

*Presentation Collected Works. Augustus 29 2014. Introduction Nico Schreurs*

In 2004 on the occasion of Schillebeeckx's 90th birthday, the Edward Schillebeeckx Foundation made the first moves for the publication of his collected works. Extensive discussion followed on just what kind of publication we envisaged: a complete and comprehensive overview of his work, a critical edition of his monographs, an annotated reissue of his most innovative works and/or a selective republication of articles, including reflection on their reception. The preparatory committee – consisting of Dick Boer, Erik Borgman, Mijke Jetten, Kristanto Budiprabowo, Frans Maas, Robert Schreiter, Ted Mark Schoof O.P., Nico Schreurs and Carl Sterkens – was soon confronted with a major problem: the sheer volume of Schillebeeckx's work. He was a very prolific writer indeed. A publication of his complete works, therefore, seemed virtually impossible. We decided, therefore, to confine ourselves to a re-publication of Schillebeeckx's major works in English – still a daunting endeavour.

Fortunately quite a number of good English translations of Schillebeeckx's publications were available. Nonetheless a great deal of the Collected Works had to be checked to ensure that they were an accurate rendering of the original Dutch text, and to improve the access of non-Dutch speaking readers to what Sx really meant to convey. The translations of volumes 1 to 5 did not require checking: that had already been done at the time of the publication of the English versions (between 1963 and 1974) by Schillebeeckx's fellow brother and assistant at the time, Ted Mark Schoof. Of the volumes 6, 7 and 11 the as yet untranslated parts were either translated or edited by Marcelle Manley. This applies particularly to volume 11, most of which now appears in English for the first time.

In each volume the section 'How to use this book' synoptically outlines a format for references to the text.

That after ten years I may now present to you the 'Collected Works' of Edward Schillebeeckx is almost exclusively due to two people: Carl Sterkens and Ted Schoof

Carl Sterkens tirelessly supervised the checking of the scanned texts [+and the incorporation of corrected parts in the new edition], of which eventually he also provided, in consultation with the publisher, a final, camera-ready version. It was a most exacting task, which, in spite of many setbacks, he managed to bring to a happy conclusion even while performing his regular function of a university lecturer. Unfortunately, due to work in Indonesia, he could not be present at this congress.

Ted Schoof - in English speaking regions also known as Mark Schuuf - has been the one who had to read and check almost two thousand six hundred pages of Schillebeeckx text, some of them more than once, and if necessary to formulate alternative readings. I now invite him to speak and let you share in some of his experiences with this sometimes laborious and exacting work.

The Edward Schillebeeckx Foundation is proud to present Schillebeeckx's most influential works in one readily available series. These Collected Works include Schillebeeckx's unquestionably major theological works. We thank the Flemish and Dutch provinces of the Dominican Order, and the Faculty of Theology at Radboud University, for making this

publication possible. We hope its readers' enjoyment of these works will be as great as our appreciation of the support we received.

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