

RETIROS CON AGUSTIN (English)

The *Confessions*, Augustine's masterpiece, has influenced Christian spirituality for 1600 years. He wrote it to give it testimony of his intimate pilgrimage in search of God. The narrative describes a progressive ascent, "an exercise" maintained by the inner restlessness that the human being experiences in his search for truth and happiness. A point of encounter for all of us, where we can learn something about ourselves and about God as we respond to the call of his hidden providence. Augustine's clear, direct language and his deep knowledge of the human condition have established a unique empathy with their readers and facilitate the assimilation of his spiritual teachings.



The times in which we live, marked by a massive servitude of cultural idols, a confusion of ideologies and the burden of insatiable ambitions have submerged human beings in a dense fog of inner dispersion. More than ever there is an imperative to recover a coherent and transcendent vision of life. The exercises with Augustine are an opportunity to utilize the resources that the *Confessions* offer us for a personal and communal transformation. Here we present them in a didactic and succinct format that allows Augustine's text serve as the main guide*.

This project is also informed by observations made by a vast number of experts and readers of the *Confessions*, but it leaves ample margin for a personal reflection and the construction of one's own narrative. In that regard, every person can create a space and a time in the intimate zone of its being as a liberating discipline. Access to this place of Internet opens the possibility to us of extending that "meditative exercise" through the days and to affirm our effort towards the objective of a rule of life in which the dialog with God is the center of inspiration and the source of spiritual maturity.

(*). Excellent translations available by Maria Boulding, Henry Chadwick, Garry Wills.