starting with the presentation of the book

La légende de sainte Marguerite de Hongrie
et l'hagiographie dominicaine
by
VIKTÓRIA HEDVIG DEÁK
(Sapientia College of Theology of Religious Orders, Budapest)
presented by Gábor Klaniczay

followed by the public lecture
by
ANNA ZAJCHOWSKA
(Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University, Warsaw)

De incurabilitate fratrum:
Medieval Hagiography and Cult of Saint Hyacinth

Medieval hagiography of St. Hyacinth (Jacek), a disciple of St. Dominic and the founder of the Polish Province of Dominicans, is surprisingly limited to a few texts only. The most important one is the 14th-century De vita et miraculis sancti Hyacinthi written by a Polish Dominican named Stanislas. It is the main source for the biography of the Dominican saint and at the same time the only testimony of a lost book of miracles from the 13th century. De vita et miraculis is followed by a 15th-century list of miracles and a rhymed poem about the saint written by a Renaissance poet, Nicolaus Hussoviensis. All these works are related to various attempts to bring about the canonisation of Hyacinth, which eventually happened in 1595. It has turned out that even though Polish Dominicans were very active in the field of promoting cults of local Polish saints (mainly those coming from Krakow), they were not effective enough in terms of promoting their own candidate for sainthood.

Anna Zajchowska works at the Institute of Classical Philology and Culturology of Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw and is a member of the team working on the edition of the Bullarium Poloniae. Her dissertation devoted to a Polish Dominican Jan of Ząbkowice – regens of the studium generale in Krakow, inquisitor and reformer of Silesian convents in the first half of the 15th century – defended at the Jagiellonian University in Krakow in 2009 has appeared as a book. She has worked among others at the Manuscript Department of the Jagiellonian Library, at the Library of the Philosophical-Theological Collegium of the Polish Dominican Province in Krakow, and at the Silesian University in Katowice. Her main field of research is the history and intellectual culture of Polish Dominicans in the Middle Ages.