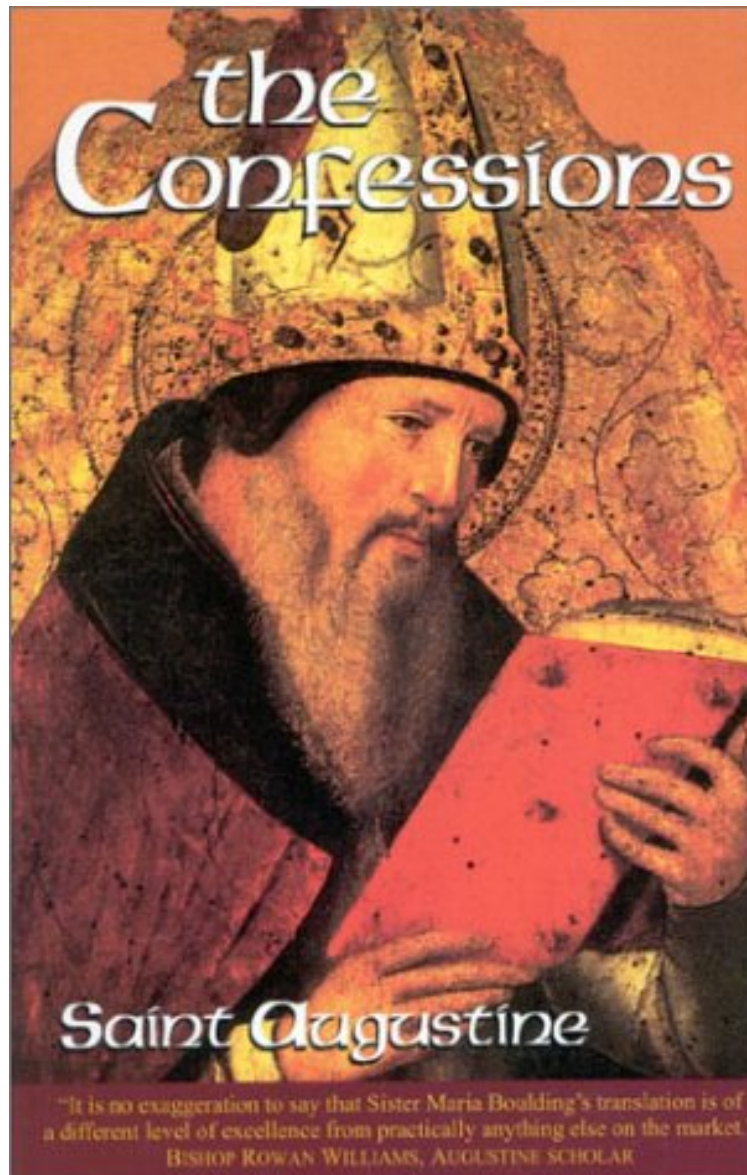


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St. Augustine

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St. Augustine : The Confessions: (Vol. I/1) Revised, (The Works of Saint Augustine: A Translation for the 21st Century) (The Works of Saint Augustine: A Translation for the 21st Century, Vol. 1) before purchasing it in

order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised *The Confessions: (Vol. I/1) Revised, (The Works of Saint Augustine: A Translation for the 21st Century)* (The Works of Saint Augustine: A Translation for the 21st Century, Vol. 1):

87 of 89 people found the following review helpful. Breathtaking translation
By J. Gorman
This is a fresh and wonderful translation of this Christian classic. Sr Boulding is herself a fine poet capable of touching turns of phrase such as, [Book I,5]"Who will grant me to find peace in you? Who will grant me this grace, that you would come into my heart and inebriate it, enabling me to forget the evils that beset me and embrace me my only good?" Albert Outler (no mean wrought of words himself) translates this passage in this way, "Who shall bring me to rest in thee? Who will send thee into my heart so to overwhelm it that my sins shall be blotted out and I may embrace thee, my only good?" The loss of the "thees" are of course helpful to the modern reader, but the use of "that you would come into my heart and inebriate it," is just, well, stunning. One final comparison with Outler in the well-known passage in book ten: Outler: "Belatedly I loved thee, O Beauty so ancient and so new, belatedly I loved thee. For see, thou wast within and I was without, and I sought thee out there. Unlovely, I rushed heedlessly among the lovely things thou hast made. Thou wast with me, but I was not with thee." Boulding: "Late have I loved you, Beauty so ancient and so new. Late have I loved you! Lo, you were within, but I outside, seeking there for you, and upon the shapely things you have made, I rushed headlong. I, mishappen." Both use Augustine's marvelous play on the words "formosa" and "deformis" But Sr. Boulding's choice of shapely and misshapen retains Augustine's intentions and poetic voice, it seems to me. This is a lovely work.
1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. An excellent new translation of a great book.
By BVLenci
I've read this book several times before, with different translations. This is the best I've seen.
0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Profound
By T. Seeger
Daughter used for school, she said excellent book for creating discussion

The Confessions of Saint Augustine is considered the all time number one Christian classic. It is an extended poetic, passionate, intimate prayer. Augustine was probably forty-three when he began this endeavor. He had been a baptized Catholic for ten years, a priest for six, and a bishop for only two. His pre-baptismal life raised questions in the community. Was his conversion genuine? The first hearers were captivated, as many millions have been over the following sixteen centuries. His experience of God speaks to us across time with little need of transpositions. This new translation masterfully captures his experience.

From *Library Journal*
The latest volume in the series "Augustine for the Twenty-First Century," which will offer the first complete translation of all of Augustine's works into English, adds yet another vision of the *Confessions* to the many already available. The fourth-century bishop of Hippo in North Africa wrote this extended prayer, the first true autobiography, to confess his sins and God's goodness. It has been a standard of spiritual literature ever since. Boulding (Marked for Life, Abingdon, 1996), a Benedictine nun of Stanbrook Abbey, England, offers us a fine, smooth translation that is a pleasure to read. Hers is also the first English translation to use inclusive language. There is a complete index, which greatly enhances the usefulness of this particular volume. For all readers.
?Augustine J. Curley, Newark Abbey, N.J. Copyright 1997 Reed Business Information, Inc.
From *Booklist*
There is certainly no shortage of English translations of Augustine's *Confessions*; but given its undeniable place as a classic of Christian literature, there is perhaps room for one more. Boulding's translation brings Augustine's extended prayer to life with a sensitivity to his passion and poetry that should make the text more accessible to contemporary English readers. Boulding includes an introduction and a chronology that place Augustine in context and guide readers through the sometimes perplexing structure of the book. There is no doubt that Augustine continues to reach contemporary readers across the 16 centuries that separate them from his writing and its context. This new translation should contribute to the clarity with which that reach is extended. Steve Schroeder "A whole new generation should fall in love with one of Christendom's greatest works, thanks to Maria Boulding." --Catholic Library World
Maria Boulding's version is of a different level of excellence from practically anything else on the market. She has perfected an elegant and flowing style. --Rowan Williams, Archbishop of Canterbury
So old and yet so new! This contemporary translation of Augustine's *Confessions* was like meeting an old friend and touching perennial truth, despite the passing years. Augustine was surely larger than life--and this translation matches it. --Richard Rohr OFM