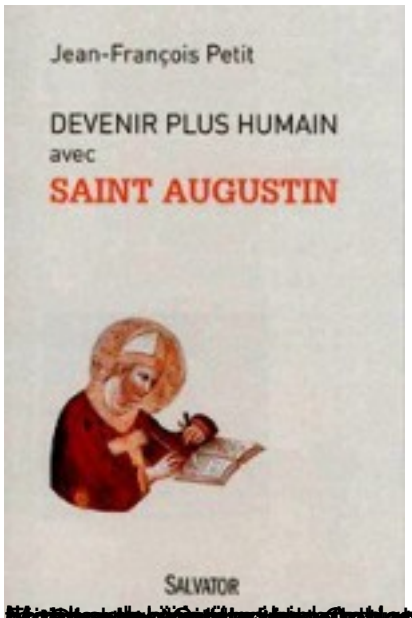


Fr. Jean-François Petit, "Devenir plus humain avec Saint Augustin," Paris, Salvator, 2015, 183 p.

The author, an Assumptionist priest, is a specialist in the thought of St. Augustine. In this tome, he tries to show the meaning of the essential values of earthly existence by plumbing the depths of Augustine's voluminous writings. Although he is a citizen of an other age, Petit considers Augustine's thought ever relevant. In essence he argues that to be complete and authentic a human being necessarily includes a spiritual dimension, one that reveals a being moving toward the Absolute. Petit's audience is as much lay-people as it is members of the clergy and religious communities.

Jean-François Petit offers a movement with 12 points describing attitudes to be developed if one is to become truly human. I will not try to describe each of the 12 point but will try rather to get to the essentials of what is required. First, one must nourish a desire to be enlightened and to admit that it is in the Word of God that the truth that one is looking for is to be found. The goal is to make choices that will allow one to know oneself better and to recognize in what divine happiness consists. For Augustine, inspired by Isaiah, one must understand in order to believe and believe in order to understand; therefore it is faith that leads us to understand the Word.


Jean-François Petit
DEVENIR PLUS HUMAIN
avec
SAINT AUGUSTIN
SALVATOR

ent