

The catalogue of items relevant to this third section comprises the fourth section of the volume (pp. 125-231). A general bibliography (pp. 233-239) concludes the volume. The volume is filled with many clear, well photographed illustrations (colour as well as B\W) of the items discussed or displayed.

While the most important section to scholars working on confraternities will certainly be Ludovica Sebreghondi's article, the illustrations, the wealth of archival information present through the volume, and the well-considered bibliography appended to each catalogue entry will also be of great interest and use.

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Trio, Paul. *Volksreligie als spiegel van een stedelijke samenleving. De broederschappen te Gent in de late middeleeuwen* (Leuven: Universitaire Pers Leuven, 1993), 471 pp.

In this in-depth analysis of confraternities in the city of Ghent in the late Middle Ages, Paul Trio sets out to shed some light on popular religion as a mirror of communal life in Europe prior to the Reformation. Taking as his starting date the first recorded establishment of a confraternity in Ghent (1182/3), the author follows the establishment and development of all such organizations until the abolition of Catholic services in 1580 by the then Calvinist city-government. Although concentrating on the later period of Ghent confraternities, he renders a socio-economic portrayal of that city and its lay orders for the whole period. Trio begins by defining the terminology he uses in discussing *broederschappen* and the problems inherent therein (caused in part by the diversity among the various groups). After a brief overview of the present state of confraternal scholarship, the author turns to a discussion of the same in the Netherlands. Trio then proceeds to his study of all aspects of confraternities in

Ghent: from their origins, foundation, administration, and financial aspects to their relationship to patrons. In addition, he explores such matters as the conditions for admission (among those excluded were women and 'regulars', that is, those who had taken vows in a religious order), as well as confraternal liturgical and socio-cultural activities. The author's considerable effort sifting through the sometimes sparse archival material enables him to present such historical evidence as the cost of confraternal membership, membership lists, and confraternity inventories. This information is presented at the end.

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Zardin, Danilo. *Confraternite e vita di pietà nelle campagne lombarde tra '500 e '600. La pieve di Parabiago-Legnano* (Milano: NED, 1981), 260 pp., 7 charts.

Zardin examines the life of confraternities in the *pieve* of Parabiago-Legnano in the Tridentine era. His examination begins with the first visitation to the area by Carlo Borromeo (1565) and then follows the life of the confraternities through the 17th century. His work is based on archival material from the Archivio di Stato di Milano, the Archivio Storico della Curia Arcivescovile di Milano, and the parochial archives of Legnano and Parabiago.

The confraternities of the Santissimo Sacramento and the Rosario that form the heart of this study reflect the broader history of Italian confraternities in that period. Both were given episcopal sanction and encouragement under Carlo Borromeo and his successors, and both demonstrate the resilience of traditional confraternal interests and independence.

Members of the local *scuole* of the confraternity of the Santissimo Sacramento performed their duties in the context of the local parish. These confraternities did not exist apart from