

NOTICES

BY COURAGE AND FAITH. By Doris Burton, illustrated by T. J. Bond. (Sands; 9s. 6d.).

This simple well prepared book will be of interest to the younger generation, especially perhaps to those who have grown up with the truths of the faith always available. Availability tends to minimise the cost. These stories serve as a reminder of the men and women who have suffered and died for the faith even in our own times. It is a useful family book and an easy-reading book too for elderly people.

REMEMBERED IN BLESSING: THE COURTFIELD STORY. By a Mill Hill Father. (Sands; 4s. 6d.).

It is a short fascinating history of the Vaughan family and will well repay reading. We are given a bird's-eye view of Courtfield, the early Hereford home of this old and distinguished Catholic family. John Francis Vaughan of Courtfield and his saintly wife Eliza gave to the Church six sons as priests and four daughters as nuns. The book is a worthy memorial to the mother who out of thirteen children gave ten to the Church.

Courtfield has long since passed into the hands of the St Joseph's Foreign Missionary Society founded by Cardinal Vaughan. This story cannot fail to raise interest in the minds of all who are alive to the wonderful missionary and social work performed for the Church in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

THE LIFE OF JESUS CHRIST. By J. W. C. Wand, Bishop of London. (Methuen; 7s. 6d.).

In the one hundred and eighty pages of this well-written book the author tells the story of a Life which has been told many times before in many different ways and from a hundred different points of view. He approaches his subject with an instinctive reverence which is tempered by a certain deference to the higher critics and the opinions of the 'scholars'. His conclusions are reached with a considerable degree of caution and scientific detachment. Some may think that he does not always get to grips with his subject and that he is reluctant to let himself go with a bold dogmatic statement and that perhaps he concedes too much to the modernists; but all will agree that he makes an honest attempt to present Jesus Christ plausibly to the modern agnostic mind.

ST BRIGID OF IRELAND. By Alice Curtayne. (Browne and Nolan; 10s. 6d.).

St Brigid, disciple of St Patrick, shares with him the glory of founding the Celtic monastic tradition which from that day to this has coloured Irish Christianity and manifested that combination of the

eremetical and apostolic and missionary life which St Thomas praises as the highest vocation because it approximates nearest to the life of our Lord. Brigid is the spiritual mother of that world-wide type and phenomenon—the Irish nun, one of whose characteristics is (like Brigid's) to make a recreation of hospitality. Miss Curtayne creates a real atmosphere and enables us to admire her great subject through a golden haze of poetry and legend.

BROTHER ANDRE. By Katherine Burton. (Clonmore and Reynolds; 7s. 6d.)

The story of a Canadian lay-brother of the Congregation of the Holy Cross, door-keeper for a religious community and college in Montreal, who by his own zeal and energy built a basilica in honour of St Joseph, acquired the reputation for working miracles and died over ninety years of age and was given the funeral honours of a saint. Brother Andre has become a popular figure in the memories of Canadians and this book will contribute to the spread of his growing cultus.

EIGHT LITTLE OFFICES FOR TERTIARIES OF ST DOMINIC. Published by Third Order of St Dominic. (141 E. 65th Street, New York; 1 dollar.)

Dominican Tertiaries may, for serious reasons, adopt any one of these little offices in place of their usual obligation. For many this could be an admirable way of by-passing staleness in prayer. For all they are an admirable book of Dominican devotion, in as good a version as can anywhere be had. The hymn versions are taken from Hymns of the Dominican Missal and Breviary by Aquinas Byrnes, O.P.; the Psalms and Canticles are from the Confraternity version. But a book of this quality and practical usefulness should surely be bound by something better than staples.



EXTRACTS

COPIES of the *American Benedictine Review*, published quarterly by the American Benedictine Academy, Newark, New Jersey (\$5.00 per annum), have recently reached the Editor's table for the first time. Each copy costs in English money about 10 shillings, and the 128 well-printed pages are certainly worth the money. The Spring 1955 number includes a happy and spirited article by Abbot Justin McCann on 'Private Revelations'. The example he takes is that of the efficacy of the Nine First Fridays revealed to St Margaret Mary, and the problem raised is that of the decision of the Council of Trent which declared that