggio 2012*, a cura di Alvaro Cacciotti – Maria Melli (Biblioteca di Frate Francesco, 14). [Piazza Sant'Angelo, 2; I-20121] Milano, Edizioni Biblioteca Franciscana, 2013. 24 cm, 251 p. (€ 24,00) ISBN 978-88-7962-207-3

The book under review is the acts of the tenth edition of the Symposium of Greccio held on 4-5 May 2012 at the Franciscan shrine of Greccio in the Province of Rieti in Central Italy. The Symposium themed *I Francescani e la Cina* was organised by the Centro Culturale Aracoeli, Rome, with the collaboration of several academic and religious entities (p. 7). The volume is dedicated to the memory of Fr Nicola Cerasa OFM († 1 April 2012), a missionary in China between 1939 and 1953 and later his Order's General Vicar from 1973 to 1979. The book contains seven papers which together provide a bird's eye view of the seven centuries of evangelisation activities in China by the Franciscan friars, at the same time spotlighting the present situation of Christianity and its prospects in the world's most populous nation: Alberto Melloni, *Mendicanti sulle vie dell'Estremo Oriente, 1245-1370. Diplomazie e missione pontificie fra Innocenzo IV e Urbano V* (p. 21-45), Riccardo Saccenti, *La bibbia alla corte del Khan: la "bibbia di Marco Polo"*, Giuseppe Buffon, *La Cina nello spazio missionario disegnato dalla storiografia franciscana da Bartolomeo da Pisa a Marcellino da Civezza* (p. 73-89), Pacifico Sella, *I mira-*