

Book Reviews

Toma de Aquino, *Expunere la Simbolul Apostolilor; Expositio in symbolum apostolorum*, Thomas Aquinas (*Exposition on the Apostles' Symbol*, text recorded by Reginald de Piperino), bilingual edition; translation, introduction and endnotes by Wilhelm Dancă, Polirom Publishing House, 2016, 219 pp.

Antoaneta Sabău*

The first Romanian translation of *Expositio in symbolum apostolorum* (*Expunere la Simbolul Apostolilor*), Thomas Aquinas' sermon on the *Creed* completes the *Biblioteca Medievală* series, at Polirom Publishing House. The translation, introduction and notes are made by Professor Wilhelm Dancă, a Romanian Roman Catholic theologian with grounding studies in philosophy. The translation is based on the Latin text of the *Marietti edition* (Taurini-Romae 1954), derived from the incomplete Leonine edition and transcribed by Roberto Busa, and recently (2011) revised by Enrique Alarcón for Fundación Tomás de Aquino.

In the anticipation of the publishing of the third volume of *Summa Theologica* (IIa IIae, Polirom Publishing House, 2016), this annotated translation of Aquinas' *Expositio in symbolum apostolorum*, in the collection *Biblioteca medievala*, came fairly unnoticed. One reason for its minor echo is the fact that the work is indeed considered minor in Thomistic studies: as a sermon, its targeted audience is not the learned *uniuersitarii* to which the *Summa* was destined to, but the faithful attending Mass or street sermons; its language, style and treatment of subject are therefore calibrated to a wider understanding and to a more pragmatic purpose. It makes nevertheless for a valuable contribution to Thomistic studies in its homiletic treatment of the articles of faith – which are also addressed at the opening of the *Summa Theologica* IIa IIae. The *Expositio* also makes possible an overview on the echo of the controversies that shaped the *Creed* at the first ecumenical councils and to assess Aquinas' formidable knowledge of the development of the doctrine. It is an insight into 13th century scholastic disputes as well on topics related to the *Creed*, and is a didactic treatment of possible errors of the faithful that the understanding of the mysteries formulated in the articles of faith may occasion.

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